

Table of Contents

<i>President's Message</i>	1
<i>Executive Director's Corner</i>	2
<i>BMS Faculty Awards</i>	3
<i>Faculty Spotlight: Laval University</i>	3
<i>Faculty News</i>	4
<i>C.Ph.A. Report</i>	16

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Snow on the ground is a sure sign that the academic year is well under way. I recognize that this is an exceptionally busy time of year, and it continues to be a busy time for AFPC as well.

First, I would like to thank Dr. David Hill for his countless contributions to AFPC over the years. Dr. Hill is relocating to the United States, and will obviously be missed by the AFPC Council and all of the members. It is difficult to think of an AFPC initiative in the last several years that Dr. Hill has not had significant input into. Thank you David for all of your contributions.

Although we are very grateful to Dr. Jim Blackburn for continuing to help the AFPC council and members into the fall season, we are still looking for a new Executive Director. Feel free to spread the word and encourage excellent candidates to submit an application. If they have any questions, please refer them to me directly and I can help with the details.

The AFPC council continues to work with the Association of Deans of Pharmacy of Canada (ADPC)

to support the Task Force on Experiential Learning. The Task Force is investigating ways to optimize the delivery of experiential programs for students across Canada. Although there is a substantial amount of work involved, the Task Force hopes to have initial recommendations for review at the AFPC / CCCP Annual General Meeting in Montreal this summer.

With Dr. David Fielding taking the lead, the AFPC continues to refine a "Program Evaluation Template" for use by the Faculties of Pharmacy in Canada. This template will help Faculties to evaluate the success of their own programs and use the information to make any necessary adjustments.

AFPC is also participating in the Human Resources Development Council (HRDC) initiative to investigate human resource issues in pharmacy. The various pharmacy organizations are currently solidifying arrangements to move forward with this project. AFPC / ADPC will be participating to provide input from the academic pharmacy perspective.

Please mark your calendars for our upcoming Annual General Meeting in Montreal this summer! The joint meeting with CCCP will take place from May 29th to the 31st at the Hotel Delta Downtown Montreal. Dr. Jacques Turgeon (Chair) and the Host Committee are hard at work preparing an exceptional event. I hope you will be able to join us!

As usual, if you have any comments or concerns to share with us, please contact me directly, or the AFPC office. Have an excellent fall season!

Personal best regards,

Lavern Vercaigne

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

I am pleased to announce that the AFPC membership list includes 243 faculty members from the nine faculties of pharmacy. We wish to welcome the following new members to our Association:

Alberta – Dion Brocks, Anita Carrie, Brendan Ihejirika, Terry Legaarden
UBC – Ingrid Price
Dalhousie – Janette Bechinor, Susan Bowles, Jane Gillis
Laval – Patrick Boudreault, Raymond Caron, Pierre Gagnon, Jean Lefebvre, Roxane Pouliot
Manitoba – Anita Kozyrskyj
Montréal – Anick Bérard, Suzanne Giasson, Marc Servant, David Williamson
Toronto – Christine Allen, Tom Brown, Clarence Chant, Jillian Cohen, Jeff Henderson

We currently have ten very active AFPC committees and the information concerning the committee members are listed on our web site (www.afpc.info). Mike Namaka (Univ. of Manitoba) chairs our **Research Committee** and that committee is very interested in determining steps that AFPC can take in working with CSPS in encouraging support and providing recognition for all areas of pharmacy/pharmaceutical research in our faculties. In addition, AFPC has a primary focus on research in the pharmacy practice and pharmacy education fields. If you are interested in providing your comments in this regard, please contact Mike (namakamp@ms.umanitoba.ca).

Once again I wish to acknowledge the following pharmaceutical manufacturers and pharmacy organizations who are AFPC Affiliate Members:

ABBOTT LABORATORIES LTD.
APOTEX INC.
ASTRAZENECA CANADA INC.
AVENTIS PHARMA INC.
BRISTOL-MYERS SQUIBB PHARMACEUTICAL GROUP
CANADA'S RESEARCH BASED PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES
CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF CHAIN DRUG STORES
CANADIAN DRUG MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION
ELI LILLY CANADA INC.
GLAXOSMITHKLINE INC.
MERCK FROSST CANADA LTD.
NOVARTIS PHARMACEUTICALS CANADA INC.
NOVOPHARM LTD.
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PHARMACEUTICAL PARTNERS OF CANADA INC.
PHARMACIA CANADA
PHARMASCIENCE
TARO PHARMACEUTICALS INC.
WHITEHALL ROBINS INC.

The AFPC Executive and Council will be holding their mid-year meeting in Toronto, February 8 – 10th at the Delta Meadowvale. We wish to encourage the input of members to determine the priorities for our association during the next few years. Please communicate with your council member if you have suggestions regarding AFPC programs.

If you have any questions concerning AFPC, please do not hesitate to contact the office (afpc@sasktel.net)
Have a great first term!

Jim Blackburn

**BRISTOL-MYERS SQUIBB FACULTY AWARDS FOR
EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION - 2002**

Congratulations to the following recipients of the BMS Teaching Excellence Awards in our nine faculties of pharmacy. Please check the AFPC web site (www.afpc.info) under photo gallery for the photographs of each of the recipients).

University of Alberta	Dr. Brendan Ihejirika Clinical Assistant Professor
University of British Columbia	Dr. Marc Levine Professor of Pharmacy
Dalhousie University	Dr. Robert Drobitch Assistant Professor of Pharmacy
Université Laval	Dr. Monique Richer Doyen & Professor of Pharmacy
University of Manitoba	Dr. Lavern Vercaigne Associate Professor of Pharmacy
Memorial University of Newfoundland	Dr. Debra Kelly Assistant Professor of Pharmacy
Université de Montréal	Dr. Emma Ferreira Clinical Assistant Professor
University of Saskatchewan	Dr. David Blackburn Assistant Professor of Pharmacy
University of Toronto	Dr. Tom Brown Clinical Assistant Professor of Pharmacy

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT - LAVAL UNIVERSITY

Laval University will celebrate its 150th anniversary of its foundation this year (2002-2003). This makes the University the second oldest university in North America and the first francophone one. More than 37 000 students are currently studying within the eighteen faculties of which 140 new students registered in first-year pharmacy. The Faculty of pharmacy was originally founded in 1924 (78 years ago) as a School but “apprentice-pharmacists” were already being formed at the Faculty of medicine since 1860. The School of pharmacy obtained the status of Faculty in May 1997 and currently offers seven different graduate

programs in addition to our baccalaureate program in pharmacy. This year the major event highlighting the activities of the Faculty is the organization of the first provincial congress on “Médicaments, Pharmacie et Société” which will be held at the Congress Center in Quebec City, January 23-25, 2003. The event is organized by Mrs. Jenny Lower, B.Pharm., clinical instructor at the Faculty, and will emphasize various themes involving academic, economic, scientific and sociological aspects of pharmacy.

LAVAL UNIVERSITY

Appointments

Dr. Pierre Gagnon has been appointed assistant professor of pharmacotherapy in May 2002. Pierre has a M.D. degree and a fellowship in psychiatry specialized in oncology and palliative care. He is the recipient of the Chair in palliative care at the University and has a clinical research scholarship from the FRSQ. He completed a two-year fellowship program in psycho-oncology at the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York. His research interests are in the evaluation, prevention and treatment of delirium in advanced cancer patients.

Dr. Roxane Pouliot was appointed assistant professor in June 2002. Roxane obtained a B.Sc. and a M.Sc. degree in chemistry and a Ph.D. in pharmaceutics from the Faculty under the supervision of Dr. Julianna Juhász. She did a one-year postdoctoral fellowship in a joint program involving the department of chemistry and DiagnoCure Inc. She obtained a NSERC post-doctoral scholarship to study the physico-chemical properties of new drug delivery systems using

ultrasounds and nanoErythrosones in the laboratory of Dr. Robert Langer of the Department of Clinical engineering at M.I.T. Her research interest is in the development of new pharmaceutical formulations using tissue engineering for the treatment of psoriasis.

Mr. Jean Lefebvre joined the Faculty during the summer as an assistant professor in pharmacotherapy. He is a pharmacist and obtained a M.Sc. degree in hospital pharmacy from the Faculty. He recently completed a two-year research training in clinical pharmacology at Vanderbilt University under the supervision of Dr Nancy Brown in the area of pharmacogenetics of cardiovascular diseases. He is completing his Ph.D. thesis on the relationship between pharmacogenetics and the side effects involved in the pharmacotherapy of the angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitors. His research is in the area of the clinical pharmacology of hypertensive agents.

Competition is in progress for a tenure position in pharmacoepidemiology.



General Faculty News

Mr. Jean Coutu made a donation of 2.5 millions to the Faculty for the renovation and extension of the Ferdinand-Vandry pavilion where the Faculty is actually located. The project is expected to be completed in 2004 and involved mainly doubling the actual space available with more appropriate classrooms to better accommodate both large and small numbers of students. The new pavilion will host the faculties of medicine, nursing and pharmacy.

Dr. Thérèse Di Paolo-Chênevert was the recipient of the 2002 Janssen-Ortho Pharmaceutical Research Award for her career achievement in pharmaceutical research. She received the prize at the AFPC annual meeting held in June.

Our dean, Dr. Monique Richer, Pharm.D., M.A., has been nominated the recipient of the Alfred-Emile Francoeur Award for the year 2001. The award in the amount of 1 500 \$ is sponsored by Bristol-Myers Squibb and is given every year to a member of the

Faculty in recognition of the excellence in teaching. The recipient is nominated by the fourth year students.

At the graduation ceremony in June, 128 students received their B.Pharm. degree amongst which eleven had an international profile (i.e. the student spent an academic year in another faculty of pharmacy as part of the program); 12 students received a post-graduate diploma of 30 credits in community pharmacy, 20 students graduated from the M.Sc. program in hospital pharmacy and 5 and 7 graduate students received a M.Sc. and a Ph. D. degree, respectively.

In April, the Faculty held a “Journée Recherche” (Research Day) where the undergraduate students who received a summer research scholarship, students registered in the M.Sc. program in hospital pharmacy and those at the master and Ph.D. level in research presented posters summarizing the research they have been carrying out. A total of 8 500 \$ was given in prizes for the various categories.

In June, the Faculty fund for research and teaching (FER) provided 62 500 \$ in scholarships to six students registered in our graduate programs.

Dr. Julianna Juhász is on sabbatical leave from June till December 2002. She is carrying out research in pharmaceutical formulation at Merck Co. in Pointe-Claire (Montréal).

Dr. Marc Desgagné will be at the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Edmonton, from September 2002 till August 2003, as part of his sabbatical leave. In his absence, Dr. Louise Beaulac-Baillargeon will be the interim director of the baccalaureate program.

Student News

Mrs. Kim Journault graduated from the master degree program (supervisor: Dr. Chantal Guillemette). Mrs Isabelle Côté (supervisor: Jean-Pierre Grégoire) and Michelle Landry (supervisor: Dr. Thérèse Di Paolo-Chênevert) completed successfully their Ph.D. programs.

One of our graduate students, Dr. Frédéric Calon, received the medal of Governor of Canada at the graduation ceremony of the University for the best thesis submitted at the University throughout 2001. The title of his thesis was "Étude neurochimique des dyskinésies induites par les dopaminomimétiques dans la maladie de Parkinson". Dr Calon was then a student supervised by Dr. Thérèse Di Paolo-Chênevert.

Mrs. Michelle Sévigny, B.Pharm., was one of the recipients of the 2002 Merck Frosst postgraduate fellowships. She is registered in our M.Sc. program under the supervision of Dr. Jocelyne Moisan.

Mrs. Julie Méthot represented the Faculty for the Canadian Foundation for Pharmacy Student Research Poster Awards 2002 at the AFPC meeting. The title of her poster was "Influence of the menstrual cycle on the timing of acute coronary events in the young with coronary artery disease". She is supervised by Dr. Bettina Hamelin.



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Individual Faculty News

Dr. Anita Carrie has joined the Faculty and will be working in the area of pharmacoepidemiology. Prior to joining the Faculty here, she obtained her Ph.D. at the University of Manitoba.

Resignations

Dr. Thomas Birkness has left the Faculty to pursue a career in industry.

Graduate Student News

Convocation info (Spring 2002 convocation):

- **MSc.** Zhi-Ming Fan. "Targeting of Liposomes to Ovarian Cancer (Supervisor: Dr. S. McQuarrie)
- **M.Sc.** Ge Li. "Anti-amyloid Therapy in Alzheimer's Disease (Supervisor: Dr. M.R. Sures)

- **M.Sc.** Haiyan Zhang. 'Bioninformatics in Gene Finding and Database Design: Pharmaceutical Approach (Supervisor: Dr. D. Wishart)
- **M.Sc.** Qibing Zhang. "Cationic Cyclodextrins as Potential DNA Delivery Agents" (Supervisor: Dr. L.I. Wiebe)
- **Ph.D.** Micheal Guirguis. "The Effect of Propranolol on Pharmacokinetics and Pharmacodynamics " (Supervisor: Dr. F. Jamali)
- **Ph.D.** Simon Alan Pickard. "Responsiveness of Generic Health Status Measures in Stroke" (Supervisor: Dr. J.A. Johnson)
- **Ph.D.** Carlyn Volume Smith. "Evaluation of Drug Policy Changes Affecting Vulnerable Populations: Stakeholder Perceptions and Drug Use Trends" (Supervisors: Drs. K. Farris & J.A. Johnson)
- **Ph.D.** Jenny Zheng. "Mechanisms of Parenteral Nutrition Effects on Drug Metabolism" (Supervisor: Dr. Y.K. Tam)

Graduate Student Awards

Rx&D Health Research Foundation/Canadian Institutes of Health Research awards:

- Mr. Spencer Ling (Supervisor: Dr. F. Jamali) awarded a Graduate Research Scholarship in Pharmacy
- Mr. Praveen Elamanchili (Supervisor: Dr. J. Samuel) awarded a Graduate Research Scholarship in Pharmacy
- Mr. Trent Bjorndahl (Supervisor: Dr. D. Wishart) continued funding of a Graduate Research Scholarship in Pharmacy
- Mr. Praveen Nekkar (Supervisor: Dr. E.E. Knaus) continued funding of a Graduate Research Scholarship in Pharmacy
- Mr. Vishal Sharma (Supervisor: Dr. D. Brocks) awarded a Summer Research Studentship in Pharmacy
- Mr. Kurt Greene (Supervisor: Dr. J. Mercer) awarded a Summer Research Studentship in Pharmacy

Dr. Lily Tang, a PDF in Dr Suresh's lab, won the Dorrington Prize at the Canadian Bacterial Diseases Network- National Centers Of Excellence for her poster "Molecular Velcros: Towards the theoretical limit of immunodetection of *Bordetella pertussis* employing bispecific anti-lipooligosaccharide nanoprobess". She was invited to give a 15 min podium talk. The Chairman presented her with a cash prize.

Reem Elbekai - 2002 graduate - Winner of the George A Burbidge Memorial Award. This award is given in recognition of the highest overall combined grade obtained on a first attempt in the Spring Qualifying Examination - Part I and II. Ms. Elbekai also received the Mike Wolowyk Graduate Scholarship and will be joining the Faculty as a graduate student (Supervisor - Dr. A. El-Kadi).

Rita Sheena - 2002 graduate - Canadian Foundation for Pharmacy – Rx& D: one of only two recipients of the Industrial Pharmacy Award.



Faculty Awards

Dr. Christine Hughes has been awarded the Practitioner Award, by Alberta Branch CSHP. This annual award is presented to a pharmacist in recognition of significant contributions to hospital pharmacy practice.

Dr. Brendan Ihejirika has been selected as the recipient of the Bristol-Myers Squibb Excellence in Teaching Award by the 2002 graduating class.

Honorary Degrees

Dr. Len Wiebe - Meiji Pharmaceutical University, celebrating its 100th anniversary, recently conferred an Honorary Doctor of Pharmaceutical Sciences.

Dr. Bachynsky - Meiji Pharmaceutical University, celebrating its 100th anniversary, recently conferred an Honorary Doctor of Pharmaceutical Sciences. Dr. Bachynsky was similarly recognized by the Health Sciences University of Hokkaido. He also received: Honored Life Memberships in CPhA and AFPC and has been appointed Chair of the Benefits Advisory Committee (a committee of the university and staff associations).

Visitors to the Faculty

Marc Desgagne (University of Laval) will be with us on Study Leave for a year.

Congratulations to Dr. Suresh

Three Grade 12 students from Ross Shepherd High School (Kelvin Leung, Bok Der and Babak Esfandiari) conducted a research project in Dr. Suresh's lab on the "Elimination of Viruses from Blood and other Pharmaceuticals using Magnetic Immuno-Nanoprobess" and won 2nd prize in the 'Aventis Biotech Challenge' competition recently held at the Bernard Snell Hall, U Hospital.

Grants

Mavanur Suresh is a co-investigator of a grant from CRTI (Chemical, Biological, Radiation and Nuclear Technology Research Initiative). Other investigators are Don Stewart (Cangene, Winnipeg), Heinz Feldmann (Canadian Science Ctr for Human and Animal Health National Microbiology Lab Winnipeg, the only Level 4 lab in Canada), Paul Kitching (National Ctr for Foreign Animal Disease, Winnipeg). The grant is for two years and deals with developing neutralizing antibodies against Ebola and Marburg viruses.

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

Individual Faculty News

Marian Kremers has been appointed as President of the Manitoba Pharmacists Association.

Awards and Grants

Ruby Grymonprye is the recipient of the Grace General Hospital Patient Care Research Award and the Health

Sciences Centre Foundation grant for the research project "Adverse Drug Experiences in Adult Medical and Surgical Patients admitted to the Salvation Army Grace General Hospital & the Health Sciences Centre: A Prospective Study".



Université de Montréal

Academic Appointments

Three candidates have been recruited over the last year: Dr Marc Servant, Ph.D., was recruited at the rank of assistant professor, Dr. David Williamson, Pharm.D., at the rank of clinical assistant professor and Dr Suzanne Giasson, Ph.D., at the rank of associate professor (half-time with the chemistry department).

General Faculty News

In September 2002, the Faculty welcomed 170 new first year students, each receiving a novel « student guide » explaining Faculty and University regulations and giving a number of key information and contact persons for student affairs.

The fall 2002 teaching trimester started using renovated facilities, the novel Claire McNicholl aisle (former Z aisle), named in the memory of the University Vice-President of academic affairs who passed away last summer.

Studies are on going at the Faculty evaluating the relevancy and feasibility for the development of an entry level doctorate program (Pharm.D.) and a novel pharmaceutical sciences baccalaureate program. Comptes rendus of these studies will be available from mid-October.

Individual Faculty News

Dr. Patrice Hildgen was the recipient of the « Prix d'excellence en enseignement de l'Université de Montréal pour l'année 2002 » in the category « assistant professor ».

The Pharmacy Department of Sainte-Justine children's hospital was honoured by receiving 6 awards of

excellence from the Association des pharmaciens d'établissements de santé du Québec (APES) and the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists (CSHP).

- Award of Excellence APES-Lilly «pour développement d'une nouvelle pratique» - E FERREIRA
- Award of Excellence APES-Novartis in pharmacoeconomy- JF BUSSIERES, D Lebel, A Cournoyer, S Marque, C Laflamme, C Durand
- Award of Excellence APES-Merck for pediatric practice - D Lebel
- Award of Excellence CSHP-Baxter for Innovation in Safe Medicine Practices -E Pelletier, R Therrien, D Lebel, JF Bussièrès, R Therrien, P. Gaudreault
- Awards of Excellence CSHP-Apotex for Management Issues in Pharmaceutical Care - JF Bussièrès, D Lebel, A Cournoyer, S Marque, C Laflamme, C Durand
- Award of Excellence CSHP-Roche for Specialties in Pharmacy Practice – C. Landry, JM Forest, JF Bussièrès, P Hildgen, C Lafferrière

In addition, JF Bussièrès was a finalist of the concours ARISTA-SUN - Jeune chambre de commerce du Québec -catégorie jeune cadre du Québec (gala 9 may 2002).

New Grants

For the 2002-2003 concours at the Heart and Stroke Foundation:

- Jacques Turgeon: "Cardiac electrophysiological effects of non-antiarrhythmic drugs : Modulatory role of multidrug resistance transporters"
- Sylvie Marleau, Huy Ong: "GHRPs : antiapoptotic effect in cardiomyopathy"

MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND

Appointments, Leaves

Dr. Leslie Philips has returned to work from her maternity leave. Welcome back, Leslie.

Ms. Melanie Healey joined the School as Experiential Preceptor Training Co-ordinator in August 2002.

Ms. Kimberly Duggan (teaching staff) has her appointment extended for another two years.

Individual Faculty News

Dr. Debbie Kelly was chosen by the Class of 2002 as Professor of the Year. Congratulations and keep up with the excellent work, Debbie!

Dr. Rebecca Law is the principal author of 4 chapters, entitled Acne Vulgaris, Psoriasis, Cutaneous Reaction to Drugs, and Candida Vaginitis, in the text Pharmacotherapy Casebook and Instructor's Guide, 5th edition, McGraw-Hill, July 2002.

General Faculty News

The Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy program of the School of Pharmacy at Memorial University of Newfoundland has been granted Full Accreditation Status by the Canadian Council for Accreditation of Pharmacy Programs for a two-year term, 2002-2004.

The School of Pharmacy hosted the Memorial's Academic Review Team on June 6 and 7, 2002.

On June 28, 2002 the School of Pharmacy conducted a one-day workshop as part of its curriculum review process. The Curriculum Committee chaired by Dr. Vernon Curran is undertaking a serious review of the

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UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

General Faculty News

Subodh Verma won an award for the paper entitled, "Increased Endothelin Production in Diabetic Patients Undergoing CABG Mediates Altered Vascular Reactivity and Endothelial Dysfunction" presented at the 2002 Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons Speciality Resident Research Awards event.

Con Cruickshank, one of the founders of West Coast Drugs and United Pharmacies, which later became Pharmasave, passed away suddenly on April 9th, 2002.

current curriculum in anticipation to move from its 2+3 program to a 1+4 program in keeping with the other programs in Canada and meeting the AFPC's educational outcomes.

In the process of reviewing its admission criteria, the School of Pharmacy conducted a focus group discussion on May 31, 2002 to identify a list of desirable non-academic criteria.

New Grants

Dr. Mohsen Daneshtalab has recently received funding for three years from SS Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd., Japan for his research project: Discovery and Development of Antifungal Agents. In addition, the SS Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd. will be sending a PDF (Dr. Sunao Takeda, assistant manager of chemistry at SSP) to work in Dr. Daneshtalab's laboratory.

Student News

The Class of 2004 (undergraduate) at Memorial enjoyed their one-week long Industrial Pharmacy Visitation trip to Toronto and Montreal in April. The support from the following pharmaceutical companies is greatly appreciated:

Eli Lilly Canada Inc.	Merck Canada Inc.
Apotex	Novo-Pharm Ltd.
Novartis	PharmaScience
Whitehall-Robins Inc.	

Opportunities

The School of Pharmacy is currently inviting applications for the position of Director. Search will continue until the position is filled.

Con served as CEO of Pharmasave for many years. He loved to golf and was a staunch supporter of the Faculty's Bernie Riedel Golf Tournament, serving on its committee for many years. Con will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

BC SMILE recently announced a name change to Medication Info BC. The new name was chosen to better reflect the services offered.

The first "Pharmaceutical Compounding: the basics and beyond" Continuing Pharmacy Education conference was held in the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences on the weekend of May 4-5, 2002. A "sold out" crowd of 40 eager compounding participants attended both didactic lectures and hands-on compounding lab activities held throughout the weekend.

Inger Eakin of UBC's Continuing Pharmacy Education, was recognized at a special "Thank You Luncheon for Sustainability Coordinators" on Wednesday, May 15th for her contributions to developing awareness about sustainability and our roles in reducing waste and consumption at UBC. Inger has been a Sustainability Coordinator with the UBC Campus Sustainability Office since September 2000.

Maria Madeira received the 2001-2002 Graduate Teaching Assistant Award for the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences at the Dean's Reception on May 29, 2002.



The first annual "Visions of Pharmacy Research Day" was held at Grouse Mountain on Monday, May 6th. Despite the snowfall we had more than 45 people attend. The presentations were of high quality and highlighted our faculty's commitment and strength in the area of research.

The 13th annual Bernie Riedel Golf Tournament was held on June 3rd at the Point Grey Golf Club. A sold out field of 204 golfers enjoyed the day's event under mostly sunny skies with a dinner and awards ceremony held during the evening. The event raised approximately \$45,000 for pharmacy practice teaching and research initiatives in the Faculty.

Rajesh Krishna, a 1998-99 doctoral alumnus, was recently conferred Fellow (F.C.P.) status by the American College of Clinical Pharmacology.

Sid Katz was appointed Acting Managing Director of the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts effective July 1, 2002.

Ingrid Price was appointed Instructor I in the Faculty effective August 1, 2002. Ingrid recently received her Ph.D. in the field of biopsychology from UBC where her research involved the study of various neurotransmitters and nutrition on feeding behaviour. She joins the Faculty after holding several successful

Ric Procyshyn received the "Master Teacher Award" from the fourth year pharmacy class for 2001-02 academic year.

Marc Levine received the Bristol-Myers Squibb Faculty Award for Teaching Excellence for the 2001-02 academic year.

Kishor Wasan received the Killiam Teaching Prize for the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences for the 2001-02 academic year.

Evan Kwong, a graduate of the class of 2002, was the recipient of the National Canadian Foundation for Pharmacy Poster Competition Award for 2002.

Tony Kiang, a graduate of the class of 2002, is the recipient of the Merck Frosst Postgraduate Pharmacy Fellowship Award for 2002.

appointments with the Centre for Teaching and Academic Growth (TAG) unit at UBC. Ingrid has been assigned responsibilities to coordinate and be a facilitator in the Problem-Based Learning component of Pharmacy 211.

The Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences was the recent recipient of the \$175,000 Bong Pang Yee Endowment Fund and the \$75,000 Bong Pang Yee Memorial Scholarship in the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences. The income from the endowment fund will be used to facilitate undergraduate and graduate research projects, international exchanges and specialty workshops and/or invited lecturers in the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences. The memorial scholarship will be provided for an undergraduate student in the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences.

Robert D. Sindelar assumed the position of Dean of the Faculty and Professor of Biomolecular & Pharmaceutical Chemistry effective September 1, 2002.

Frank S. Abbott concluded his six year term as Dean of the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences effective August 31st, 2002 and will resume his work as Professor of Biomolecular & Pharmaceutical Chemistry on September 1, 2002.

Elan Paluck, a Research Associate with CORxE UBC, has recently left UBC to accept a new position as Research Scientist, Clinical Research and Development Program, Regina Health District.

The 4th Annual Neema Golf Tournament was held on Friday, September 6th, at The Musqueam Golf Course. Twelve teams, made up Pharmacy students, faculty, industry and community associates, had a wonderful time, playing nine holes of Texas Scramble. The participants then enjoyed a well earned dinner, followed by brief opening remarks from Dean Sindelar, prize presentations and the silent auction. The event raised over \$700.

Carolyn Cheung, a fourth-year pharmacy student, was the recent recipient of the very prestigious Kappa Psi Pharmaceutical Foundation Scholarship.

New Grants

Medication Info BC, formerly BC SMILE, received a grant from the BC Pharmacy Association.

Michael Pungente has received funding from Tilak Technologies for his project entitled, "Synthesis, Characterization and Application of Novel Cationic Lipids as Transfection Reagents".

Bruce Carleton has received funding from Western Economic Diversification Canada, for the "Financial Assistance under CFI Support Program re: the Infrastructure for the Centre for Research on Outcomes and Uptake in Pediatrics".

Bruce Carleton has received a grant from GlaxoSmithKline for the project entitled, "Emergency Department Treatment of Asthma: the Revolving Door of Care".

Rosemin Kassam and Simon Albon have received funding from various sources, to support the project entitled, "Informed shared decision making: an interdisciplinary model for enhancing pharmaceutical care and student learning in pharmacy curricula".

Rosemin Kassam has received grant funding for the the project entitled, "Evaluating a partnership model to improve SPEP students' experience and learning, and preceptor satisfaction".

Kathleen MacLeod has received funding from the Heart & Stroke Foundation of BC and Yukon for the project entitled, "Activation of PKC and induction of iNOS in diabetic arteries: mechanisms and significance".



John McNeill has received funding from the Heart & Stroke Foundation of BC and Yukon for the project entitled, "Insulin and hypertension: role of altered vascular biology".

John McNeill has received funding from the Heart & Stroke Foundation of BC and Yukon for the project entitled, "Role of Endothelin-1 in the development of the Cardiovascular complication of diabetes".

Robert Miller received funds from the Vancouver Hospital for the project entitled "Tabletting properties of low-mixture grades of microcrystalline cellulose".

Elan Paluck was the recipient of a Vancouver Foundation grant for the project entitled, "Effectiveness of bupropion as a smoking cessation aid".

Brian Rodrigues received funding from the Heart and Stroke Foundation of BC and Yukon for the project entitled, "Myocyte apoptosis due to the fatty acid spillover in the diabetic heart".

Peter Soja received NIH funding for the project entitled "Excitability of lumbar afferent terminals during sleep".

Judy Soon received funding from the Vancouver Foundation to examine "Expanded access to emergency contraception in B.C.: impact on prevalence and patterns of usage".

Rubina Sunderji has received funding from the Heart and Stroke Foundation of BC and Yukon the project entitled, "A randomized trial of outpatient self-adjusted versus physician-managed oral anticoagulation".

Kishor Wasan has received funding from Canadian Institutes of Health Research for the project entitled, "The role of serum lipoproteins in modifying the toxic effects of hydrophobic drugs".

Kishor Wasan has received funding from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research for the project entitled, "Intestinal Lymphatic Transport of Water-Insoluble Drugs".

Kishor Wasan received funding from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research for the University-Industry project entitled, "Mechanisms by which Phytosterol and Phytosterol Analogues inhibit Cholesterol Absorption and Transfer into the Blood".

Simon Albon as a member of UBC FATE (UBC Faculty Alliance for Technology and Education) has been awarded a UBC Teaching and Learning Enhancement Fund grant for the project entitled, "Coordinated Metadata Infrastructure for Learning Objects Repositories at UBC".

Simon Albon, Howard Sham and Ron Reid have been awarded a UBC Teaching and Learning Enhancement

Fund grant for the project entitled, "Enhancing Teaching and Learning in the Pharmaceutical Sciences through the Development of a Learning Objects Repository".

Rosemin Kassam and Simon Albon [jointly with Angela Towle (Medicine), Bill Godolphin (Medicine), Lesley Bainbridge (Physical Therapy) and Sharon Salloum (Medicine)] have been awarded a UBC Teaching and Learning Enhancement Fund grant for their project entitled, "Cross-Cultural Communication for Health Professional Students".

Michael Pungente has received a grant from Tilak Technologies for the project entitled, "Synthesis, Characterization and Application of Novel Cationic Lipids as Transfection Reagents".

Elan Paluck & David Fielding (CORxE UBC), Ron Roesch & Barry Ledwidge (SFU) and Barbara Thompson (Riverview Hospital) have received a grant from the Ontario Ministry of Health, to prepare a synthesis paper of international programming and staffing standards in public psychiatric hospitals.



John McNeill, Brian Rodrigues and Kathleen MacLeod, together with Roger Brownsey of the Dept. of Biochemistry, and Norbert Haunerland of the Dept. of Biology at Simon Fraser University, have been awarded a program grant from the Heart and Stroke Foundation of B.C. & Yukon for the project entitled, "The Impact of Diabetes on the Cardiovascular System".

Helen Burt and Kishor Wasan have received funding from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research for the project entitled, "Equipment for particle size and zeta potential measurement".

Steve Shalansky, as part of a St. Paul's Hospital-based team of researchers, received funding from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research for the project

entitled, "Secondary prevention - The gap between evidence and practice".

Grant Renewals

Kishor Wasan received funding from the National Cancer Institute of Canada 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 P. Haydn Pritchard received funding from Forbes-Medi Tech Inc. as part of their CIHR University-Industry Operating Grant for the project entitled, "Mechanisms by which phytosterol and phytosterol analogues inhibit cholesterol absorption and transfer into the blood".

UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

Appointments, Promotions, Resignations and Retirements

The performance Review Committee recommended reappointment of Dr. Dennis Gorecki for a 5 year term. Congratulations Dennis!

Dr. Jonathan Dimmock retired in June 2002 following 36 years of service. Jonathan received the appointment of Professor Emeritus of Pharmacy and will continue his CIHR-supported research at the College.

Term Positions

- David F. Blackburn, Assistant Professor, effective July 1, 2002
- Dawna Hawrysh, Lecturer, effective July 1, 2002
- Melanie Rozwadowski, Assistant Professor, effective July 1, 2002

Tenure Track Position

- Brian Bandy, Assistant Professor of Nutrition, effective November 1, 2002

Sessional Lecturers

- Ray Joubert, Zeynip Akin, Stephanie Cook, Karen Davis, Mike Gaucher, George Katselis, Louise Wolf

Development Officer

- Barb Cox-Lloyd, August 1, 2002 to July 31, 2004. This is a new position created to enhance communication with alumni and maximize fund-raising efforts.

Drug Information Consultant

- Maya Wagner has left the Saskatchewan Drug Information Service to pursue graduate studies. Zahra Hirji has joined SDIS in the Healthcare Professional Drug Information Service position, previously occupied by Maya.



Individual Faculty News

Dr. Dave Blackburn has been chosen to receive the 2002 Bristol-Myers Squibb Teaching Award.

General Faculty News

The University is introducing a comprehensive, integrated planning process that will guide future initiatives and resource allocation. Colleges will be developing four year strategic plans to ensure that their activities are aligned with the University's priorities, to establish internal priorities, to serve as a basis for resource allocation, to describe measures of performance and outcomes and to provide greater accountability for decision making.

Student News

The following students had summer research assistant positions for 2002:

CIHR Health Professional Student Research Award

- Janelle Golightly- supervisors Y. Shevchuk and Karen Jensen

- Florence Woods- supervisor G. Zello

Rx &D/CIHR Summer Research Studentships in Pharmacy

- Ruth Ombati – supervisor A. Nazarali
- Sarah Jacques – supervisors Y. Shevchuk and K. Jensen

USTEP 2002 Board of Governors

- Janelle Striha and Seshni Naidoo- supervisor S. Berenbaum

USTEP 2002 Centennial Summer Student Employment

- Jennifer Billinsky – supervisor E. Krol

Merck Company Foundation National Summer Student Research

- Kimberly Hogh- supervisor A. Nazarali
- #### Apotex/P.A.C.E. Undergraduate Pharmacy Practice Research Award

- Andria Dyck – supervisors J. Taylor and M. Deschamps

Indigenous Peoples Health Research Centre Summer Undergraduate Award

- Neda Toeg – supervisors P. Paterson and A. Nazarali

Grants

2002-04 Health Services Utilization and Research Commission. *Extent and consequences of non-adherence to statin therapy in patients at high risk of cardiovascular events.* D. Blackburn, R. Dobson, J. Blackburn

2002-05 Canadian Institutes for Health Research. *“Relationship of growth and lifestyle to peak bone mass”* R. Faulkner, D. Bailey, A. Baxter-Jones, A. Dudzic, K. Kowalski and S. Whiting

2002-03 Canadian Foundation for Dietetic Research. *“The effect of insulin-fortified thickened beverages on beverage acceptance, gastrointestinal function and calcium retention in dysphagic institutionalized young adults.”* T. Isaac, CJ Arnold, SJ Whiting and WJ Dahl

2002 Agriculture Development Fund Grant. *“Development and Characterization of pureed geriatric foods containing pea hull fibre.”* K. Fulcher, W. Dahl, R. Tyler, S. Whiting

2002-04 Health Services Utilization and Research Commission. 2-year Postdoctoral Stipend. P. Paterson

Opportunities

The College is seeking applicants for a tenure track position in medicinal/biophysical chemistry. The advertisement is posted on the AFPC website as well as the college website www.usask.ca/pharmacy-nutrition/. The College is also seeking applications for a Canada Research Chair in Biomolecular Design (Protein Crystallographer), to develop an independent research program, attract funding from national granting agencies and participate in graduate student education.

Major Visitors

Dr. Masanori Sakamoto of the Meiji Pharmaceutical University of Japan visited in May and fruitful discussions were held regarding possible collaborations and exchanges.

Dr. Lakshmi Kotra visited in August to give a seminar on Drug Discovery and explore opportunities for collaboration with researchers at the U of S.



DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY

Academic Appointments

Dr. David Yung was appointed Professor Emeritus by Dalhousie University in recognition of his contributions as Director to College of Pharmacy and for his role as the Coordinator of the College's Division of Continuing Pharmacy Education.

Dannette Beechinor, Pharm.D. was appointed to the College as an Assistant Professor in April. Dr. Beechinor holds a joint appointment with the College and the QEII Health Sciences Centre.

Susan Bowles, Pharm.D. was appointed to the College in August as an Associate Professor. Dr. Bowles holds a joint appointment with the College of Pharmacy and the QEII Health Sciences Centre.

Jane Gillis, Pharm.D. joins us as Skills Lab Coordinator. Kathy Walsh (BScPharm) is the new 1st Year Skills Lab Lecturer and Carol Chamberlain (BScPharm) is the 2nd Year Skills Lab Lecturer.

General Faculty News

In the Fall, the College of Pharmacy realized its one million dollar capital campaign. An anonymous donor, upon hearing the College was short of its goal, pledged

\$60,000 to complete the campaign. Last year the College was able to build a new multi-skills laboratory along with enlarged classrooms and additional seminar space to accommodate our increased enrolment. This summer new offices and an additional seminar room were created.

Applications for the undergraduate program increased significantly again this September. The College promoted our program to all the Maritime Universities and local high schools. The College is working with Maritime pharmacies and pharmacy associations to promote the profession of pharmacy as an attractive career.

The Initiative for Medication Management, Policy Analysis, Research and Training (IMPART) hosted a workshop June 14-15, 2002 entitled: Implementing the WHO Anatomical Therapeutic Chemical Classification (ATC)/Defined Daily Dose (DD) System of Drug Classification in Canada. Workshop Speakers were Hanne Strom and Hege Salvesen-Blix from WHO Collaborating Centre for Drug Statistics Methodology, Norway. Further information can be found on the new IMPART website at www.dal.ca/~impart/

Individual Faculty News

Bob Drobitch was the 2002 recipient of the Dr. Jessie I. Macknight award for excellence in pharmaceutical teaching. This award is chosen by the fourth year pharmacy students.

Nicole Hartnell has joined the College of Pharmacy as a research fellow with Neil MacKinnon. Nicole comes to Dalhousie from the University of Texas at Austin.

David Jakeman has a Killam Trust post-doctoral researcher (Dr. Ray T. Syvitski) starting at Dalhousie in September 2002 to undertake nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopic studies on membrane proteins in collaboration with Dr. Roy Duncan in the Department of Microbiology.

Tannis Jurgens was an invited panelist to address access to complementary and alternative medicine at "Access to Healthcare in Canada: A dialogue on issues and solutions." This event was held in June 2002 and hosted by the Romanow Commission on the Future of Health Care in Canada and Dalhousie University.

Neil MacKinnon and Trevor Kidney (student) won the Best Contributed Paper Award, International Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research (ISPOR) Meeting, Arlington, VA, May 2002, for "Preventable drug-related morbidity and mortality in older adults: A Canadian cost-of-illness model."

Neil MacKinnon was the recipient of the Glaxo Wellcome Pharmacy Administration Award 2001-2002, Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists Awards Program, for the research paper, "Do Canada's Hospital Pharmacy Managers Have The Skills They Need? Results from a National Survey".

Susan Mansour, Pat Farmer and Anne Marie Whelan received honorable mention in the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy Council of Faculties 2002 Innovation in Teaching Competition.

New Grants

David Jakeman has received funding from Cancer Research and Education in Nova Scotia, the Pharmacy Endowment fund and the Faculty of Health Professions development grant for research into new methods to produce antibiotics and anticancer agents.

David Jakeman as co-applicant with Dr. T. Bruce Grindley and approximately 20 others received an NSERC grant for a 500 MHz NMR spectrometer that will be installed in the Department of Chemistry by December 2002.

Principal investigators Tannis Jurgens and Anne Marie Whelan, together with co-investigator David Gardner, received a Faculty of Health Professions Research Development Grant for "Development and Validation of Tools for Critically Appraising and Assigning Levels of Evidence to Clinical Trials Evaluating Herbal Medicines".



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Appointments

Prof. Heather Boon has been appointed to the Natural Health Products Directorate (Health Canada) External Working Group on Health Promotion.

Dr. Christine Allen is Pharmacy's newest faculty member. Her current research focuses on designing cancer delivery vehicles.

Awards

Prof. Sandy Pang will be presented with the American Association for Pharmaceutical Scientists (AAPS) prestigious Research Achievement Award in

Pharmacokinetics, Pharmacodynamics and Drug Metabolism for her outstanding contribution to fundamental pharmaceutical research at its annual meeting in Toronto in November.

Boon, H, JB Brown, A Gavin, K Westlake won the best poster award for "The Use of Complementary/alternative Health Care by Men with Prostate Cancer" presented by H. Boon at the American Holistic Medical Association Annual Conference, Toronto, ON, May 16-18, 2002. (Best Poster award).

Individual Faculty News

Prof. J. Henderson was selected for a 1-day interview by journalists from the NRP, in order to profile his laboratory's research focus and capabilities.

Prof. Piquette-Miller will be featured in the fall issue of the University of Alberta's alumni magazine "New Trail".

Prof. Peter O'Brien was an invited speaker to the "Sixth International Symposium on Cytochrome P450 Biodiversity" held August 20-25 at the University of California, Los Angeles where he spoke on "Screening for Novel Natural Substrates of P450s Utilising the Peroxidase/Peroxygenase Activities of P450s". Prof. O'Brien was also an invited speaker to the "Eleventh International Conference on the Enzymology and Molecular Biology of Carbonyl Metabolism" held in Ystad, Sweden July 2nd-6th where he spoke on "Modulating Carbonyl Cytotoxicity in Intact Rat Hepatocytes by Inhibiting Carbonyl Metabolising Enzymes".

Prof. Shirley Wu presented three papers at the 29th International Symposium on Controlled Release of Bioactive Materials, visited several institutions in



Grants

Prof. J. Henderson received a three-year grant from the Neuromuscular Research Program within the CIHR for a grant entitled "Role of EphB-family receptors in regulating motor neuron identity and somatotopic axon outgrowth".

Prof. M Piquette-Miller received a three-year CIHR grant entitled: "Pathophysiological determinants underlying individual variations in drug disposition; impact of inflammatory disease on drug transport."

Prof. R. Bendayan has received approval of a three-year CIHR grant entitled "Regulation of Antiretroviral Drug Transport in the Brain".

Student News

Last year's visiting Dutch students Maarten ten Berg and Pieter Stolk, working with Dr. Tom Einarson, both had their scientific research abstracts accepted for oral presentations at the 18th International Conference on Pharmacoepidemiology (ISPE) in Edinburgh, Scotland, Aug. 18-21. Maarten's presentation was awarded the prize for Best Student Methods paper presented at the meeting. Also accepted for posters at the same meeting were abstracts submitted by the current visiting Dutch

Shanghai, China and gave an invited presentation entitled "Modern Technologies for Designing Controlled Release Dosage Forms".

Prof. Debra Sibbald has been invited to present at the Canadian Advisory Board Wound Care Meeting at l'Eau a la Bouche, Quebec, October 25-27.

Debra Sibbald is the author of three chapters, entitled *Dermatitis; Dandruff, Seborrhea and Psoriasis; and Acne*, in the new book, Patient Self Care, Canadian Pharmaceutical Association, June 2002.

Debra Sibbald has been invited to present a lecture entitled *Integrating Technology to Enhance Learning*, at the Teaching Online course hosted by the Resource Centre for Academic Technology at the University of Toronto, August 8, 2002.

Lalitha Raman-Wilms was invited to speak at the Faculty of Pharmacy at the National University of Singapore on July 19. She spoke on Problem-Based Learning to all faculty and students and on Osteoporosis to Pharmacy Practitioners. Lalitha was also invited to speak at Bangalore, India, in early August.

students, Floris Logman and Laurens de Vries. These students are undertaking research rotations in pharmacoepidemiology as part of an international arrangement between the University of Utrecht (Dr. Bert Leufkens) and the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy.

The following students have won a T-Holder Academic Excellence Award and/or an athletic-based financial reward. The T-Holder Academic Excellence Award is sponsored by the Men's and Women's T-Holders' Associations and presented to students who have achieved both a First Colour Award for athletic performance and First Class Honours in their academic studies during the 2001-2002 session:

- Melanie Campbell -Water polo - T-Holder Academic Excellence Award
- Suzanne Garrett– Track/Cross Country– T-Holder Academic Excellence Award and D.B. (Deus Benedict/God Bless Award)
- Suzanne Iverson -Squash - T-Holder Academic Excellence Award
- Cynthia Lize - Helen Gurney Award
- Nicole Nakatsu - Lacrosse - T-Holder Academic Excellence Award

TAKING NOTE

CPHA REPORT

The CPhA Board of Directors met May 9-10, 2002 before CPhA's Annual Conference in Winnipeg. A productive Board meeting preceded a successful conference. Complete conference coverage appears in *Impact* and *CPJ*. In this newsletter, I will highlight the discussion and decisions at my final CPhA Board of Directors Meeting.

The Members of the CPhA Board of Directors for 2002/2003 are:

President: Donna Kowalishin (Alberta)
Past-President: Ron Elliott (Ontario)
President-Elect: Bernd Staeben (Newfoundland)
Vice-President: Murray Brown
Vice President: Garth McCutcheon (and Saskatchewan Board Member)
Vice President: Shelly Stepanuik
Dwight Ball, Newfoundland
Charles Bayliff, Hospital Pharmacy Practice
Normand Cadieux, Québec
Jill Daley, Pharmacy Students
Bill Heese, British Columbia
Allan Green, Prince Edward Island
Judy Hackett, Industrial Pharmacy Practice
Elmer Kuber, Manitoba
Harold Lopatka, Alberta
Warren Meek, Nova Scotia
George Murray, New Brunswick
Melanie Rantucci, Ontario
Linda Suveges, Academia
Brian Stowe, Ontario



I would like to congratulate Ron Elliott for the excellent year that CPhA experienced under his term as President, and Donna Kowalishin as she takes over the office of president. Congratulations also to Bernd Staeben who was elected president-elect and to vice presidents Murray Brown, Garth McCutcheon and Shelley Stepanuik.

There are several new Board Members including Dr. Linda Suveges, who will now represent the pharmacists in Academia. Since I attended the CPhA Board Meeting in May in Winnipeg and Linda will not participate in her first Board Meeting until October 2002, I am writing this Newsletter to complete my term of office.

One important responsibility for Board members is the monitoring of the activities of the Association. With so much happening at CPhA this past year, this has become a lengthy agenda item. Some of the activities include the following.

Carrying our message to government – Members of the CPhA Executive Committee met with Mr. Roy Romanow, Commissioner on the Future of Health Care in Canada, following his speech at the Winnipeg conference where he gave support for a bigger role for pharmacists. The message delivered to Mr. Romanow was that expanding the role of pharmacists is critical to delivering better health care in Canada. You can find the text of Mr. Romanow's speech and CPhA's submission to the Romanow Commission on our website, www.pharmacists.ca.

Earlier in May, Past President Garry King and CPhA staff met with federal Health Minister Anne McLellan to acquaint her with CPhA and its activities and concerns. It was a fruitful first meeting with many good opportunities for follow up.

As well, CPhA will soon launch its MP-Advocacy Program, which will link CPhA members with members of parliament locally throughout the country. If you are interested in participating in this program, please contact Russell Milon, Director of Government Affairs, (rmilon@pharmacists.ca) at the CPhA office.

Pharmacy technicians – Progress continues in response to the May 2001 resolution presented on pharmacy technicians to the CPhA Annual General Meeting. In April 2001, CPhA facilitated a meeting of key stakeholders to develop a national strategy to optimize the role of pharmacy technicians. To move forward with this strategy will require substantial

funding, and CPhA is developing a funding proposal to Human Resources Development Canada (HRDC).

Pharmacist shortage/demand for pharmacists' services – The pharmacy steering committee has begun work on the pharmacy occupational sector study to be conducted with HRDC to help forecast future needs for pharmacists and provide strategies to deal with the shortage.

Third-party plan issues – Recognizing the workload for pharmacists in dealing with third-party plan issues, CPhA is a member of a national steering committee with other pharmacy and insurance industry stakeholders to improve the administration of third-party plans. Priorities have been determined and working groups formed to address patient/employee education (knowing your drug plan), message standards, standardized PIN list and compounds, drug price lists, and uniform benefit card.



Information Technology—Responding to the impact of advances in information technology is a key area under CPhA's Strategic Plan. The Board approved funding in 2002 to continue progress in this area. In March 2002, CPhA's redesigned website was launched. The site provides distinct offerings for CPhA's stakeholders, pharmacists, (members/nonmembers), health care professionals, consumers/patients and media with content targeted to each of these groups. Content is continually being added, particularly in the CPhA Members' area. To create a true membership benefit, some of the features of the new site are: 1) improved navigation 2) search engine 3) online polls 4) downloadable patient care information (e.g. CPhA's Just Checking program) (Members Area).

Board members were pleased with the overwhelming response to the website in the first 35 days. In that time over 20,000 different users visited the site and almost 1,300 people downloaded CPhA's submission to the Romanow Commission.

Also, with the demand for online drug information, both web-based and hand held, we have moved ahead to begin the conversion of CPhA's publications to electronic medium. We are now expecting *eCPS* combined with *Therapeutic Choices* in 2003.

Membership

The Board is pleased that Canadian pharmacists are responding to CPhA's programs and initiatives by joining CPhA or renewing their membership. Our membership levels now are at their highest since 1995, before CPhA's move to voluntary membership. With the support of an increasing number of members, CPhA is better able to represent the pharmacists of Canada with government and other groups and to make a difference to the future of the profession.

Improving the Way the Board Operates

Board members continue to bring issues to the table to improve the workings of the Board. Two recent examples are to expand the role of the vice presidents and to consider establishing a Board position for new practitioners. A number of options were discussed to expand the role of vice presidents to share in the heavy workload of the presidential officers and to provide the vice presidents with greater experience should they decide to run for president. These options include developing a specific liaison role or a greater representative role for vice presidents. These ideas will be developed further throughout the year.

CPhA has come to recognize the importance of attracting new practitioners, who are the key in securing healthy membership growth and providing input into trends in professional practice and the future needs of the profession. There is concern that the only way new practitioners can participate on the Board is to run for election, but in provinces where elections occur, candidates tend to be judged by their previous positions and experience, making it difficult for new practitioners to become elected. The concept of a Board seat for new practitioners and its implication will be explored by the Executive Committee in July and brought back to the Board for decision, along with other ideas to achieve participation and input from new practitioners in CPhA.

CPhA's Centenary – 2007

In 2007, CPhA will celebrate its centenary. The Board is establishing a committee to plan the event. The committee's terms of reference and the focus for the celebrations will be defined more clearly later in the year, and the committee will hold its first meeting in early 2003.

The Year Ahead

As a Board, we look forward to another busy year, beginning with a review of CPhA's Strategic Plan to revitalize our goals and objectives to bring more value to every CPhA member. Although it is important to keep you informed on the activities of the Board, of equal importance is your feedback on CPhA's activities and directions that you would like your Board Member to pursue on your behalf.

Contributors

Lavern Vercaigne, President

AFPC Councillors:

Yvonne Shevchuk, U of S

Pierre B J J l a n g e r, U Laval

Sheila Kelcher, U of A

Simon Albon, UBC

Zubin Austin, U of T

Susan Mansour, Dalhousie U

Sylvie Marleau, U de MontrJal

M.P. Namaka, U of M

Lili Wang, Memorial U

Jim Blackburn, Executive Director

Keith Simons, AFPC Representative,

CPhA Board of Directors

Editor

Rebecca M. Law, Memorial U of
Newfoundland

This will be my final report, as Dr. Linda Suveges was elected to represent the Academic Constituency in the recent election. It has been a privilege and pleasure to represent the Pharmacists in Academia on the CPhA Board of Directors. I am sure that Linda <linda.suveges@usask.ca> would be delighted to receive your comments, questions or suggestions on the above, or any other pharmacy issues.

Sincerely,

Keith J. Simons, Ph.D.

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simons@ms.umanitoba.ca