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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings AFPC members,

I hope that everyone has had a great start to the New Year. It is an exciting time for AFPC right now, as projects progress and 2015 activities are beginning to take shape. The following are a few selected highlights since the last newsletter:

□ Upcoming mid-year meetings for the Council of Faculties voting members and Council of Deans are scheduled for February 2015

□ Planning activities are in progress for 2015 joint AACP / AFPC conference. Our educational conference is fully integrated with the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP). The deadline for submission of an education / research abstract is February 18, 2015

□ 7 nominations were received for 4 AFPC awards. The next deadline for awards submissions is March 15, 2015

□ 10 Faculty peer leaders continue to provide leadership for local projects to integrate e-resource (informatics for pharmacy students) into pharmacy curricula. The projects will be completed by the end of the winter 2015 academic term

□ The 1st report from the Canadian experiential education project has been completed. The report is about an outcomes / assessment guide for experiential education. A copy of the report will be posted on the AFPC website

I hope that you will be able to join us in Washington, DC (July 11-15) as we will be holding our 2015 Annual Canadian Pharmacy Education and Research Conference (CPERC) in conjunction with the AACP. There will be 3 1/2 days of educational programs with over 2000 delegates. In addition to the integrated education sessions, we will be holding our 2015 Annual AFPC business and townhall meeting for all faculty members at this conference.

Please see the Executive Director's update for additional details about AFPC activities.

Wishing you all the best,

Kerry Mansell

AFPC President, 2014-15

Highlights

- Mid-year meetings scheduled for February 2015 for Council of Faculties voting members and Council of Deans
- 8 nominations were received for 4 AFPC awards
- Planning activities in progress for 2015 joint AACP / AFPC conference
- Faculty peer leaders are providing leadership for local projects to integrate e-Resource (informatics for pharmacy students) into pharmacy curricula
- 1st report completed (outcomes / assessment guide for experiential education) through the Canadian experiential education project

Governance

Council of Faculties voting members – The last meeting of the Council of Faculties voting members was the annual meeting held on May 30, 2014. The Council of Faculties voting member's 2015 mid-year meeting is held on February 4, 2015. Jamie Kellar has been nominated as the University of Toronto Council of Faculties voting member to replace Andrea Cameron. Special thanks to Andrea for her commitment and hard work over her two terms as councilor.

Council of Deans – The Council of Deans held their annual meeting on October 5, 2014. The Council of Deans 2015 mid-year meeting is planned for February 6, 2015. Selected agenda items were: discussion about a Pharmaceutical sciences research advocacy strategy, review of 2013-14 annual benchmark statistics survey templates, review of preliminary results from the 2014 student employment survey, planning for upcoming meetings, individual Dean's reports, and new Deans' orientation to AFPC.

Board of Directors – The Board of Directors met October 17, 2014. Key agenda items were a progress report on CPhA governance, and approval of the 2015 AFPC operating budget. The 2015 financial objective is for a breakeven budget. Additional funds will be allocated from accumulated surplus to match the Blueprint for Pharmacy funding for the national experiential education project. Expenditures have been budgeted for CPhA organizational membership fees and holding the awards banquet in Canada in conjunction with the 2015 CSPS annual conference (Toronto).

Administrative

Year end – December 31, 2014 is the AFPC fiscal year end. Quick books financial reports will be prepared for the 2014 year. Financial records and documentation will be collated and submitted to the auditor. Audited financial statements will be distributed for the Annual meeting in July 2015.

AFPC Enrollment Stats – 2014/15 enrollment statistics have been collected. First year enrollment in Canadian entry level undergraduate pharmacy programs is 1392 students. Total enrollment (years 1-4) for 2014/15 is 5369 students. First year enrollment decreased from the previous year 2013/14; however, total enrollment is higher compared to previous years.

CIHR research funding statistics – In response to a query about trends in funding for pharmacy research, CIHR provided data on pharmacy faculty funded research over the last 10 years. This information is being analyzed and will be reviewed by the Council of Deans.

2014 AFPC proceedings – The 2014 AFPC annual proceedings have been compiled and are now posted on the AFPC website.

Programs / Services / Projects

Awards – January 15 is the 1st award submission deadline (for CFP graduate student award for pharmacy practice research, Merck Canada Graduate pharmacy fellowship award, AFPC new investigator research award, and Pfizer research career award). 7 submissions were received for these 4 awards. Marion Pearson (Awards Chair) has initiated the review process for the award submissions. March 15 is the award submission deadline for 4 other awards (the AFPC Graduate student research award, AFPC National award for excellence in education, Janssen award for innovation in education, and PEBC Award for excellence in research or innovation in assessment of competence). Faculty confirmation of the Rx and D Pharmacy student research poster award winners is required by March 31, 2015. Confirmed sponsorship funding has been obtained for 4 awards. We are awaiting sponsorship confirmation for 2 awards.

Please note that the 2015 AFPC awards banquet will be held at the CSPS conference in Toronto. The banquet will be on May 27 or 28, 2015. All 2015 AFPC award winners will be invited to the CSPS conference to receive their awards. Further details will be provided when available.

2015 Annual Conference – Planning for the joint 2015 AACCP / AFPC annual conference is in full swing. The conference is being held July 11-15, 2015 in Washington, DC. The following highlights key planning activities:

- Requests to collaborate with AACCP section heads (October / November)
- Calls for submissions (with submission deadlines as follows)

2016 Annual Conference – Preliminary planning has commenced for the joint 2016 AFPC / CSPS annual conference. The conference will be held in Vancouver, BC May 31-June 2, 2016.

Some joint educational programming and social activities are being planned. A joint AFPC / CSPS organization memorandum of agreement (MOU) is being reviewed. Quotes are being obtained for hotel rooms and meeting facilities.

- Mini sessions / special sessions (December 15)
- Roundtables topical discussions (February 25)
- Research / education abstracts (February 18)
- A list of 21 AFPC faculty members as volunteer abstract reviewers was sent to AACCP
- AFPC lead component of conference - Global sessions subcommittee is planning “Collaborating Internationally in Pharmacy Experiential Education – United States, Canada, United Kingdom, Australia, Brazil” (working title)
- 1st draft of AACCP / AFPC letter of agreement received and under review
- February 27 – Joint AACCP / AFPC program review committee meeting.

Please note that there will not be any separate AFPC education sessions to attend. Also, research / education abstracts should be submitted by February 18 through AACCP

(see <http://afpc.info/system/files/public/Call%20for%20Research%20Education%20Abstracts.pdf>). Similarly requests for roundtable topical discussions should be submitted by February 25 (see <http://afpc.info/system/files/public/Criteria%20and%20Call%20for%20Topical%20Roundtable%20Discussions%20FINAL.pdf>).

A number of AFPC business meetings will be held at the July 2015 conference (Council of Faculties voting members annual meeting, Council of Deans interim meeting, Annual general meeting for voting members, Annual business and townhall meeting for all faculty members).

Pharmacy educator peer leader network (PEPLN) – The project leadership team (Lisa Bishop, Marie Rocchi, Donna Pipa, Val Leung and Harold Lopatka) continued to meet every two weeks to review progress. Faculties are integrating the e-Resource “Informatics for pharmacy students” in the fall 2014 and winter 2015 terms. The mid-point was reached for the faculty peer leader projects. For a description of the proposed 10 faculty projects see the 2nd PEPLN newsletter posted on the AFPC website (see <http://afpc.info/system/files/public/PEPLN%20newsletter%20-%20Dec%202014-Final.pdf>).

AFPC provided input into the establishment of the Canada Health Infoway 2015 faculty interprofessional eHealth award. Teams from Canadian schools of nursing, medicine and pharmacy who demonstrate leadership and commitment to teaching interprofessional education, patient-centered collaborative practice enabled by digital health solutions are eligible. Request for award applications were sent to AFPC faculties for consideration. An award winner will be selected by January 30, 2015.

Canadian experiential education project – Three student research assistants were hired to assist Katrina Mulherin (project manager). Initial data was collected from 15 interviews and literature reviews. An initial draft report (1st action item) was prepared. The topic for this report is the need and value of a guide describing outcomes and corresponding assessments at each stage of experiential education. The draft report was reviewed

with PEPC and the project steering committee. A final version of the report will be completed in February. The next topic to be addressed is the integration of a full spectrum of experiential education models.

Student employment survey – Further analysis of the survey has been initiated by Jason Johnson (CAPSI). The results from 2014 have been compared to the 2013 and 2012 results. Tables and graphs have been prepared. Further analysis by provinces will be conducted. Initial results from the analysis were presented in the last Executive Director update (September/October 2014). The comparison of three years results will be reviewed with the Council of Faculties and Council of Deans. Further dissemination of the results will occur.

Other Activities

National patient safety consortium – H. Lopatka attended a meeting of the National patient safety consortium in November 2014. The goals of the consortium are to accelerate patient safety improvement in Canada through 4 strategic goals: i) provide leadership on the establishment of an integrated patient safety strategy; ii) inspire and sustain patient safety knowledge within the system, and through innovation enable transformational change; iii) build and influence patient safety capability (knowledge and skills) at organizational and system levels; and iv) engage all audiences across the health system in national patient safety agenda. AFPC has indicated our support of the consortium. As a component of the consortium plans, Olavo Fernandes (Toronto) represents AFPC at the Patient Safety Education Roundtable in January 2015.

PEBC webinar – As part of the PEBC 50th anniversary PEBC organized a webinar entitled “How to write effective multiple choice questions” for AFPC faculty members. Dr. Anthony Marini was the speaker and the webinar was held November 20 with approximately 30 AFPC participants. Participants were very satisfied with the webinar.

AFPC has received a CD of this webinar and a copy has been provided to each Council of Faculties voting

member. If you attended the sessions and are unable to obtain a copy of the CD please contact Doreen Sproule doreen_sproule@telus.net.

AFPC representatives appointed to external committees – Glenda MacDonald (British Columbia) was appointed as the AFPC delegate to CCCEP. Carla Dillon (Memorial) was appointed as the AFPC representative to the PEBC Board.

Pharmacist Specialization in Canada – The purpose of this project is to assess the need for support for the formal recognition and certification of pharmacist specialization in Canada. The firm Intergage Consulting Group Inc. was awarded the contract to conduct this project. Currently, the consulting firm has initiated an online survey to collect opinions of pharmacists about this topic. Anne Julie Frenette is the AFPC representative on the project steering committee.



AFPC Executive Director

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT: UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Message from the Dean

I am very excited to submit my first AFPC Spotlight as Dean of the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy at the University of Toronto. Since our last spotlight in 2011, so much has changed.

One of the most significant changes occurred in January 2013, when the government of Ontario approved our application to recognize our new curriculum as an entry-to-practice Doctor of Pharmacy program. This approval acknowledged the significant enhancement to our flagship undergraduate educational offering represented by the introduction of a new curriculum in 2011, and the changing role of the pharmacist in the healthcare system. This new program provides students with a better educational experience and greater opportunities to apply their learning in real world settings.

To ensure that practicing pharmacists would have an equal opportunity to benefit from this new curriculum and enhance their skills and knowledge base to match those of new graduates, the Faculty also introduced the PharmD for Pharmacists program. This unique program provides practicing pharmacists with the opportunity to advance their practices by participating in a flexible and customizable program that builds on their experiences to help them embrace the changing scope of pharmacy practice.

With the introduction of these two new programs, the Faculty has wound down the Bachelor of Science in

Pharmacy and Post-Baccalaureate Doctor of Pharmacy programs, as well as the Structured Practical Experience Program.

In support of our mission to develop and promote internationally significant innovation in the discovery and mobilization of pharmaceutical knowledge in the pursuit of health, the Faculty has introduced three new research centres. In the coming years, the Centre for Practice Excellence, the Centre for Integrative Medicine, and the Centre for Pharmaceutical Oncology will all play a significant role in defining the Faculty and our contributions to the healthcare system.

These Centres are at the heart of Boundless Innovation: the Campaign for the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy. Funds raised through this historic campaign will allow us to shape student life and learning and advance groundbreaking pharmaceutical research, and will aid in our mission to be a pre-eminent centre for pharmaceutical knowledge and practice, through advancements in research, teaching, and service.

Research and graduate education continue to be hallmarks of the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy, led by outstanding researchers and graduate students whose efforts will transform healthcare practices in Canada and across the globe.

And that's just the tip of the iceberg. Please read below to learn even more about our Faculty.

Program News

On January 23, 2013, the University of Toronto's application for the entry-to-practice Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) program was approved by the government of Ontario. This spring, the first students will graduate from the new Doctor of Pharmacy program.

Throughout the four years of this program (which was introduced in 2011), students have benefited from more integrated and aligned learning through the pairing of pharmacotherapy modules and medication therapy management courses to support theoretical learning with the application of knowledge. At the same time, the new curriculum has provided them with the chance to acquire more hands-on experience through the

implementation of a full academic year of experiential placements through our Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience program. Students have also benefited from a greater emphasis on interprofessional education, leveraging the strengths of the various health profession faculties at the University of Toronto, and greater opportunity to tailor their education to match their interests through enhanced elective and selective offerings. This new curriculum has also created new learning pathways which allow students to contour their education to their own needs by participating in innovative new offerings like the Combined PharmD-MBA program jointly offered with the Rotman School of Management.

With the introduction of the new PharmD curriculum, however, the Faculty will retire the Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy program this spring. The last full class to graduate with this degree did so last year, while students in the Combined Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy-Post-Baccalaureate Doctor of Pharmacy program will graduate with both the Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy and Post-Baccalaureate Doctor of Pharmacy degrees in June 2015.

Since its introduction in 1952, the Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy program at the University of Toronto has graduated thousands of pharmacists who have gone on to play a significant role in the health and well-being of communities across the province and throughout the country.

This spring will also see the final class of Post-Baccalaureate Doctor of Pharmacy graduate from the Faculty. Over its life, the Post-Baccalaureate Doctor of Pharmacy program has been responsible for graduating hundreds of advanced practitioners who have applied the skills, knowledge, and experience gained in this exceptional program in a variety of practice settings. A model for patient-based care, the Post-Bac PharmD has produced an incredible number of pharmacy leaders over its 20+ years.

This January, the first complement of students was admitted to the new PharmD for Pharmacists program. Designed to meet the changing needs of today's pharmacists, this flexible, customizable, and uniquely

Canadian program combines course work and experiential learning to build on the knowledge and skills acquired through a Bachelors' degree (or equivalent) in Pharmacy and experiences in practice, leading to the conferring of a Doctor of Pharmacy degree.

Course work in pharmacotherapy, critical appraisal, physical assessment, pharmacokinetics, educational theories, and health systems, provides practicing pharmacists with the foundation needed to advance their practice and fully embrace the changing scope of pharmacy in Canada. These cutting-edge courses are delivered in a variety of formats, including online lectures, online facilitated discussions, case-based learning, problem-based learning, independent project work, onsite didactic classes, and small group discussion. Advanced experiential rotations help participants develop and enhance their practice skills and provide exposure to different areas of practice.

The flexible nature of this program allows participants to work at their own pace by adjusting course loads per term, with up to four (4) years to complete the program. Moreover, participants can customize their experience by selecting courses that interest them and matter to their practice setting.

Applications for September 2015 entry to the PharmD for Pharmacists are now being accepted. For more information about this program, please visit <http://pharmacy.utoronto.ca/pharmdforpharmacists>

This year, the Faculty also introduced a new program in combination with the Rotman School of Commerce at the University of Toronto – the Combined PharmD-MBA.

Under this program, students in the Combined PharmD-MBA will realize significant advantages in earning two premium degrees in five years, instead of the six years it would take to earn both separately. Moreover, upon graduation, students in this program will have an advanced business management degree to accompany their premier PharmD education. The first set of second year students have now applied for admission to this innovative new program.

In response to feedback received from our graduate students, the Faculty has committed to enhancing our graduate course offerings.

The Faculty's Office of Continuous Professional Development (CPD) is committed to delivering leading-edge educational programs that will improve and expand the competency of pharmacy professionals, researchers, scientists, and allied professionals involved in pharmacy policy and practice. To achieve this goal, CPD develops quality programming that answers to the shifting needs of the profession.

Over the last year, popular CPD offerings have included OSCEology (a primer on performance-based teaching, learning and assessment in pharmacy through the use of Objective Structured Clinical Examinations), a Preceptor Development Program (to prepare pharmacists to competently and confidently precept year 4 students on Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience (APPE) rotations), and Immunization and Injections for Pharmacists workshops (an interactive, hands-on workshop where pharmacists learn the theory and put into practice the skills of administering intradermal, subcutaneous, and intramuscular injections). Other courses include Advanced Cardiology Pharmacy Practice, Introductory Psychopharmacology for Clinicians, Primary Care

Today, Minor Ailments, Infectious Disease, Self-Care, and Customized Clinical Skills Training programs.

The CPD office is also responsible for the delivery of the Faculty's International Pharmacy Graduate (IPG) program, a unique best practices bridging program for pharmacists trained outside Canada. Drawing course content from our undergraduate programs, the two Canadian Pharmacy Skills modules that compose the IPG program provide internationally-educated pharmacists with the academic and experiential learning necessary to gain enculturation to Canadian pharmacy practice and meet entry-level standards of practice for pharmacists.

Faculty News

Throughout 2014 and into 2015, a number of individuals have accepted appointments with the Faculty.

Professor Heather Boon was appointed the seventh Dean of the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy in July 2014. Professor Boon was previously interim Dean of the Faculty during the 2013-2014 academic term, and Associate Dean, Graduate Education from 2012 until 2014.



Associate Professor Lynda Balneaves was appointed the Kwok Yuen and Betty Ho Chair of Integrative Medicine and Director of the Centre for Integrative Medicine in October 2014. This is a joint project of the Faculty of Pharmacy, the University of Toronto's Faculty of Medicine, and the Scarborough Hospital.



Titi Oridota was appointed the Faculty's Chief Administrative Officer.

Assistant Dean, Strategic Initiatives and Continuous Professional Development Maria Bystrin retired in December after 10 years at the Faculty.

Finance Director Lilita Delgado retired in February after more than 35 years of service at the Faculty.

Professor Emeritus Graham Nairn and Professor Peter O'Brien retired (again) in July after storied careers at the Faculty.

Marvin James joined the Faculty as the Director of the Office of Experiential Education in February.

Dr. Christine Allen was promoted to Full Professor, while Dr. Suzanne Cadarette and Dr. Carolyn Cummins were promoted to Associate Professor status with tenure this summer.



Professor Zubin Austin was appointed The Murray B. Koffler Chair in Pharmacy Management in February. In this role, Professor Austin will be responsible for leading the newly-created Centre for Practice Excellence, a key strategic priority for the Faculty. Built on the core objective of patient-focused care, the

Centre is in a unique position to address the issues impacting the future of healthcare by equipping students and practitioners to maximize their clinical expertise while enhancing quality of care and improving patient outcomes in a cost-effective manner. The Centre will focus on management education, transformational research, and practice innovation.



Professor Raymond Reilly was appointed inaugural Director of the Centre for Pharmaceutical Oncology at the Faculty in January. Professor Reilly is currently Associate Dean, Research, a position he has held since 2010. Under Professor Reilly's leadership, the Centre will facilitate the work of a wide range of faculty members especially

those engaged in drug discovery, drug delivery, drug formulation, pharmacokinetics, molecular imaging and molecular diagnostics research. The Centre aims to advance discoveries in cancer biology to new diagnostics and therapeutics for cancer that can be evaluated in early phase clinical trials. As the first Director, Ray will be developing a five-year plan for the Centre that includes developing Centre infrastructure, collaborative relationships and funding.

Professor Ping Lee succeeded Professor Emeritus Graham Nairn as the Coordinator of the Faculty's successful Industrial Pharmacy Residency program this summer.

Professor Allen was appointed the GlaxoSmithKline Chair in Pharmaceutics and Drug Delivery for a five-year term, effective July 1, 2014, and Associate Dean, Graduate Education for a one year term. Previously, Dr. Allen has served Interim Associate Dean, Graduate Education and Associate Dean, Academic.



In November, the Faculty Club played host to the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy Retreat. Approximately 125 faculty and staff members attended this event, along with students from the undergraduate and graduate programs. The retreat provided an opportunity to check in on the progress of our current strategic plan, celebrate our successes, and identify short- and long-term priorities and areas of focus for the next two years.



Student News

Our undergraduate student body continues to show a commitment to social activism and professional activity. The IMAGINE (Interprofessional Medical and Allied Groups for Improving Neighbourhood Environment) Clinic is an interprofessional, student-run community health initiative aimed at promoting and providing holistic health care to the core neighbourhoods of downtown Toronto. Through this important student-led initiative, students and mentors from a variety of health professions (Pharmacy, Medicine, Nursing, Social Work, and Public Health, among others) offer weekly drop-in hours for Toronto's uninsured and marginalized populations.

Similarly, Students for Optimizing and Advocating Pharmacy Endeavours (SOAPE) has been very active in promoting the role of the pharmacist in the healthcare system to the public. Since their foundation in 2010, this vocal group has held a variety of events including public outreach activities for Pharmacy Awareness Month and leading Safe Meds for Seniors seminar programs in concert with the Ontario College of Pharmacists (OCP) to ensure seniors are using their medications safely.

The Pharmacy Student Service Team (PhaSST) is one of the Faculty's newest student-run organizations, and has been very active in promoting community involvement and volunteerism. In an effort to enhance students' understanding of how complex social forces connect and influence health, disease, patients, and pharmacists, the PhaSST team engages students in service projects at local charitable organizations with the ultimate goal of becoming effective and compassionate health care providers. By becoming

involved in these important community organizations and interacting with the clients of these programs, PhaSST aims to help students understand the forces influencing health and become socially-aware professionals motivated to help their patients overcome barriers to health care services and optimize health outcomes.

Since forming this fall, PhaSST has organized two extremely successful events designed to give back to the Toronto community. Their "Bags of Kindness" initiative saw students, faculty, and staff filling bags with essentials for families staying at the nearby Ronald McDonald House while their children are treated for serious medical conditions at the local hospitals. For this event, they collected an astonishing 170 bags, which were brought to Ronald McDonald House in advance of Valentine's Day. Prior to that, over 30 students participated in the Yonge Street Mission's holiday charity events, raising funds and organizing and distributing food donations to the mission's clients.



Earlier this year, the Global Medicines Initiative held a fundraising Gala. Conceived to support student initiatives while studying abroad, this event raised funds for the Intercultural Outreach Initiative, site of one of the Faculty's many global health internships for students. Through this internship, PharmD students learn about the practice of pharmacy in hospital and community settings in a developing nation. The funds raised from the gala led to the purchase of essential medical equipment at a Galapagos-based hospital, and the success of the summer internship program led the organization to hire a full-time public health educator.



Our students also participated in a host of developmental activities, including the Faculty's Summer Internship and Undergraduate Summer Research programs.

The Summer Internship Program provides students with the opportunity to experience pharmacy within a global context, empowering pharmacy trainees and graduate students with the knowledge and experience to make a difference in healthcare on a global scale, and promoting healthcare policies and practices that aim to improve patient care and access to medicines. The Faculty has forged strong collaborations and partnerships with global health organizations (WHO, UNAIDS, Pharmacists Without Borders, among others) and various faculties, departments, and programs within the University of Toronto community (Munk School of Global Affairs, Collaborative Doctoral Program in Global Health, Dalla Lana School of Public Health, Institute for Global Health Equity and

Innovation, Centre for Integrative Medicine, and Toronto Addis Ababa Academic Collaboration, among others) that provide students with the opportunity to obtain firsthand experience through internships – front-line healthcare, healthcare policy research, etc. – in settings across the globe.

The Faculty's Undergraduate Summer Research Program allows students in the PharmD program and other programs at the University of Toronto to spend the summer conducting research under the supervision of a Pharmaceutical Sciences faculty member. By participating in this program, students get hands-on experience working alongside leading pharmaceutical scientists, postdoctoral fellows, and graduate students carrying out groundbreaking research in an academic laboratory. This popular program attracts a considerable number of applicants all eager to learn from and work with some of today's leading scientific minds.



The Faculty's House program has proven to be successful in bringing together students, organizing fun filled and informative events, and creating a sense of community within the Faculty. This year, Hurst House, named in honour of R. Oscar Hurst, Dean of the Faculty from 1929-1952, was the recipient of the House Trophy, which is awarded to the team that acquires the most participation points through the course of the academic term.

Teams of third and fourth year students are currently competing in the second annual Pharmasave Business Plan Competition. Administered by the Centre for Practice Excellence, the competition provides an opportunity for students at the Faculty to bring together their clinical and business skills to create novel solutions that can improve individual patient care and have a positive impact on the wider healthcare system. Working in teams of up to four, students are able to apply their theoretical knowledge to real-world scenarios with a view to improving quality of care while demonstrating value for money. Business Plans may cover any or all sectors of pharmacy practice including hospital, community, and industrial pharmacy.

The final 3-6 teams will work with entrepreneurial specialists to develop their business idea and pitch, and present their business plan to a panel of healthcare and business experts present on April 6th. For this year's competition, a total of 17 teams have signed up to participate.



The Faculty's annual Induction Ceremony occurred in January, welcoming an incoming class of 237 PharmD students into the Pharmacy family. Each year, this signature event draws a large crowd of students, faculty members, staff, and members of the national and provincial pharmacy community to bear witness to students symbolically receiving their lab coats, reciting the pledge of professionalism, and swearing the oath of the Ontario College of Pharmacists.



Recognizing that there's more to life than studying, our students are skilled at balancing work and play activities. To that end, they plan and host a variety of fun-filled and cultural events over the course of the year. Each fall, Pharmacy Phollies, a variety show for students in the PharmD program, allows the students to showcase their performance talents in the form of song, dance, and comedic sketches.

Each spring, the winding down of the school year is celebrated through artistic performances at the annual Arts Night held at the University of Toronto's historic Hart House.

Throughout the year, students participate in a wide range of clubs (Newspaper, Choir, Dragon Boat Club, Music Club, and Yearbook, among others) and intramural sports (basketball, volleyball, soccer, hockey, and ultimate frisbee). This year, our Women's Volleyball team placed first among all University of Toronto teams.

Awards & Recognition

Since the fall, a number of faculty members and students have been recognized with a variety of awards.

Professor Micheline Piquette-Miller's work as Associate Editor for Clinical Pharmacology & Therapeutics received Gold recognition from the Association TRENDS All-Media Contest in the Scholarly/Technical/Scientific Journal category.

Professor Shirley X.Y. Wu was elected a Fellow of the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists this fall. This appointment signals the international recognition of her distinguished and sustained accomplishments and contributions to the advancement

Professor Peter Wells was named the 2015 Chappel Memorial Lecturer, by the University of Guelph, Ontario Veterinary College. This honour is awarded annually to an internationally renowned scientist who plays a key leadership role in the biomedical sciences.

PhD student Simmyung Yook (supervised by Professor Raymond Reilly) was recognized by the European Association of Nuclear Medicine at their Annual Congress in Gothenburg, Sweden this fall. Simmyung received the Eckert & Ziegler Abstract Award for her paper, "A comparison of EGFR-targeted and non-targeted ¹⁷⁷Lu-labeled gold nanoparticles (AuNPs) for localized treatment of breast cancer xenografts in athymic mice." Recognizing research work in the fields of cancer diagnostics and therapy, this award is designed to encourage young and talented nuclear medicine investigators to present their work on medical imaging to a wide audience.

of pharmaceutical sciences, particularly in the field of Controlled Drug Delivery and Modified Release Formulations.



Micheline Piquette-Miller

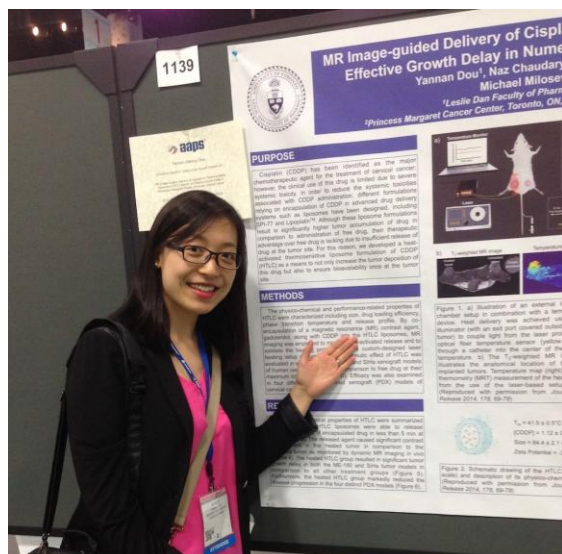


Shirley Wu

PhD student Yannan (Nancy) Dou (supervised by Professor Christine Allen) was recognized by the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists (AAPS) with the 2014 AAPS Graduate Student Research in Formulation Design and Development Award. Designed to recognize excellence in graduate education in the fields of formulation design and development, this award acknowledges the incredible research Nancy and her collaborators in the Allen laboratory are conducting in the development of heat-activated thermosensitive liposomes encapsulating chemotherapeutic agent for the treatment of solid tumours, with the guidance of clinically used imaging modalities, as demonstrated in "MR Image-Guided Delivery of Cisplatin in Thermosensitive Liposomes (HTLC) Results in Effective Growth Delay in Numerous Xenograft Models of Human Cervical Cancer," which Nancy presented at the AAPS Annual Meeting and Exposition in San Diego.



Simmyung Yook receiving her award



Each year, the Faculty hosts awards events for undergraduate and graduate students.

In October, the Faculty honoured the achievements of PharmD students at the Undergraduate Student Awards Reception, held at the Faculty Club. At this event, entrance awards and awards for accomplishment in years 1, 2, and 3 were presented to PharmD students. A total of 62 awards were presented at this ceremony to 71 students.



At the Graduate Student Convocation and Awards Reception in November, 33 awards were presented to 44 students at a reception held at the Faculty. This celebration recognized recipients of both internal and external awards, and honoured the 13 PhD and 6 MSc graduands who participated in the University of Toronto's convocation ceremony the next day. Graduate supervisors, faculty members, students, and their loved ones were invited to participate in this event to honour these students and their tremendous accomplishments.



Funding

Since the fall, several of the Faculty's investigators have received funding.

Professor Shana Kelley and Xagenic Inc., a molecular diagnostics company developing the first lab-free molecular diagnostic platform with a 20-minute time-to result, are the recipients of a three-year Genome Canada Genomics Applied Partnerships Program grant co-funded by the Ontario Research Fund through the Ministry of Research and Innovation. The project will receive approximately \$6M in funding and will lead to the development of a single affordable and accurate genotyping test to screen for infectious pathogens and will provide a new solution for rapid disease diagnosis.



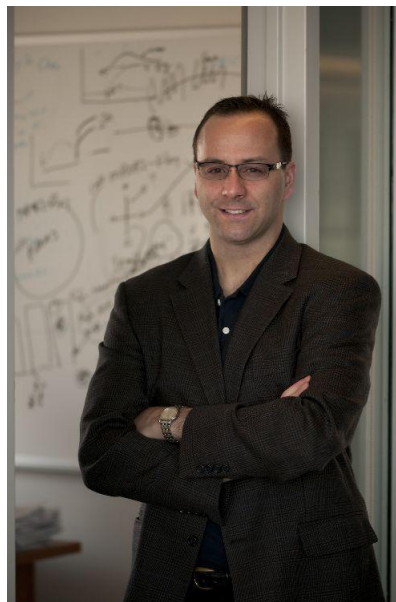
Professor Ray Reilly is the recipient of a two-year OICR grant for "Development of PET molecular imaging probes for predicting resistance to trastuzumab-DM1 (T-DM1)." Trastuzumab-DM1 is a new antibody-drug immunoconjugate that was recently approved for treatment of patients with HER2-positive metastatic breast cancer that is resistant to trastuzumab (Herceptin) combined with chemotherapy. The drug is expensive and is not always effective in every patient. In this project, Dr. Reilly will develop molecular imaging agents to identify those patients who would benefit most from treatment with T-DM1, which should improve patient outcome as well as reduce costs to the health care system.

Professor Raymond Reilly and Associate Professor Stephane Angers each received 3-year grants to pursue breast cancer research from the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation – Ontario Region (CBCF).

In an earlier CBCF-funded research project, Professor Reilly and his team discovered a new radiation treatment for HER2-positive breast cancer, one of the most aggressive forms of breast cancer. When attaching Herceptin to a molecule that emits radiation, Professor Reilly found that it could stop the growth of HER2-positive breast cancer tumours in preclinical studies without affecting normal tissues. Through this new project, Professor Reilly will continue to test the effectiveness of this treatment, then move on to test this treatment in women with HER2-positive breast cancer in partnership with Dr. Mark Levine who leads the Ontario Clinical Oncology Group at McMaster University. In these trials, nine patients with HER2-positive metastatic breast cancer (breast cancer that has spread and is more difficult to treat) will receive a single low dose of the drug. Ultimately, it is hoped that this research will lead to a more effective treatment option for women with HER2-positive breast cancer, and help women who have become resistant to standard Herceptin treatment.

Associate Professor Stephane Angers will also continue previously funded CBCF research to better understand the role of two proteins – ‘KIF14’ and ‘RADIL’ – that appear to play an important role in breast cancer metastases. The prognosis for patients with breast cancer worsens when the cancer progresses, or metastasizes, to other parts of the body. Metastasis is

common in triple-negative breast cancer, which is characterized by a lack of hormone receptors (estrogen and progesterone) and HER2 receptors. This aggressive form of breast cancer is difficult to treat as no targeted therapies exist and scientists are still working to understand how cancer cells are able to migrate to other sites in the body. Through this project, Dr. Angers will explore how these proteins work, and assess whether or not they would make good targets for treatment.



Professor Shirley X.Y. Wu, along with co-applicants Drs. R. DaCosta, R. Bristow, and A. M. Rauth at the Princess Margaret Hospital Cancer Centre, received a two-year Prostate Cancer Canada Movember Discovery Grant to develop a novel combination therapy using nanomedicine to modulate tumour hypoxic conditions thus improving radiation therapy of advanced inoperable prostate cancer. Radiation therapy is a common treatment to combat prostate cancer, the most common cancer among Canadian men. About 50% of patients receive radiation therapy at some point in their treatment.

Hypoxia – the condition where cells are deprived of oxygen – is a common feature of solid tumours, effecting roughly 30-90% of prostate cancers cases. Because of this lack of oxygen, tumour cells effectively alter their metabolism to continue growing, affecting

their biology, and demonstrating a resistance to radiation therapy. It is therefore extremely important to develop an innovative treatment to tackle the problem of abnormal tumour microenvironment and radioresistance to improve health outcomes for prostate cancer patients. However, the various approaches to overcoming radioresistance investigated to this point have demonstrated limited effectiveness.

To combat this radioresistance, Professor Wu’s Advanced Pharmaceuticals & Drug Delivery Laboratory is applying nanochemistry and pharmaceuticals to create a nanomedicine comprised of metal oxide and polymer. Through this grant, the team will employ this nanomedicine to produce significant and sustainable levels of oxygen *in situ* at the site of the tumour by consuming harmful chemicals generated by cancer cells.

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

New appointments

The faculty would like to extend a warm welcome to the following people:

Dr, Khaled Barakat has joined the Faculty and the Division of Pharmaceutical Sciences as a Research Assistant Professor. Dr. Barakat's research stands at the multidisciplinary interface of Biology, Physics and Computer Science. His laboratory at the Faculty of Pharmacy applies state-of-the-art computational modeling methods to design novel anticancer and antiviral immunotherapy drugs. As part of his teaching activities, Dr. Barakat recently developed a new introductory Graduate-level course illustrating current computer-aided drug design technologies.

Dr. Seppy (Sepideh) Masoodi has joined the University of Alberta in a new position of International Coordinator (Health Sciences). Dr. Masoodi will support three of the health sciences faculties with their international programming, especially in regard to larger scale capacity building projects and activities that will be based on collaborative efforts between two or three of the faculties. Dr. Masoodi holds a PhD and an MA in Education, and a BA in Translation Studies. She brings valuable experience in international education development, including establishing international partnerships, marketing and branding, strategic development, and program development. She was recently the ELC Programs Coordinator at Lethbridge College and the Program Curriculum Coordinator and EFL Specialist at the transnational branch of the University of Calgary (Nursing Faculty) in Qatar.

Departures

Theresia Williams, Project Manager for the Entry-to-Practice PharmD, has left the faculty to pursue another opportunity. Theresia was only with the Faculty for 3 months prior to her departure, but she brought a valuable perspective during her time. The faculty would like to thank Theresia for all her contributions.

New role

Christine Hughes has been appointed as Assistant Dean of New Curriculum Development, which includes chairing our Steering Committee and coordinating the submission of the program to the university and provincial government.

Promotion

Dr. John Seubert, Chair of the Pharmaceutical Sciences Division, was promoted to full professor in the Fall, which will take effect July 1, 2015. John joined the Faculty in 2005 and was promoted to Associate Professor in 2009. He has been an exceptionally successful researcher, and a very effective instructor. We congratulate John on achieving this major milestone in his career.

Grants

Sadowski C(PI), Tsuyuki R, Wagg A, Hunter K, Tannenbaum C. Grant from Pfizer Canada Inc for \$50,000 for a project titled: A Novel strategy to address the underdiagnosis and undertreatment of overactive bladder and lower urinary tract symptoms.

General Faculty News

First Graduating Class from the Post-Professional PharmD Program

The Faculty is pleased to announce that our first class in the Post-Professional Doctor of Pharmacy Program convoked on November 18th, 2014. The graduates

completed the 13 month program including course work and up to 36 weeks of experiential education. The Faculty is extremely proud of the inaugural graduating class of 2014.



Photo: Graduates of the Post-professional PharmD Class of 2014

Pharmacy Students Help Vaccinate!

Fourth year pharmacy students participated in the UofA Campus Influenza Immunization Campaign over 3 days in the first week of November, 2014. Faculty members and pharmacist volunteers were also involved in supervision of pharmacy students who were administering influenza vaccine in the clinics. The Campus Influenza Immunization Campaign involves collaboration by several stakeholders on campus including the University Health Centre, Faculty of Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences, Faculty of Nursing and Human Resources. Over 3000 individuals were vaccinated during the campaign.

Workshop delivered at Health Canada

On behalf of the Canadian Society for Pharmaceutical Sciences, Raimer Loebenberg and Fakhreddin Jamali organized and chaired a sold-out international workshop on advances in the basic, clinical and regulatory sciences of biologics. This was held at Health Canada headquarters in Ottawa on Dec 19, 2014, and was attended by 150 individuals including scientists from academia, industry and government as well as patient advocates.

Dr. Fakhreddin Jamali was interviewed by Edmonton's CBC radio exploring the connections between anti-inflammatory drugs and depression on January 13, 2015. A podcast link of the interview is available at:

<http://www.cbc.ca/edmontonam/episodes/2015/01/13/is-depression-just-another-form-of-allergic-reaction/>

UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

UBC Pharm Sci Launches New Entry-to-Practice Doctor of Pharmacy Program

On October 14, 2014, the Faculty received official approval for its new Entry-to-Practice Doctor of Pharmacy (Entry-to-Practice PharmD) degree program. Since 2012, UBC Pharm Sci has been diligently working with a number of key stakeholder groups, both internal and external, on the development of the program and ensuring that all the necessary steps were carefully followed.

The Faculty has been holding information sessions for prospective students since the program received approval, with each session being fully – and on many occasions, over – subscribed. While the new Entry-to-Practice PharmD program undergoes recruitment, the Faculty continues to work on the development of the Flexible Doctor of Pharmacy (Flexible PharmD) program. The program will be available to those practicing pharmacists who wish to attain a PharmD degree while continuing to work.

UBC Pharm Sci and the Department of Family Medicine at McMaster University Partner to Create New OSCAR Module for Pharmacists in Collaborative Care Teams

UBC Pharm Sci and the Department of Family Medicine at McMaster University have recently partnered to create a new module within the open-source OSCAR Electronic Medical Record (EMR). The new module will support pharmacists working in care teams and will mark the first time that both pharmacist and physician functionality is located in the same made-in-Canada EMR. Colcamex Resources, a specialty software development firm, has been hired to build the new pharmacist module. Work officially began last week and is expected to take between six and twelve months to complete. Once finalized, the module will be available for all pharmacists and clinicians within the OSCAR user community. To read more visit <http://pharmacy.ubc.ca/aboutus/faculty-news/ubc-faculty-of-pharmaceutical-sciences-and-the-department-of-family-medicine-at-mcmaster-university>

UBC Pharmacists Clinic Wins National Award for Innovation

**Source: Canadian Healthcare Network*



Photo: "Staff and student members of the Pharmacists Clinic Team." Credit: Canadian Healthcare Network

Lauded for its future focus, the Pharmacists Clinic opened in November 2013 as Canada's first university-affiliated, licensed, pharmacist-led patient care clinic. It was honoured with the Pharmacy Innovation award at this year's Commitment to Care & Service Awards, the national awards program hosted by Pharmacy Practice+ and Drugstore Canada, Canada's leading pharmacy magazines. The Commitment to Care & Service Awards Gala took place on the evening of November 24th, 2014, at the Ritz-Carlton in Toronto. To read more, visit <http://www.pharmacy.ubc.ca/aboutus/faculty-news/UBC-pharmacy-clinic-wins-national-award-for-innovation>.

2014 Winter Flu Clinic Initiatives

Once again this year, our trained and certified 4th year students participated as immunizers for several influenza immunization initiatives across UBC campus during the month of November. Since 2012, our 4th year students have been volunteering at UBC-wide interdisciplinary flu clinics, working alongside nursing and medical students to immunize UBC staff, faculty, and students. These flu clinics are organized by UBC Risk Management Services and two of these clinics took place in our very own building. This year, 116 students immunizers participated in these clinics, and 55 of them were pharmacy students.

Since 2013, our pharmacy students have also participated as immunizers at flu clinics hosted by our Pharmacists Clinic. These clinics target members of the public and individuals on campus who are not receiving vaccinations through the UBC influenza immunization program. The Pharmacists Clinic offered four influenza clinics this season, and 22 of our students volunteered as immunizers.



Photo: "UBC Pharm Sci student administers a flu vaccination at the Pharmacists Clinic." Credit: Ivan Yastrebov.

Personalized Medicine: Genomics Helps BC Pharmacists Target the Right Drugs for the Right Patient



An exciting new research project that aims to make personalized medicine a reality for patients is launching in a number of community pharmacies across British Columbia. The "Genomics for Precision Drug Therapy in the Community Pharmacy" project is the first of its kind in North America. The project is funded by Genome BC and the BC Pharmacy Association (BCPhA), with the research component led by a team at the University of British Columbia's Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences (UBC). It will position the pharmacist as the health care provider through which patient genetic information can be acquired, assessed, and used to guide drug therapy decisions.

During the project's first phase, the UBC team led by highly regarded researcher Dr. Corey Nislow will develop robust operating procedures for sample collection, processing and sequencing. Training and educational tools for patient awareness will also be developed. The project will focus on the drug warfarin, used widely for anticoagulation therapy, with information extracted from patient saliva samples. To read more visit <http://pharmacy.ubc.ca/aboutus/faculty-news/personalized-medicine-genomics-helps-BC-pharmacists-target-the-right-drugs-for-the-right-patient>.

Publications Update

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

Mary A De Vera, Jonathan Mailman, Jessica S Galo. Economics of non-adherence to biologic therapies in rheumatoid arthritis. Current Rheumatology Reports 2014 Nov; 16 (11) : 460. PMID: 25227187

Wilby KJ, Ensom MHH, Marra F. Review of Evidence for Measuring Drug Concentrations of First-line Tuberculosis Agents in Adults. Clin Pharmacokinet. 2014;53:873-90.

Power JM, Spina SP, Forbes DA, Harder CK, Lalli SL, Loewen PS, Zed PJ. Integration of smartphones into clinical pharmacy practice: an evaluation of the impact

on pharmacists' efficiency. Health Policy and Technology 2014 <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.hlpt.2014.08.002> .

Collier AC, Yamauchi Y, Sato BL, Rougee LR, Ward MA. UDP-glucuronosyltransferase (Ugt) 1a Enzymes are Present and Active in the Mouse Blastocyst. (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/25200869>) Drug Metab Dispos. 2014 Sep 8. pii:dmd.114.059766.

Sharma V and, McNeill JH. Adrenergic control of cardiac fatty acid oxidation in diabetes. In: Cardiac Energy Metabolism in Health and Disease. Pp. 131-153. G. Lopaschuk and N. S. Dhalla (Editors). Springer U.S. (Publishers), New York. 2014.

Awards & Honours Update

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

Tony Kiang was invited and will serve on the editorial board for an Adis (Springer) journal, Drugs in R&D.

Dr. John McNeill was presented with a Lifetime Achievement Award from the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences.

Dr. John McNeill was presented with the first ever Outstanding Pharmacy Alumni Award by the University of Alberta's Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences.

Presentations

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

Ensom MHH. "Debates in the Teaching and Practice of Clinical Pharmacokinetics and Pharmacogenetics." Podium.

Kiang TKL, Partovi N, Hussaini T, Shapiro RJ, Ensom MHH. "Multiple Regression Analysis of Factors Associated with Neutropenia in Steroid-Free Adult Renal Transplant Recipients Taking Tacrolimus and Mycophenolate in Three Different Study Periods during the First Year Post-Transplant." Poster.

Cheng W, Kiang TKL, Bring P, Ensom MHH. "Predictive Performance of the Winter-Tozer and Its Derivative Equations for Estimating Free Phenytoin Concentrations in Specific Patient Populations." Poster.

Grants

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

Dr. Marion Pearson is the UBC representative to the AFPC's Pharmacy Educator Peer Leaders Network and has received \$10,000 in grant funding to support the implementation and evaluation of the Informatics for Pharmacy Students e-resource.

DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY

Individual faculty news

A "Celebration of Life" was held at Dalhousie University on Thursday January 15, 2015 for **Dr. J Gordon Duff**, Professor Emeritus and former Director of the College of Pharmacy. Former students, colleagues and friends of Dr. Duff shared memories of his friendship and many contributions to the College of Pharmacy and the practice of pharmacy.

On Dec 1, 2014, Dr. Tom Marrie, Dean Faculty of Medicine, Dalhousie and Past President of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences (CAHS) discussed the role of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences and the assessment process for the report "Optimizing Scopes of Practice: New models of care for a new health care system", to which he provided leadership during his presidency. **Dr. Ingrid Sketris**, a member of the expert panel, provided remarks on the report and introduced Dr. Ivy Bourgeault, Professor, University of Ottawa and project team lead to present the report and its recommendations. Dr. Kathleen MacMillan, Director School of Nursing, Dalhousie led the discussion engaging with an audience of academics, students,

government decision makers, health care professionals and health professional regulators.



Photo L-R: Dr. Ingrid Sketris, Dr Ivy Bourgeault, Dr. Kathleen MacMillan

Dr Ingrid Sketris was a panelist for the Research Café “Polypharmacy...is it a concern?”, sponsored by Northwood, Halifax NS Oct 1, 2014.

Dr. David Gardner, Professor with the College of Pharmacy and Department of Psychiatry, returned to Beijing, China upon invitation of Dr. Liu Jing, Vice President and Professor at the Peking University Institute of Mental Health to give the second Seminar for Psychopharmacotherapy and Diagnosis of Mental Disorders in Children and Adolescents. Approximately

70 psychiatrists from across China attended the 4 day seminar, which ran October 29 to November 1, 2014.

Dr. Jennifer Isenor was interviewed by CTV Morning Live in Halifax, NS on October 20, 2014 and Global Morning News on January 7, 2015 about the importance of influenza vaccinations, the role of pharmacists as immunizers and the research her team is completing related to pharmacists as immunizers.

Awards and grants

Dr. Susan Bowles was the recipient of the 2014 Member of the Year Award from the Pharmacy Association of NS.

Drs. Jennifer Isenor and Susan Bowles were awarded a grant from the Dalhousie Pharmacy Endowment Fund. *“Advancing and Evaluating the Drug Information Resources (DIR) Website”*. (**Isenor J**, Helwig M, (Co-PIs), Bowles S (Co-I)).

Dr. Susan Bowles is part of a team that received a grant from the Capital Health Research Foundation to examine the impact of cultural change (Care by Design) on medication use in the long-term care setting.

Dr. Andrea Murphy and **Dr. David Gardner** and co-investigators Drs. Ruth Martin-Misener (Nursing) and Stan Kutcher (Psychiatry) have received funding from Movember’s Canadian Men’s Health and Wellbeing Innovation Challenge. Their research project, *“Headstrong: taking things head on with your Man’s Toolbox”*, will develop tools and resources for pharmacists and men, with focuses on tobacco and alcohol, depression and anxiety, sleep problems, and suicidal thinking.

Publications

1. Ackroyd-Stolarz S, **Bowles SK**, Giffen L. Validating administrative data for the detection of adverse events in older hospitalized patients. *Drug, Healthcare & Patient Safety*. 2014;6:101-8.
2. Mallery LH, Allen M, Fleming I, Kelly K, **Bowles S**, Duncan J, Moorhouse P. Promoting higher blood pressure targets for frail older adults: A

Harriet Davies is part of a team of investigators who received funding through a CIHR Open Operating Grant for a project titled “Exploring early interprofessional socialization within the health professions: Setting the stage for collaborative practice”.

Dr Emily Black and co-investigators received a grant from CSHP Research and Education Foundation for her project titled “Impact of Antimicrobial Stewardship Strategies in the Emergency Department: A Qualitative Systematic Review”.

Drs Whelan and Jurgens received funding from the Dalhousie Pharmacy Endowment Fund for the project: “Development of a Comprehensive Program Evaluation Plan for the Dalhousie College of Pharmacy Entry to Practice Doctor of Pharmacy Program”.

Dr Pollen Yeung is a recipient of funding from the Dalhousie Pharmacy Endowment Fund Research for his project “ATP metabolism in the red blood cell (RBC) as systemic biomarker for cardiovascular protection”.

consensus guideline from Canada. *Cleveland Clinic Journal of Medicine* 2014; 81:427-37.

3. Trenaman S, **Bowles SK**, Mallery L, Koller K, Andrew M. Innovative collaborative practice to optimize pharmacotherapy for frail older patients. *Canadian Journal of Hospital Pharmacy* 2014; 67:373-8.

4. Bowen S, **Sketris I**, Langille Ingram E. Experiences of Health System Preceptors and Faculty Advisors with Community Service-learning Initiatives: Learning from the Dalhousie University Drug Use Management and Policy Residency Program. The International Journal of Research on Service-Learning and Community Engagement. 2014;1(2): (Accepted Nov 2014).
5. Jackson LA, Buxton JA, Dingwell J, Dykeman M, Gahagan J, Gallant K, Karabanow J, Kirkland S, LeVangie D, **Sketris I**, Gossop M, Davison C. Improving psychosocial health and employment outcomes for individuals receiving methadone treatment: a realist synthesis of what makes interventions work. BMC Psychol. 2014 Sep 7;2(1):26. doi: 10.1186/s40359-014-0026-3. eCollection 2014.
6. Lipscombe LL, Austin PC, Alessi-Severini S, Blackburn DF, Blais L, Bresee L, Filion KB, Kawasumi Y, Kurdyak P, Platt RW, Tamim H, Paterson JM. Canadian Network for Observational Drug Effect Studies (CNODES) Investigators. **Sketris I**, CNODES Investigator. Atypical antipsychotics and hyperglycemic emergencies: multicentre, retrospective cohort study of administrative data. Schizophr Res. 2014 Apr;154(1-3):54-60. doi: 10.1016/j.schres.2014.01.043. Epub 2014 Feb 24.
7. **Izenor J**. Pharmacists as Immunizers Research in the Maritimes. The Pharmacist (newsletter of the Pharmacy Association of Nova Scotia). December 2014.
8. **Yeung, PKF**, Xu, Z and Seeto, D. Diltiazem reduces mortality and breakdown of ATP in red blood cell induced by isoproterenol in a freely moving rat model in vivo. Metabolites 4(3):775-789, 2014.
9. Kolathuru SS and **Yeung PKF**. Natural Health Products as Modulators of Adenosine and ATP Metabolism for Cardiovascular Protection (Editorial). Nat Prod Chem Res 2: e109, 2014.
10. **Dr. Pollen Yeung** is Guest Editor (2014 - 2015) for Metabolites in a "Biomarkers in Metabolomics". http://www.mdpi.com/journal/metabolites/special_issues/biomarkers_in_Metabolomic

Student News

The Atlantic Pharmacy Advancement Conference (APAC) 2014 was held Oct 30th to Nov 2nd, 2014 in Halifax, Nova Scotia at the Atlantica Hotel. The theme of the conference was "Not Just Another Refill."

Over 150 pharmacy students from the Dalhousie University College of Pharmacy and the School of Pharmacy from Memorial University of Newfoundland attended three days of conference activities.

Speakers covered such topics as the expanding scope of pharmacy practice and non-traditional careers in pharmacy.

This is a student run and funded event and the APAC 2014 planning committee worked tirelessly to organize a very successful event this year. Dal and MUN Pharmacy students are looking forward to APAC 2015 in St. John's, Newfoundland!

Sarah Drost (Class of 2015) won Best Presentation Award, Undergraduate Student at the Department of Psychiatry, Faculty of Medicine, Dalhousie University, 24th Annual Research Day, Oct 24, 2014 for her poster "A literature review of quetiapine & thyroid function". (Supervisors: **Dr Andrea Murphy** and **Dr David Gardner**)

Andrea Meade, pharmacy practice resident, received the Brian Tuttle Award for her residency research entitled: Rates of Venous Thromboembolism in Obese Patients Undergoing General Surgery. (Supervisors: Dr. Mike MacNeil & **Dr. Susan Bowles**) Andrea also presented her research at the American Society of Hematology meeting in December 2014.

Jay Toulany defended his MSc thesis titled "Development of a Chemokine-Like Receptor 1 Bioassay to Study the Impact of Obesity on Active Chemerin Production in Obese Humans" in December 2014. **Dr Kerry Goralski** was Jay's supervisor.

UNIVERSITÉ LAVAL

General Faculty News

Official launch of the Gateway program

The Gateway program for the Pharm.D. degree is a unique collaboration between two Quebec pharmacy schools.

This program was officially launched by Louise Béliveau (Vice-President of Student Affairs and Sustainable Development of the University of Montreal), Mr. François Pothier (Assistant Vice-President, quality of training and support for the success of Université Laval), Chantal Pharand (director exercising the functions of the Dean of Faculty of Pharmacy of the University of Montreal), Jean Lefebvre (the Dean of the Faculty of Pharmacy of Université Laval) and Mrs Nancy Sheehan (UdeM) and Anne Dionne (ULaval) (the guiding gateway program directors for the two faculties), along with various partners and collaborators.

The development of this program was made possible by a gift of \$ 700,000 from the Uniprix Group. Completing a bridging program (Certificate 2nd cycle pharmacy practice frontline for the University of Montreal and the Université Laval Masters in Pharmacy Practice forefront), holders of a pharmacist / pharmacy bachelor's degree granted by a Quebec university and a license to practice in Québec may seek the rank of Pharm. D. The Programs have been offered since the fall of 2014.

New Residency program (DESS) in psychiatry by Faculty with financial support of Lundbeck Canada

The Dean of the Faculty was proud to announce on November 5th, 2014, the financial support of Lundbeck Canada to create a residency program specializing in psychiatry, in collaboration with the Institut Universitaire en santé mentale de Québec. With support of \$ 90,000, Lundbeck Canada allows the Faculty to set up a new program and to create a significant scholarship to a pharmacist who wants to specialize in the field of psychiatry. The program, which will be implemented in 2015, will allow the student to receive a specialized graduate studies. This is not only a first for the Faculty of Pharmacy of Université Laval, but also across Quebec.



On the photo: Jean Proulx, directeur médical principal, Lundbeck Canada inc., François Pothier, vice-recteur adjoint à la qualité de la formation et à l'appui à la réussite, Université Laval and Jean Lefebvre, dean, Faculty of pharmacy

Research

Centre ROSE received a 500 000 \$ grant

Michel Dorval, professor at the Faculty and Scientific Director of the ROSE Center recently learned that the Centre received a grant of \$ 500,000 as part of the first edition of the 1 million to assist in Breast Cancer Foundation Quebec. This money will be used to create the ROSE network that will allow the implementation of the ROSE Centre in the regions of Montreal, Saguenay and Bas-St-Laurent. The ROSE Centre was set up to meet the needs of the people with a genetic predisposition to breast cancer.

Two Cancer Research Society (CRS) grants awarded to Dr Chantal Guillemette, CRC in Pharmacogenomics

CRS grant on the function and regulation of a novel metabolic pathway associated with prognosis and drug resistance in chronic lymphocytic leukemia

(CLL): The research will serve to better understand the function of a novel prognostic marker in CLL discovered by her group, as well as its role in resistance to anti-cancer therapy and as a new therapeutic target of CLL. This study is in collaboration with Dr Éric Lévesque (hemato-oncologist and Ph.D.) at the Faculty of Medicine of Université Laval.

CRS grant on targeted metabolomics to discover novel biomarkers of uterine cancer: The project aims to identify novel blood-based biomarkers (detection of small-molecular-weight substances by mass spectrometry) of endometrial cancer that may reflect cancer occurrence, molecular characteristics and potential progression of disease. This study is in collaboration with Dr Jean Grégoire (gyneco-oncologist) at the Faculty of Medicine of Université Laval.

International Collaboration

Dr. Calon (Laval) and Dr. Layé (University of Bordeaux, France) have confirmed their collaboration through the establishment of the OptiNutriBrain International associated Laboratory (LIA). A Memorandum of Understanding was signed November 3, 2014 in the presence of Yves Bolduc (the Minister of Higher Education, Research and Science in Quebec), and Najat Vallaud-Belkacem (the Minister of National Education, higher Education and Research of the French Republic). The aim of the LIA is to identify an optimal nutrition to improve brain function and prevent diseases.

Other Grants and Awards

Three researchers affiliated with our Faculty received a knowledge synthesis grant from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) to study polypharmacy in the elderly. The principal investigator is Dr. Caroline Sirois, associate professor. Among the co-investigators: Dr. Line Guénette, assistant professor and Dr. Edeltraut Kroger, associate professor.

Dr. Line Guénette also received funding from the Réseau-1 Québec, a knowledge network on services and integrated primary care, to perform a study on the

organizational and clinical impact of pharmacists newly integrated in family medicine groups.

Aurélie Louit, M. Sc., Bourse du “Fonds d’Enseignement et de Recherche” : Bourse de 5000\$

Philippe Bourassa, Ph. D., Bourse Didier-Mouginot de la fondation du CHU de Québec (20 000\$).

Marine Tournissac, M. Sc., Bourse du “Fonds d’Enseignement et de Recherche” : Bourse de 12500\$; Bourse du CR en endocrinologie moléculaire et oncologique et génomique humaine (CREMOGH) 6000\$ (2014).

Publications

Dr. Paul Poirier published two manuscripts in NEJM:

- Yusuf S, Rangarajan S, Teo K et al. PURE Investigators (Poirier P). Cardiovascular risk and events in 17 low-, middle-, and high-income countries. *N Engl J Med.* 2014;371(9):818-27.
- Mente A, O'Donnell MJ, Rangarajan S, McQueen MJ, Poirier P, Wielgosz A et al. PURE Investigators. [Association of urinary sodium and potassium excretion with blood pressure.](#) *N Engl J Med.* 2014;371(7):601-11

Events

2014 White Coat Ceremony

On September 23rd, 2014, the 202 students newly admitted to the Doctorate's degree in pharmacy received their white coat, a symbol of their official entry in the Faculty of Pharmacy, in front of 300 friends / relatives, teachers, lecturers, staff and guests of honor. In addition to receiving the white coat, the first year students recited the affirmation of the Dean and had the opportunity to sign the official book of that assertion. The ceremony also witnessed a dynamic presentation from the General Association of pharmacy students and two variety numbers. The evening ended with a cocktail social. A special thanks to the Uniprix Group, partner of the event.

2014 Faculty Symposium

2014 edition of the Faculty of pharmacy Symposium, which was held on October 24th at the Lévis Convention Centre won, once again, a great success with an

attendance of 328 people. Dealing with issues around Psychiatry and the theme "My pharmacist and I: Establishing trust to better reinstate me", the symposium offered 7 conferences.

Ceremony Excellence Awards 2014

Faculty of Pharmacy presented no less than 93 certificates in 7 categories in the latest edition of the Ceremony scholarships. The fellows shared the \$ 56,650 donated by the evening's partners. The Faculty also took the opportunity to highlight the Scholarship Fund of teaching and research (\$ 132,000) and other scholarship granting agencies that previously had been given to several research students. Finally, the Dean delivered the Jacques Dumas Prize to two pharmacists, Frederic Poitras and Luc Bergeron, for their particular faculty involvement.

Student News

Participation of two residents of Master's program in Advanced Pharmacotherapy at the booth on CBR: Canadian Pharmacy Residency Board.

Polina Kharaman and Amélie Cossette-Côté, students of our program have helped out at the booth on the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists and pharmacy residency programs in Canada during the PDW held in Quebec City on January. Indeed, they answered the many questions from participants on hospital practice.



On the photo : CPRB boot : Céline Corman, chef du Département de pharmacie, Hôpital d'Ottawa, Polina Kharaman and Amélie Cossette-Côté, résidentes à la Maîtrise en pharmacothérapie avancée, Faculty of pharmacy

Teachers' News

Julie Methot received Takeda Magnum Opus for Quebec province and Coeur et action by Rogers

The Faculty of Pharmacy at Université Laval warmly congratulates Mrs. Méthot who by her leadership, rigor, passion and her many accomplishments was awarded the prizes *Takeda Magnum Opus* and *Coeur et action*.

A graduate of Université Laval, Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Pharmacy and Director of the Advanced Master pharmacotherapy program, Julie Methot is a pharmacist who developed expertise in clinical cardiology. After completing a Ph.D. and postdoctoral training, she worked in various research projects. She also shares her time and expertise between university education and patient care at the Institut Universitaire de Cardiologie et de Pneumologie de Québec.

During a gala evening on October 28th, Julie Méthot was awarded the *Coeur et action* award for her knowledge sharing. This award is given to a pharmacist who devoted a significant amount of time to update the knowledge of his/her peers or colleagues from other professions.



Anne Dionne, winner of the Excellence in Teaching Award

As part of the 2013-2014 Excellence in Education, a program Direction award was presented to Ms. Anne Dionne, professor at the Faculty. Ms. Dionne had an impressive leadership role in the development and implementation of the undergraduate pharmacy doctoral program.

First as the director of the pharmacy degree program in 2004, she has assumed the leadership of the undergraduate pharmacy doctoral program since 2011.

With impressive leadership skills Ms. Dionne helped in the development and implementation of this doctorate in pharmacy.

Throughout this process, she knew how to be persuasive and persistent in rallying colleagues about major changes in the program, which included adopting a competency-based approach and innovative educational activities.

Always concerned about the continuous improvement of training, Ms Dionne runs the program committee

with sensitivity and respect for its members. Dynamics, it encourages teachers to excel and create educational tools to promote student learning.

Throughout the program review process, Ms. Dionne has maintained students' quality training by providing availability and listening; so that the students take ownership. The approach is favored by the program. Ms. Dionne will, the beginning of each session, hold a meeting with the students accompanied by course leaders.

Also, the program committee has developed a cohort tracking tool to quickly identify students in need. Once identified, Ms. Dionne meets with them to guide and establish with them a remediation plan to continue their studies.



Anne Dionne prix d'excellence

On the photo : Denis Brière, recteur, Université Laval, Anne Dionne, professeure titulaire, vice-doyenne aux études, directrice du programme de Doctorat de 1er cycle en pharmacie et directrice du DESS en pratique pharmaceutique de première ligne – Programme passerelle and Bernard Garnier, vice-recteur aux études et aux activités internationales

Faculty of Pharmacy welcoming new teaching resources

2015 started off with the arrival of 3 new teachers and one new preceptor.

Marie-France Demers, a Université Laval Pharmacy Bachelor degree graduate (1992) and a Hospital Pharmacy Master Degree graduate (1993), will be part of the teaching team, in a 50% assistant professor status. She will be sharing her time between the Faculty and her clinical activities at the Institut Universitaire de santé mentale de Québec. In the coming year, she will work on obtaining a Psychiatry specialist certification from the American Pharmacists Association.

Karine Cloutier will be an assistant professor at the Faculty. She will work too in a 50% arrangement, sharing her time between the Faculty and her clinical activities in pediatrics at the Centre Mère-Enfant du CHUL. Karine is already well known at the Faculty, since she has already been part of the teaching staff for a couple of years. She is a Université Laval Microbiology Bachelor degree graduate (2000), a Pharmacy Bachelor degree graduate (2004), a

Université de Montréal Pharmacy practice Master degree graduate (2006) and a University of British Columbia Pharmacy Doctorate degree graduate (2007).

Nicolas Bertrand just finished his post-doctorate studies at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Nicolas is a Université de Montréal Pharmacy Bachelor degree graduate (2003), a Pharmaceutical Sciences Master degree graduate (2006) and a Université de Montréal Ph.D. in Pharmaceutical Technologies graduate (2011). He will be an assistant professor and will be working at the Centre de recherche du CHU de Québec, mainly in the Nanomedecine Colloidal systems research field.

Finally, **Joël Lemelin** will work at the Faculty as a part-time clinical preceptor (one day a week), and will take care of one of our Pharmacy Doctorate degree cohort of students, the first year one. He will be working as a student preceptor. He is a Université Laval Pharmacy Bachelor degree graduate (2005).

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

Individual Faculty News

We are pleased to have hired Mrs. Jan Coates as our Director, Pharm.D. Development. She will be responsible for the planning and implementation of our entry-to-practice Pharm.D. program. Jan is an award winning pharmacist and pharmacy manager. She brings years of project management, policy development and a thorough understanding of the current pharmacy practice environment.

Faculty News and Events

In October 2014, to celebrate the regulations outlined in the Manitoba Pharmaceutical Act that granted pharmacists the ability to administer injections, former Health Minister Erin Selby and Mr. Dennis White Bird from the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs received their influenza vaccinations from Mrs. Dinah Santos, a certified pharmacist, Vice-President of the College of Pharmacists and an instructor at the University of Manitoba. The College of Pharmacy was selected as the site for this event, providing training to dozens of practicing pharmacists and current students to meet the provincial need.

November 22nd, 2014 marked the 3rd annual Mr. Pharmacy Pageant and Holiday Party for the College of Pharmacy. The event was attended by students, faculty and professionals from the community and was a huge success. After the previous year's success, the goal for this event was to include more community professionals

Grants

Dr. Silvia Alessi-Severini and Dr. Shawn Bugden received \$75,000 in funding from Merck for their project *Assessment of health and economic burden of herpes zoster in Manitoba: a population-based study*.

Dr. Geoff Tranmer received an NSERC Interaction Grant for \$3,100 for his proposal "*Identification of problematic flow chemistry reactions for industrial process chemistry applications*."

Dr. Mike Namaka and the Multiple Sclerosis Research Network have received \$20,000 in funding for 2015 from Bayshore HealthCare.

Dr. Silvia Alessi-Severini is part of a team (led by Dr. Salaheddin Mahmud) that received \$153,462 from Prostate Cancer Canada (2014 Movember Discovery Grants). Their project is "*The effect of antipsychotic*

and promote unity amongst practitioners and students in celebration of our chosen profession. The event was also an opportunity to give to those in need. Gently used professional attire was collected to donate to Siloam Mission and the South Winnipeg Family Information Centre.

We awarded our second Leslie F. Buggy Professorship to Dr. Sheryl Zelenitsky on December 4, 2014. Dr. JoAnne Buggy, Leslie Buggy's daughter, and Dr. Keith Simons, the first winner of the award, assisted with the presentation.



Dr. Keith Simons, Dr. JoAnne Buggy and Dr. Sheryl Zelenitsky

medications on the incidence and aggressiveness of prostate cancer: a population based study".

Dr. Ruby Grymonpre and the Western Canadian Interprofessional Health Collaborative have received contract funding from the Ministry of Health, Western and Northern Health Human Resources Planning Forum for a project entitled: *Interprofessional Competency Tools for Internationally Educated Health Professionals (IEHP)*. Although still under negotiations the total amount of contract funding requested was \$311,644.66 (Jan 1, 2015-Mar 31, 2016).

Dr. Ted Lakowski received \$7,500.00 for his project "*Intracellular measurement of HDAC inhibitors*" from the University Research Grants Program.

Dr. Sheryl Zelenitsky received \$10,210 for her project "*Is the Recommended Cefazolin Prophylaxis Adequate in Cardiac Surgery?*" from the CSHP Foundation.

MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND

Academic Appointments & General Faculty News

Dr. John Weber was appointed Associate Dean, Graduate Studies and began his appointment on January 1, 2015.

Dr. Debbie Kelly was appointed Special Advisor, Practice Innovation on a three-year term from January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2018. Dr. Kelly will work to develop a strong program of innovation practice change and facilitate strategic pharmacy practice teaching, research and partnership opportunities and priorities. Dr. Kelly will work collaboratively with the school's well established Structured Practice Experience Program and partners in community and institutional pharmacy practice to ensure that teaching placements are innovative in their pedagogical design and execution.

The annual White Coat Ceremony was held on January 15, 2015.

Individual Faculty News

Dr. Gamble had a paper titled "An Introduction to the Fundamentals of Cohort and Case-Control Studies" in the. *Can J Hosp Pharm* 2014;67:366-372. Available: <http://www.cjhp-online.ca/index.php/cjhp/article/view/1391/2014> [Impact factor n/a] PMID: 25364019

Dr. Gamble was also an invited speaker at the University of Toronto, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences Seminar Series. This was hosted by the International Society of Pharmacoepidemiology UofT Student Chapter. Toronto, ON, on November 4, 2014. His presentation was entitled *Exposure ascertainment of drugs with restrictive drug coverage policies: A blind spot in administrative databases*.

Dr. Bishop presented a poster at the Family Medicine Forum, Quebec City, November 13, 2014. Darcy S, Bishop L, El-Bialy R, Singleton C, Duggan N, Avery S, Bethune C, Sinnott R. *Many voices...One community: Investigating the perceptions of youth mental health & substance use*.

The School of Pharmacy's 2014-2017 Strategic Plan is now available online –

<http://www.mun.ca/pharmacy/aboutpharmacy/strategicplan.php>

The school held a "Research Speed Dating" event in November, as a way to inform undergraduate students about the research being conducted in the school. For further information:

<http://www.mun.ca/pharmacy/news.php?id=4330>

The school offered the first injections training for pharmacy students and for practicing pharmacists, as well as in Labrador. For more information:

<http://www.mun.ca/pharmacy/news.php?id=4307>

Development of the EPPD PharmD program continues. The faculty has decided on a one + five year model.

Dr. Twells presented two posters at Obesity Week, in Boston MA, November 2-7th 2014:

- Mette R. Pedersen, Laurie K. Twells, PhD, Deborah M. Gregory, PhD, Christopher S. Kovacs MD. *Short-term changes in biochemical parameters associated with non-alcoholic fatty liver disease following laparoscopic sleeve gastrectomy*
- Deborah M Gregory, Kendra Lester, Laurie K. Twells. *Laparoscopic Sleeve Gastrectomy Patients' Perceptions of their Health and Well-being and Satisfaction with Weight Loss Progress Following Surgery*

Dr. Kelly completed a 3-day preceptorship at the OPUS clinic in Montreal, an integrated clinic for HIV, HCV and family practice care to learn about their interprofessional practice model and research infrastructure.

Student News

Several students received CAPSI Competition Awards at the Professional Development Week (PDW) national conference this Fall, including the following:

- Linda Ou – Patient Interview Competition
- Linda Ou – The Guy Genest Award
- Nicole MacDonald – Over the Counter Competition
- Kyia Hynes – Student Literary Competition
- Emily King, Jennifer Voisey, Michelle Fazio, Erin Beresford – Compounding Award, second place

The Award of Professionalism, 3rd place, went to CAPSI Memorial University.

Alumnus Brittany Churchill (Class of 2009) received the Outstanding Graduating Student Award from the University of Florida, which is given in recognition of exemplary performance in all aspects of the university's PharmD program. Criteria include, but are not limited to, distinguished scholarship, leadership, professionalism, and service. It is considered the program's highest award.

Alumnus Mark Barnes (Class of 2011) was awarded a Canadian Health Network Commitment to Care Award for Disease Management Initiative for his work in addictions treatment.

Jasmine Elliot (Class of 2016) completed a Global Vision trade mission to China as the only representative from the health care sector, and the only student from Newfoundland and Labrador.

Université de Montréal

New Appointments

Nomination for Cara Tannenbaum

Dr. Cara Tannenbaum is a Professor in the Faculties of Medicine and Pharmacy. She was nominated Scientific Director of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) Institute of Gender and Health commencing January 2015. In this role, she will work with researchers interested in epidemiology and health community research to identify research priorities, develop research funding opportunities, strengthen research capacity, build partnerships and translate research evidence to improve the health of Canadians. Since 2008, Dr. Tannenbaum holds the Michel Saucier Endowed Chair in Geriatric Pharmacology, Health and Aging at the Université de Montréal.

General Faculty News

Launch of a new bridging program

The two Québec faculties of pharmacy from University de Montreal and Université Laval officially launched their bridging program with their partners and collaborators. Both programs, in spite of differences in the structure and title, were developed in partnership between the two organisations. This program gives pharmacists, holders of a bachelor degree from a Québec faculty and a license to practice from l'Ordre des pharmaciens du Québec, the possibility to get the

title Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm. D.). The programs have been offered since autumn 2014.

Success for the 3rd edition of the Rendez-vous de la recherche

The 3rd edition of the Rendez-vous de la recherche pharmaceutique, an annual event that reunites professors, graduate and undergraduate students as well as residents from our Faculty, was held on December 4th in the Morris and Rosalind Goodman Agora. More than 73 posters emphasizing the results of research work of the professors and students were presented to the 300 participants. This event concludes the program Maîtrise en pharmacothérapie avancée of the 41 residents who presented the results of their research work.

Scholarships honouring excellence and student involvement

Annually, the Faculty hands out scholarships recognizing the excellence of its students of all programs and involvement of the students in different committees and activities. This year, more than 46 scholarships were awarded to 41 students, thanks to the generosity of 30 donors from the professional, industrial and academic circles, totalling \$ 54 000 in scholarships.

15e anniversary of the AstraZeneca Chair in respiratory health

The Hôpital du Sacré-Coeur of Montreal will be the host of the colloquium which will underline the 15th anniversary of the pharmaceutical chair AstraZeneca in respiratory health. The event will be held on Friday, May 29th, 2015, from 8:30 am in the Auditorium Émilie-Gamelin. Lucie Blais, full professor and Marie-France Beauchesne, clinical professor are chair-holders and responsible for this activity.

Numerous specialists in respiratory health will participate in this colloquium. Drs Lucie Blais and Marie-France Beauchesne will present a conference on asthma for pregnant women from the recent data on the harmlessness of respiratory medicine.

Research News

Smart drugs and students: symptom of a society of performance?

According to different studies, many university students have occasionally turned to psychotropic drugs in preparing for an exam or submitting their midterm essay. And if this seemingly increasing phenomenon was the symptom of a society valuing the excess of performance, even the surperformance?

This is one of the hypotheses that Johanne Collin, sociologist, historian and professor at our Faculty,

intends to verify in a research project, which she leads. The focus of the research was presented at a seminar of the Institut de recherche en santé publique de l'Université de Montréal (IRSPUM).

Grant for Fahima Nekka

Fahima Nekka, full professor at our Faculty, obtained a \$293 085 grant from the Canada Foundation for innovation (CFI) which will be used for the development of a software platform used in clinical and industry area for the therapeutic optimization. Fahima is chair holder of the NSERC-Industrial Chair in Pharmacometrics and member of the Mitacs Research Council (MRC).

Celebrating the 12th anniversary!

The unit of research in pharmaceutical practice (Unité de recherche en pratique pharmaceutique - URPP) of the clinical professor, Jean-François Bussi res, Head of the Department of Pharmacy, CHU Sainte-Justine and researcher for the same establishment, celebrated its 12th anniversary on November 22nd 2014. To testify to all the research work done and published so far, the team continues to blog periodically online – actually, every week.

You can also consult the list of 906 written communications published on Zotero (<https://www.zotero.org/groups/urppchusj/items>)

UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

New Appointments

- **Dr. Gordon Zello** has been appointed as nutrition advisor on the science committee for the Canadian Obesity Network.
- **Dr. Jane Alcorn** has been appointed to the Board of Directors for the Canadian Society for Pharmaceutical Sciences for 2015.
- **Dr. Azita Haddadi** has been elected member at large for the Canadian Controlled Release Society.
- **Dr. Kishor Wasan** has been appointed to the Fellowship Committee of the Prestigious Canadian Academy of Health Sciences.

General College News

2014 George A. Burbidge Memorial Award

It is with great pleasure to announce that the 2014 George A. Burbidge Memorial Award for the Highest Standing in Canada on the Pharmacist Qualifying

Examination Part I and Part II goes to **Meghan King**, a 2015 BSP graduate from the University of Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy and Nutrition. This is a very prestigious honour for one of our alumni and the University of Saskatchewan. The award is made available for annual presentation by the Canadian Pharmacists Association in memory of Dean G.A Burbidge, a pioneer in Canadian pharmaceutical education.

Medication Assessment Centre partners with SWITCH

Derek Jorgenson, MAC Director, appeared on Global Saskatoon Morning News health segment on Tuesday, January 20. He discussed MAC's partnership to provide services at SWITCH to improve medication outcomes in Saskatoon's core neighbourhoods. [Watch the clip.](#)

The new partnership between MAC and SWITCH was also featured on Saskatoonhomepage.ca, with a focus on the partnership's impact on First Nations healthcare. [Read the article.](#)

Dr. Ed Knaus Graduate Scholarship in Pharmaceutical Research

We are happy to announce a new scholarship: the Dr. Ed Knaus Graduate Scholarship in Pharmaceutical Research. This endowed scholarship has been set up to reward the academic achievement of graduate students in any year of the program in the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition, Division of Pharmacy, who are conducting research into the innovative design, development, and/or delivery of drugs. The award will be made on an annual basis and based on academic achievement and potential for research excellence, as determined by the Graduate Awards Subcommittee. Scholarships leave a lasting legacy of support for our best students. To learn how to set up a new scholarship, please contact the college's development officer Andy Collin at andy.collin@usask.ca.

Accreditation

The pharmacy degree program accreditation has been extended to 2017. With this extension the College will not be required to renew its accreditation again before transitioning to the PharmD program.

Faculty, Staff and Alumni News

2015 CFP Pillar of Pharmacy Award

Congratulations to **Darcy Stann (BSP, 1978)** on winning **the 2015 CFP Pillar of Pharmacy Award**. Darcy was recognized as an industry leader in Western Canada for using innovative practice designs to further business development and professional services. [Read more.](#)

Golden Key Society

Dr. Kishor Wasan provided the keynote address for the University of Saskatchewan Golden Key's New Member Recognition Event on December 4, 2014. At the end of his address he was presented with his Honourary Member certificate by the chapter's leadership.

Sandy Knowles has been rehired as the Undergraduate Admissions and Programs Secretary. Sandy previously worked for the college from 2001 to 2012.

Dr. J. Gordon Duff (BSP, 1953; MSc 1955) passed away on December 11, 2014. He served the University of Saskatchewan as an Instructor of Pharmacy from 1958 to 1961. In 1961 Dr. Duff moved to Halifax to take up the position of Director of the College of

PharmD Update

Curious about the latest developments with the PharmD program? PharmD Update is the new blog to keep all stakeholders up to date. The College wants feedback – please post your comments or questions on the blog, the social media channels, or email the communications specialist at kieran.kobitz@usask.ca. [Visit the blog.](#)

On December 22, the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition, and the Saskatchewan College of Pharmacists issued a joint statement about the upcoming PharmD program and the current baccalaureate degree in pharmacy.

[Read the statement here.](#)

Fall 2015 Admissions

Application for admission to the college is occurring for both the pharmacy and nutrition undergraduate programs. The deadline is February 15, 2015. Pharmacy's test of critical skills and personal profile tests will be written on Saturday, March 21, 2015.

Pharmacy in the newly formed Faculty of Health Professions at Dalhousie University.

Beth Kessler (BSP, 2008) provided a seminar on “community pharmacy innovation and wins” to students in Doha, Qatar at the College of Pharmacy, Qatar University.

January issue of Pharmacy Business magazine features many BSP alumni including **Andrew Parkes (BSP, 1982)** (pg. 35) and **Lorelei Miller (BSP, 1992)** and her team at Medi-Centre Pharmacy in Prince Albert (pg. 56-58). [Read the magazine here.](#)

Jarron Yee (BSP, 2006) was featured in Pharmacy Business Magazine for his successful compounding pharmacy in Regina. [Read the article.](#)

Kelly Kizlyk (BSP, 2002) appeared on Global Saskatoon Morning News on Wednesday, December 10, to discuss how to deal with dry winter skin. [Watch the video.](#)

Amy Smith (BSP, 2015; PharmD(c)) presented *Oral Contraception: New Area of Prescribing for Saskatchewan Pharmacists* on January 16, 2015.

Student News

Pharmacy Professional Development Week (PDW)

Our pharmacy students attended PDW from January 7 to 11 in Quebec City. They made their school proud by participating in competitions and professional development activities and results were as follows:

National Competition Results

Compounding Competition: 3rd Place: Team: Madison Schmidt, Trista Kobussen, Jayesh Changela Darren Bogle



IPSF Health Campaign Award: 1st Prize: This award was for the 2013 HIV/AIDS Campaign headed by AJ Havlicek and Paige Fehr (IPSF representatives on CAPSI Local Council 2013-14). The award includes prize money for future health campaigns plus a monetary prize for a local charity of CAPSI's choice. AIDS Saskatoon will be receiving this bursary.

Paraag Trivedi represented the college in the Patient Interview Competition. **Jayesh Changela** represented the college in the OTC Counseling Competition. **Darren Bogle** represented the college in the first ever National Mr. Pharmacy Pageant and sang his way to third place.

The University of Saskatchewan has the newest American Association of Pharmaceutical Sciences Student Chapter. Thanks to Mays Al-Dulaymi and Mona Hamada for organizing the effort to establish this chapter. They will be the initial leaders for the group, and Dean Kishor Wasan will be the faculty supervisor.

In The Media

Chocolate Milk in Schools

A study gained attention from nearly twenty media outlets in January. CBC Saskatchewan also featured a panel of parents discussing the issue on their morning news radio show. [Read the Star Phoenix story.](#) [View of full list of publications.](#)

Student Literary Competition: 3rd Place: Stacey Leek: "Rewards in Pharmacy: A Barrier to Effective Patient Care in Western Canada"



Guy Genest Award: Darren Bogle

The students in the Pharmafacts Bowl, and competitors included **Stefano Barillaro**, **Jailin Liu**, **Jana Ridley** and **Madison Schmidt**.



CAPSI National Elections were held and the new national CAPSI council was announced. **Kelsey Joorisity** is the CAPSI Senior for Saskatchewan and **Shelby Scherbey** is the CAPSI Executive Secretary.

Jason Perepelkin weighed in on the pharmacy side of Target's business after the chain announced it was pulling out of Canada. Subscribers can read the full article on the [Canadian Healthcare Network website.](#)

Carol Henry's research investigating the use of pulses in Ethiopian cooking was featured in an International Development Research Centre article. [Read the article.](#)

Hassan Vatanparast was featured this week in the Star Phoenix article "Skies have been sunnier than you might think" by Janet French. [Read the article.](#)

Centennial Book

Pharmacy An Art, a Science, a Profession – Reflections on 100 Years of Pharmacy Education in Saskatchewan, 1913-2013 by Dean Emeritus **Bruce R. Schnell (BSP '60)** The book is on sale to the public at McNally Robinson in Saskatoon for \$19.99. Alumni and friends can get their complimentary copies at the University Bookstore located in the Health Sciences Building, E-wing. Those who are located outside of Saskatoon can contact the College to order their copy.

Recent and Upcoming Events

A grand opening for the **Parent Comfort Room** was held January 8, in Rm 127 of the Thorvaldson Building. This is a breast feeding-friendly space open 8:30 am to 12 pm, 1 to 4:30 pm. Thanks to nutrition students Caitlin Kaczowka and Kara Friesen, along with Kayla Madder and Rita Hanoski for organizing this important initiative. This Parent Comfort Room in Thorvaldson was featured on CTV Saskatoon. [Watch the clip.](#)

The Nutrition Professional Enhancement Day (PED) was held on January 8, 2015 at the Radisson Hotel in Saskatoon. This year's PED speaker was Stephanie Clairmont, a dietitian entrepreneur from Ontario, Canada. She has many accomplishments, including opening a successful practice helping people with irritable bowel disease, writing a book titled The IBS Master Plan, and she is a regular on the Marilyn Dennis show. Stephanie spoke about her journey as an entrepreneur.

Our second College Wide Faculty, Staff and Student Representative Meeting was held on January 12. Dr. Kishor Wasan provided updates on current action items, and answered questions from attendees.

A Student Town Hall on was held on January 14 to update students on tuition increases for the 2015-16 academic year and progress in the PharmD program.

Nutrition students held a Health Food Market on Wednesday, January 20, in the Health Sciences E-wing lobby. The students plan to make this market a monthly event to promote healthy eating choices. Thanks to CHEP Good Food Inc. for supporting their efforts.



A PharmD Retreat was held on February 25 for faculty and staff. The College Academic Awards Ceremony will take place on March 22.

Our January 2015 Researcher of the Month is Dr. Meena Sakharkar. Dr. Sakharkar's research interests are in drug target identification and validation using multiple cross-disciplinary approaches. [Read more on our website.](#)

Saniya Alwani, an MSc student studying under the supervision of Dr. Ildiko Badea, is highlighted in the January Trainee Spotlight. Saniya is currently examining the use of nanodiamonds as carriers to be used in therapeutic gene delivery. [Read more on our website.](#)

Recent Research Funding

Dr. Jonathan Dimmock received funding from the Mitacs Accelerate program for research intern Swagatika Das.

Dr. Holly Mansell was awarded funding from Astellas Pharma Canada Inc. to produce an educational video series for transplant patients.

Saskatchewan Flax Development Commission has awarded **Dr. Adil Nazarali** funding to study the neuroprotective properties of flax components.

Dr. Jeff Taylor received funding from Pharmacists Association of Saskatchewan and Saskatchewan College of Pharmacists to pursue his work on minor ailments in Saskatchewan.

Dr. Ellen Wasan received funding from iCo Therapeutics Inc. to study candidate drug molecules in a lipid-based oral drug formulation system.

Dr. Jim Fang received funding from the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture to study the health effects of Saskatoon berries in elderly smokers.

Recent Publications

Izadifar, M, **Haddadi, A**, Chen, X, Kelly, ME. Rate-programming of nano-particulate delivery systems for smart bioactive scaffolds in tissue engineering. 2015 Nanotechnology, 26 (1), art. no. 012001

Alaverdashvili, M, Hackett, MJ, Pickering, IJ, **Paterson, PG**. Laminar-specific distribution of zinc: Evidence for presence of layer IV in forelimb motor cortex in the rat. 2014 NeuroImage, 103:502-510.

Malek, S, **Taylor, J, Mansell, K**. A questionnaire examining attitudes of collegiate athletes toward doping and pharmacists as information providers. 2014 Canadian Pharmacists Journal, 147 (6):352-358.

Carlson, RJ, Doucette, JR, **Nazarali, AJ**. Developments in Pharmacogenomics of Multiple Sclerosis. 2014 Cellular and Molecular Neurobiology, 34 (8):1081-1085.

Romay-Tallon, R, Rivera-Baltanas, T, Kalynchuk, LE, **Caruncho, HJ**. Differential effects of corticosterone on the colocalization of reelin and neuronal nitric oxide synthase in the adult hippocampus in wild type and heterozygous reeler mice. 2014 Brain Research, 1594:274-283.

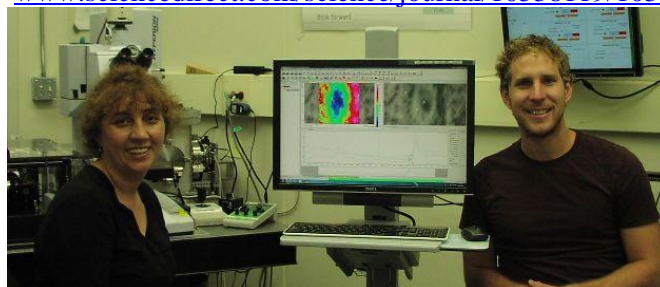
Sampieri, F, Allen, AL, **Alcorn, J**, Clark, CR, , FA, Pusterla, N, Mapes, SM, Ball, KR, Dowling, PM, Thompson, J, Bernstein, LR, Gebhart, CJ, Hamilton, DL. Efficacy of gallium maltolate against Lawsonia intracellularis infection in a rabbit model. 2014 Journal of Veterinary Pharmacology and Therapeutics, 37 (6):571-578.

Yang, PHW, Black, JL, Barr, SI, **Vatanparast, H**. Examining differences in nutrient intake and dietary quality on weekdays versus weekend days in Canada. 2014 Applied Physiology, Nutrition and Metabolism, 39 (12): 1413-1417.

Carlson, RJ, Doucette, JR, Knox, K, **Nazarali, AJ**. Pharmacogenomics of interferon- β in multiple sclerosis: What has been accomplished and how can we ensure future progress? 2014 Cytokine and Growth Factor Reviews. Article in Press.

Congratulations to **Dr. Mariam Alaverdashvili**, Research Associate, and **Dr. Mark Hackett**, Postdoctoral Fellow, on their recent publication in Neuroimage. One of their x-ray absorption spectroscopy images was featured on the journal front cover and is available at:

www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/10538119/103



Drs. Alaverdashvili and Hackett are affiliated with the CIHR / Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada (HSFC) Synchrotron Medical Imaging Team. This research arose from the labs of Phyllis Paterson and Ingrid Pickering (Dept Geology).

College Award Recipients

Pharmacy:

- **F.J. Fear Postgraduate Scholarship (2 awards)** - Krysta Currie (Supervisor: Dr. Jorgenson) and Katherine Lysak (Supervisor: Dr. Jorgenson)
- **Ford Postgraduate Scholarship** - Rahul Jain (Supervisor: Dr. Dobson)
- **Alf Pepper Research Award** - Katherine Lysak (Supervisor: Dr. Jorgenson)
- **Ramsey Postgraduate Fellowship** - Krysta Currie (Supervisor: Dr. Jorgenson)
- **Sanofi Scholarship in Pharmacy (bursary)** - Rashmi Patil (Supervisor: Dr. Yang)
- **Shoppers Drug Mart Dean's Trust Scholarship (2 awards)** - Omar Abuhussein (Supervisor: Dr. Yang) and Rashmi Patil (Supervisor: Dr. Yang)

Nutrition:

- **Elizabeth Helen McLeod Scholarship (shared)** - Leandy Riley (Supervisor: Dr. Henry) and Noura Sheikhalzoor (Supervisor: Dr. Berenbaum)
- **Mary Isabel Irwin Scholarship** - Noura Sheikhalzoor (Supervisor: Dr. Berenbaum)

UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO

Academic Appointments

David Edwards, Hallman Director at the School of Pharmacy, was appointed as the AFPC representative to the Board of Directors of the Canadian Pharmacists Association. Dr. Edwards will also be serving as Vice-President of the Canadian Foundation for Pharmacy for 2015.

General Faculty News

PharmD Bridging Program

The University of Waterloo School of Pharmacy is pleased to announce the launch of the first two courses in its PharmD Bridging Program January 5, 2015. The School welcomed the first group of 64 alumni to this flexible and innovative distance education program in which our BScPhm graduates can complete courses required to achieve a PharmD degree. For more information, refer to the PharmD Bridging section of the School's website at:

<https://uwaterloo.ca/pharmacy/welcome-pharmacy-alumni/pharmd-bridging-program>.

Continuing Professional Development

The Waterloo School of Pharmacy, Dietitians of Canada, and the Waterloo Centre for Extended Learning have partnered to create a unique learning program for pharmacists, dietitians and other health professionals looking to enhance their knowledge of drug-nutrient

interactions. The online course, scheduled to launch March 2, 2015, will improve practitioners' ability to identify, prevent and manage clinically relevant drug-nutrient interactions. The course is also designed to foster inter-professional collaboration. Further details are available at: <https://uwaterloo.ca/pharmacy/degrees-and-professional-development/distance-education-continuing-professional-development/drug-nutrient-interactions-continuing-education-program> or phrcpd@uwaterloo.ca

Public lecture on anticancer potential in dietary supplements

In November 2014, Prof. Paul Spagnuolo delivered the School of Pharmacy's annual public lecture to a full house as he addressed one of the biggest questions around cancer treatment today: whether dietary supplements improve our odds. Dr. Spagnuolo explained how he applies the rigorous platform of drug discovery to the field of nutraceuticals to systematically assess them for anticancer properties. In addition, Spagnuolo discussed drug combination therapy – that is, assessing which prescribed medications and over-the-counter supplements will reduce or enhance results when used together. A mix of pharmacists, students, other healthcare professionals and interested members of the public attended, making for a lively Q&A session.

Individual Faculty News

Lisa Allen received an "Excellence in Teaching Award – Anatomy" from the Michael G DeGroote School of Medicine, Waterloo Regional Campus.

Michael Beazely was named an "Alumni of Influence" to honour his achievements as a graduate from the University of Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy and Nutrition as part of the centennial celebrations of the College. He was also the first ever recipient of the

University of Waterloo School of Pharmacy award for "Outstanding Faculty Mentor, Graduate Program".

Certina Ho received the Teaching, Learning and Education Award, sponsored by Eli Lilly Canada Inc. on the basis of her submission, Effectiveness of Extracurricular Journal Clubs on Pharmacy Students' Learning of Evidence-based Medicine and Critical Appraisal.

Awards and Grants

Colleen Maxwell was awarded a Strategic Impact Grant from TVN (Technology Evaluation in the Elderly Network) toward her work as a Principal Investigator on the research project "*Framing-LTC: Frailty and Recognizing Appropriate Medications IN Geriatrics and Long-Term Care*".

Praveen P Nekkar Rao (Principal Investigator) was awarded Mitac Elevate (\$115,000) for a research project entitled "*Biochemical and computational investigations of angiotensin receptor blockers as amyloid and tau aggregation inhibitors*", a collaborative project with Cyclica Inc.

Presentations/Publications

Michael Beazely's lab recently published a book chapter: Kruk JS, Kouchmeshky A, Grimborg N, Rezkella M, Beazely MA. "Transactivation of receptor tyrosine kinases by dopamine receptors) in: *Neuromethods, Dopamine Receptor Technologies*." Tiberi M, ed. Humana Press, 2014.

Colleen Maxwell, Kathryn Stock, Dallas Seitz, Nathan Hermann: "Persistence and Adherence with Dementia Pharmacotherapy: Relevance of Patient, Provider, and System Factors." *Canadian Journal of Psychiatry* 2014; 59(12):624-31.

Alanna McEneny, Andrea N Edginton and Praveen P Nekkar Rao: "Chemical structure modification of tacrine and its effects on CYP1A2 binding: in vitro and in silico investigations." CANAD 2014 - Canadian Alzheimer's Disease Research Symposium, Oct 2-4, Quebec City (oral presentation).

Alanna McEneny, Andrea N Edginton, Praveen P Nekkar Rao: "Investigating the binding interactions of the anti-Alzheimer's drug donepezil with CYP3A4 and P-glycoprotein." *Bioorganic and Medicinal Chemistry Letters*, 25, 297-301 (2015).

Student News

Congratulations to all University of Waterloo School of Pharmacy's Graduate Program Awards winners: Samantha Shortall and Lokesh Narsineni both awarded Best Mentor as a Graduate Student Teaching Assistant; Amirreza Rafiee and Shahid Islam special mentions for Best Mentor award; Tarek Mohamed, Special Merit Award for Substantial Impact on our Overall Research Mission; Shahid Islam, Highest Final Grade in the course Topics in Drug Development; Anil Maharaj, Best Student Presentation in the Research Seminar Series.

Anshula Samarajeewa joined Michael Beazely's lab as a NSERC-funded undergraduate student in the summer/fall of 2014. Anshula's time in the lab resulted in a first-author manuscript (Samarajeewa S, Goldemann L, Khanderia C, Vasefi SM, Ahmed N, Gondora N, Mielke J, Beazely MA. 5-HT7 receptor activation promotes an increase in TrkB receptor

expression and phosphorylation. *Front Behav Neurosci* 2014;8:391). This manuscript was published in a special issue: "Further Understanding of Serotonin 7 Receptors' Neuro-Psycho-Pharmacology". Anshula also presented her results at the 15th Annual Great Lakes GPCR Retreat in Bromont, Quebec.

Karan Teckwani successfully completed his MSc thesis – "Synthesis of multiply deuterated cephalosporins" (Supervisors: Gary Dmitrienko and Praveen P Nekkar Rao).

Gary Tin successfully completed his MSc thesis – "Design, synthesis and biological evaluation of novel tricyclics as dual cholinesterase and amyloid aggregation inhibitors with antioxidant properties" (supervisor: Praveen P Nekkar Rao).

Canadian Pharmacists Association (CPhA) News

Welcome to the new Canadian Pharmacists Association

In June 2014, the Canadian Pharmacists Association (CPhA) approved a new governance and membership model to enhance advocacy efforts and facilitate collaboration between national and provincial pharmacy associations. AFPC is pleased to be a member of the new CPhA and contribute to a strong, united, pan-Canadian voice for pharmacy. All pharmacist members of AFPC are now CPhA Associates, entitled to a range of CPhA benefits. In addition to AFPC, all 10 provincial pharmacist advocacy associations and the Canadian Association of Pharmacy Students and Interns (CAPSI) belong to CPhA.

Why change? CPhA recognized the need to strengthen the voice of pharmacy in Canada and felt that a new model, where provincial and national pharmacist associations and faculties of pharmacy work together in the best interests of the profession as a whole, would be more effective and efficient. Collectively we will have a stronger voice and the ability to respond quickly to the changes affecting pharmacy and the health care system. AFPC brings another national voice to pharmacy discussions and we felt it was important to be a part of this new association to ensure our unique voice is heard.

What does this mean for AFPC members? As a pharmacist member of AFPC, you now have access to a range of benefits through CPhA, including weekly e-Therapeutics Highlights CE emails and other news and information, discounts on CPD programs, a print and online subscription to the *Canadian Pharmacists Journal* for only \$10 and networking opportunities. If you were a CPhA member on June 1, 2014, your status has automatically been updated. Visit www.pharmacists.ca/register to register or check your CPhA status.

Learn more about AFPC benefits from CPhA [http://afpc.info/system/files/member/AFPC-CPhABenefits-nc_EN.pdf]

Learn more about CPhA's new membership & governance model

[<http://www.pharmacists.ca/index.cfm/membership/>]



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FACILITATE
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INCREASE
ENGAGEMENT

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