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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Belated best wishes for 2016 - it is hard to believe we are nearly half way through the winter term already. The following items represent a few highlights of AFPC's current activities.

AFPC recently collected benchmark statistics from all faculties. With the launch of the entry level Pharm D program at UBC in September 2015 we have reached some new milestones. Half of Canadian Universities are now transitioned to the entry level Pharm D. We now have 3130 students enrolled in Canadian entry level Pharm D programs (over 60% of the 5375 undergraduate students) and 390 pharmacists enrolled in Pharm D bridging programs.

Planning for the 2016 Canadian Pharmacy Education and Research Conference (CPERC) has progressed smoothly. The conference will be held in Richmond, BC from May 31-June 2, 2016, and will be in partnership with the Canadian Society for Pharmaceutical Sciences. The educational program feature speakers include Peter Zed and Sandra Jarvis-Selinger from UBC. In addition Scott Singleton from the University of North Carolina at

Chapel Hill will speak. Educational sessions are planned around the Canadian Experiential Education project, the pharmacy educator peer leader network (PEPLN) and about activities carried out by the program evaluation and assessment Special Interest Groups. The AFPC website contains a preliminary conference program, call for abstracts and call for presentations. Registration information will be available in February. The Vancouver area is particularly beautiful in spring, and we look forward to being your host for this conference.

AFPC is also developing an advocacy plan to assist in external stakeholder relations. The following are being considered as AFPC advocacy priorities:

- i) ensuring pharmacist workforce balance through monitoring and assessing the supply and influx of foreign trained pharmacists,
- ii) increasing dedicated pharmacy research spending, and
- iii) financial support for graduating pharmacists through the expansion of the student loan forgiveness program for health professionals serving in rural and remote areas. The preliminary plan has been reviewed with the Council of Deans and Council of Faculties voting members.

Our Executive Director's update in this newsletter provides you with more information about AFPC activities.

Michael Coughtrie
AFPC President

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

HIGHLIGHTS

- Planning activities are well underway for the 2016 annual (CPERC) conference.
- 2016 AFPC operating budget submitted to and approved by Board of Directors.
- First intake of AFPC student and faculty awards nominations were received and are under review.
- An AFPC advocacy plan is being developed.
- 2015 AFPC proceedings are being prepared and will be posted on the AFPC website.

GOVERNANCE

Board of Directors – The Board of Directors met on November 26, 2015. The 2016 AFPC operating budget was reviewed and approved at the meeting. In addition to the normal operational activities, five key activities and initiatives were identified for 2016 (complete PEPLN, complete Can Ex Ed project, continue support

for program evaluation, review 2010 educational outcomes, and plan 2016 joint conference). The 2016 budget forecast is for a break even or surplus position.

Council of Deans – The Council of Deans held their annual meeting on November 15, 2015. The following were some of the topics addressed at the meeting: AFPC advocacy plan, funding for pharmacy / pharmaceutical research, results from the 2015 student employment survey, and review of the proposed CAHS project. The next meeting is planned for February 25, 2016.

Council of Faculties Voting Members – The mid-year meeting was held February 4, 2016. AFPC committee and project reports were reviewed. In addition other items addressed included: discussions about the 2010 educational outcomes review process, 2016 conference program, preliminary results from 2015 new graduate employment survey, new CCAPP standards and AFPC advocacy plan.

ADMINISTRATION

- 2015-2016 faculty / school enrollment statistics were collected. There are 1393 students enrolled in the first year of studies. The total 2015-16 number of students enrolled in years 1-4 is 5374 students.
- 2016 faculty membership fee invoices were sent out. There were no changes in the fee rates for 2016.
- The annual collection of AFPC benchmark statistics was completed. The results will be reviewed by the Council of Deans in February.
- The AFPC corporate minute book has been prepared and is posted for member reference. The 2015 AFPC proceedings are being prepared and will be posted when finalized.
- Sponsorship requests (for 2015-16 awards and the 2016 conference) were made to 36 corporate sponsors.
- The AFPC 2015 analysis of income / expenses is being prepared and will be forwarded to the auditor.

PROGRAMS / SERVICES / PROJECTS / COMMITTEES

Awards – Marion Pearson (British Columbia) is the chair of the awards committee. Submissions were received for the CFP Pharmacy graduate student award for pharmacy practice research, Merck Graduate pharmacy fellowship, AFPC New investigator award, and Pfizer Research career award. The number of submissions is greater compared to last year. Your participation is encouraged for the next intake of AFPC awards. March 15, 2016 is the submission deadline for the following awards: Janssen award for innovation in education, AFPC national award for excellence in education, PEBC award for excellence in research or innovation in assessment of competence, and the AFPC graduate student award. External sponsorship applications have been submitted, however, approvals from all sponsors have not yet been received.

Communications – Ann Thompson (Alberta) is the chair of the communications committee. A limited number of push emails have been sent out from the AFPC office directly to all faculty members and to AFPC faculty pharmacist members of CPhA. The email to all faculty members included an AFPC member’s welcome/information letter. The AFPC communications plan was recently updated in consultation with the communications committee. We have requested that our website developer (Paralucent) initiate changes to our website. Briefly, the changes are revisions to format of home page, monitoring of member logins, inclusion of a message to members to login for member only viewing, and automatic redirect of members to page after login. Some preliminary analysis of the website utilization has been conducted. An analytics software program will be selected to further review AFPC website usage.

Research – Silvia Alessi-Severini (Manitoba) is the chair of the research committee. The Chair, along with faculty volunteers, participated in an orientation webinar and activities to assess the usefulness of IMS Brogan data for conducting pharmacy faculty research purposes. Through the database, pan Canadian drug utilization studies can be conducted. Access to the database is a CPhA membership benefit. Further conversations will occur with faculty members who participated in this assessment and potentially with CPhA about adding access to this database as a membership benefit for AFPC faculty members.

Education – Jamie Kellar (Toronto) is the chair of the education committee. The 2 priority areas are: developing the process for conducting a review of the 2010 educational outcomes and providing input into the planning of the 2016 AFPC annual conference. For the AFPC educational outcomes review a preliminary set of high level questions has been developed. The following process has been established. One or more focus groups will be conducted of key faculty stakeholders. Based on the results of the focus group(s), it is anticipated that an online survey will be administered to a broader group of stakeholders. The results from the focus group(s) and interviews will be utilized to determine potential revisions required to the current version of the AFPC educational outcomes. For details about the 2016 annual conference see the next report.

2016 Annual (CPERC) Conference – The 2016 conference planning committee (Charles Park, UBC Chair) has been working diligently planning the education and social events. The 2016 annual conference will be held May 31-June 2 in Richmond, BC at the River Rock Casino Hotel. An email will be sent to all faculty members providing a summary outline of the 2016 conference program, a call for presentations and a call for abstracts. Please consult the following URLs for up-to-date information about the 2016 AFPC conference:
<http://afpc.info/node/24>
<http://afpc.info/node/3>

The following is a preliminary outline of the program for the 2016 conference.

Date and Time	Event	Audience
May 31 – 0800-1600 hrs	AFPC Council of Faculties voting members annual meeting	Business meeting for Council of Faculties voting members
May 31 – 1600-1630 hrs	AFPC Board of Directors annual meeting	Business meeting for Board members
May 31 – 1630-1700 hrs	AFPC Annual meeting of voting members	Business meeting for Council members
May 31 – 1800-2000 hrs	AFPC/CSPS Opening reception	Networking – All attendees
June 1 – 0730-0830 hrs	AFPC Breakfast	Networking – All AFPC attendees
June 1 – 0830-1000 hrs	AFPC Welcome and plenary session	Education – All AFPC attendees
June 1 – 1000-1030 hrs	Nourishment break	Networking – All AFPC attendees
June 1 – 1030-1200 hrs	AFPC session – Experiential education	Education – All AFPC attendees

June 1 – 1200-1330 hrs	AFPC business and townhall meeting (lunch provided)	Networking / Business – All AFPC faculty members (also associate and affiliate members)
June 1 – 1330-1500 hrs	Roundtables – Curricular and practice change	Education – All AFPC attendees
June 1 – 1500 – 1530 hrs	Nourishment break	Networking – All AFPC attendees
June 1 – 1530-1700 hrs	Concurrent sessions (faculty presentations)	Education – All AFPC attendees
June 1 – 1730-2000 hrs	AFPC Awards Banquet	Social – All AFPC attendees
June 2 – 0730-0830 hrs	AFPC Breakfast	Networking – All AFPC attendees
June 2 – 0830-1000 hrs	AFPC session – Program evaluation / assessment	Education – All AFPC attendees
June 2 – 1000-1030 hrs	Nourishment break	Networking – All AFPC attendees
June 2 – 1030-1200 hrs	AFPC session – peer leader network	Education – All AFPC attendees
June 2 – 1200-1300 hrs	Lunch break	Networking – All AFPC attendees
June 2 – 1300-1400 hrs	Concurrent sessions (faculty presentations)	Education – All AFPC attendees
June 2 – 1400-1430 hrs	Nourishment break	Networking - All AFPC attendees
June 2 – 1430-1600 hrs	AFPC/CSPS joint session	Education - All AFPC/CSPS attendees
June 2 – 1600-1700 hrs	AFPC closing session	Education - All AFPC attendees

Note: AFPC Poster viewing to occur during May 31 opening reception, during June 1 nourishment breaks, and June 2 nourishment and lunch breaks.

For up-to-date information please visit:

<http://afpc.info/node/24>

<http://afpc.info/node/3>

Pharmacy Educator Peer Leader Network (PEPLN) – Infoway funding for the PEPLN project ends on March 31, 2016. The project leadership team is continuing to meet with the focus on completing the evaluation report on PEPLN. Work is in progress for completion of the interprofessional survey about informatics at the University of Montreal. A preliminary version 2 of the revised e-Resource has been developed and is under review by the leadership team. A proposal was received from the Ontario Health Network to develop a new module for the e-Resource on point of care testing devices. The first meeting of the informatics SIG group occurred January 27, 2016. Items addressed included approval of terms of reference, election of chair, and the content and format of presentations about PEPLN at the 2016 CPERC. Abstracts were approved for verbal presentations about PEPLN at E-health 2016 and at the 2016 AACP annual conference. A proposal has been received from the current e-Resource hosting company to renew their contract. For additional information about PEPLN see newsletters posted at <http://afpc.info/content/pepln-newsletters>.

Canadian Experiential Education Project – Internal funding for the Can Ex Ed project ends March 31, 2016. The following 7 priority topics have been assessed (see <http://afpc.info/content/canexed-reports>):

1. National approach to learning outcomes and corresponding assessments at each stage of Ex Ed.
2. Integration of full spectrum of preceptoring models in Ex Ed.
3. Best practices in preceptor development to establish/augment best qualities/abilities in preceptors.
4. Description and promotion of value students add to host organizations and their mandate.
5. Optimization of preceptor recruitment and retention.
6. Characterization of exceptional Ex Ed sites' best practices.
7. Promotion of Ex Ed to stakeholders (organizations, preceptors, colleges).

Follow-up work on the above priorities will be continued through multi-sector work groups (with an AFPC faculty lead and representatives from CSHP, CPhA, NCPA, etc.). It is anticipated that approximately 4 work groups will continue to pursue actions related to the priorities (e.g., pilot projects, development of tools and aids, national adoption of selected best practices and processes, etc.). Dissemination of the results from the priority assessments and findings are anticipated to occur at AFPC, CSHP and CPhA educational conferences.

Program evaluation / assessment SIG – Both groups have been active.

The program evaluation SIG is led by Ken Cor (Alberta). The evaluation SIG group met a few times and a national exit survey was developed (based on common faculty needs and interests, linked to CCAPP standards). Some faculty members will be evaluating the survey in 2016. It will be necessary to develop a policy concerning usage of the data collected from the annual survey. The University of Alberta will maintain the survey until an alternate arrangement is made.

The program assessment SIG is led by Gilles Leclerc (Montreal). The assessment SIG has conducted a webinar on CASP (admission selection tool), provided consultation to the Can Ex Ed project, planned a series

of webinars in 2016, and established a website for members of the SIG.

Canadian Pharmacists Association – AFPC Organizational Membership - Monthly briefings continue to be held between the AFPC Executive Director and CPhA senior management. CPhA activities include a focus on current issues and policies (e.g., pharmacare, physician assisted dying, medical marijuana), pharmacy awareness month and on developing member affinity programs.

Regular push emails are being sent from the AFPC office directly to AFPC pharmacist faculty members.

AFPC is represented on a number of the CPhA committees and work groups – advocacy committee, continuing pharmacy education and physician assisted dying work group. For the 2016 CPhA pharmacist of the year award, nominations are limited to one per organizational member.

CPhA staff provided assistance to AFPC to develop an advocacy plan.

Information about AFPC faculty member benefits relating to CPhA membership is posted on the AFPC website (see <http://afpc.info/content/cpha-organizational-membership-benefits>).



Executive Director
AFPC

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT: Memorial University of Newfoundland

White Coat Ceremony

Premier Dwight Ball received the first honorary white coat at the School of Pharmacy's 10th annual White Coat Ceremony on Tuesday, Jan. 12. The ceremony formally welcomes first year pharmacy students into the profession, acknowledging the hard work they have done so far, and instilling the ethical responsibility that comes with being a health care practitioner.



Photo: (l-r) Premier Dwight Ball and Dean Carlo Marra

Dr. Gary Kachanoski, president and vice-chancellor of Memorial, congratulated first year pharmacy students on reaching this academic milestone, remarking where the many roads a career in pharmacy could lead.

In addressing the students, Dr. Kachanoski noted, "Many of our pharmacy alumni work around the world in all aspects of pharmaceutical practice, teaching and research. You may even, someday, become premier," acknowledging Premier's Ball's career as a pharmacist.

Premier Ball was clearly at home. "I've left the most trusted profession for the least trusted," joked the premier.

After receiving his honorary white coat from Dr. Marra, Premier Ball delivered a heartfelt address to the first year students that summarized his career and highlighted his insights on changing careers from pharmacy to politics.

"There's a story I'd like to tell," he recalled with a smile. "It goes back to 2011 after the provincial election. Late that night, I received a call from a very close friend of mine, and he said to me, 'Well done, Dwight' – and I knew there was a 'but' coming – 'Tonight you've left the most trusted profession and have now just entered into the least trusted profession.'"

Dean Carlo Marra spoke about the school's commitment to providing students with the best teaching and learning experience, and to graduating pharmacists who enter the profession fully practice-ready. "Our innovative programs in pharmacy practice, research, and teaching and learning ultimately translate into improvements in health outcomes for Newfoundlanders and Labradorians as our school and pharmacists across the province take a very active role in delivering care that maximizes the use of every health care dollar."

Bree Besaw (Class of 2019) received her white coat, and said she was extremely nervous leading up to the event, but her fears were quickly eased. "I felt very much accepted within the pharmacy community throughout the ceremony, and having Premier Ball in attendance was exciting. It gives me inspiration that I will practice in a province where the government supports the continued efforts of pharmacists."



Photo credit: Chris Hammond

"This profession has been very kind to me over the past 30 years," Premier Ball continued. "I know how rewarding it is to make a difference to the lives of people, and part of my job is to take some of the memories and learnings that I've had as a pharmacist and bring that trust back into politics."

"Certainly what is not lost on me is that we need to expand the scope of practice of all our health care professionals, and when I reach out and speak, I deliver this challenge no matter what the profession is – if it's a nurse or a physician or a pharmacist – we need to make sure that we challenge our young, educated health care professionals to make them the very best they can be, and that is how we will bring the improvements that we so desperately need within our health care system."

Artist Creates School of Pharmacy Annual Report

During the opening reception of this year's Pharmacists Association of Newfoundland and Labrador (PANL) conference on September 18, 2015, our dean, Dr. Carlo Marra, presented a 20-minute roundup of the school's activities over the past year, as well as a glimpse at the year ahead – an Annual Report, of sorts. But we did things a little differently for this year's report. As Dr. Marra presented the report, visual artist Elayne Greeley

created it on a large scale canvas. The event was recorded and edited as part of a video annual. The video is under 10 minutes long and centres on the School's 2014-17 Strategic Plan, which highlights research, teaching and learning, and pharmacy practice innovation as strategic directions.

<http://www.mun.ca/pharmacy/news.php?id=6428>

Students' Awards at PDW



We have lots of great news to share from Professional Development Week 2016. Our delegates have spent the week in beautiful Niagara Falls, Ontario.

Great work to all of our competition winners that represented MUN on the national level. Our Compounding team won second place! Congrats to Erin Beresford, Michelle Fazio, Jennifer Voisey and Emily King.

Congratulations to Kara O'Keefe for being the CAPSI-Pfizer Consumer Healthcare Guy Genest Passion for Pharmacy Award winner for MUN.

MUN placed first in the Award of Professionalism this year. This award is given annually to the school that holds the most organized and professional Pharmacist Awareness Month (PAM) activities.

We also had two successful applicants in the CAPSI National Elections for the 2016-2017 year. Congratulations to Robyn St Croix who will be next year's Executive Secretary and to Sydney Saunders who will be next year's Vice President, Education.



Expanded Scope of Practice

Expanded scope of pharmacy practice has been moving rapidly in Newfoundland and Labrador. “Just a few years ago, pharmacists in Newfoundland and Labrador could not provide flu shots, do therapeutic substitutions, assess and prescribe for minor ailments,” said Stephen Green, president of the Pharmacists Association of Newfoundland and Labrador. “Our goal is that the expertise and knowledge of pharmacists be fully used in the delivery of health care services, benefitting both patients and the health care system.”

Pharmacy and psychiatry students: kicking the butt with smoking cessation

Students studying pharmacy and psychiatry will soon be able to refine their communication and collaboration skills by helping patients quit smoking. Funded by Memorial’s **Teaching and Learning Framework (TLF)**, the Smoking Cessation Program (SCP) will allow students in the School of Pharmacy and Faculty of Medicine (Discipline of Psychiatry) to be part of an innovative experiential learning experience that will enhance their professional competencies to provide a service to community members and also contribute to research in the scholarship of teaching and learning.

The program also reflects the need to train pharmacy students to be capable of practicing to the full scope of the profession. “Pharmacy practice has shifted from product focused to patient focused,” said Dr. Phillips. “The pharmacists’ scope of practice is expanding to provide services such as immunizations, the treatment of minor ailments like cold sores, and will soon include a supporting role in chronic disease management. It is our responsibility as educators to make sure pharmacy students complete their education and enter the profession practice-ready. Enabling pharmacy students to participate in advanced practice activities are critical to the success of the curriculum and achievement of professional competencies.”

The SCP will operate out of the School of Pharmacy’s Medication Therapy Services (MTS) Clinic - a non-dispensing, pharmacist-led clinic that will provide comprehensive medication therapy assessments and other professional services to patients. Pharmacy students will work under the supervision of pharmacists to receive a high quality educational experience in an innovative pharmacy practice setting. The clinic will be located at the school’s Tiffany Court location. “One of the benefits of having this program take place in the MTS Clinic is that all activities have a

The project incorporates the School of Pharmacy’s three strategic directions – teaching and learning, research, and a commitment to support pharmacists’ expanded scope of practice and contribute to a more efficient and sustainable health care system. Dr. Leslie Phillips (**School of Pharmacy** and **Faculty of Medicine**, program lead) explained that the program is an ideal model for inter-professional student learning, which is essential for producing future practitioners who can think innovatively and collaboratively about ways to improve the health care of the population and contribute to a more sustainable system.

“The program is readily adapted to include other health professional students and health promotion activities and allows for the students to apply their learning about smoking cessation in a real-life practice setting and also support the health needs of the local community.” “Newfoundland and Labrador has the highest smoking rates in Canada and tobacco use is the single most preventable cause of death in the world today.” Dr. Phillips added. “For every two individuals that you can help stop smoking, you’re saving one life. That’s pretty significant. If our clinic can add to the resources that are out there and help people quit, that would be a great contribution.”

built-in evaluation or research component which means we have a venue to formally assess the effectiveness of the teaching and learning taking place in the program,” Dr. Phillips said. “The students in the program will be exposed to tools and techniques associated with research and evaluation activities, and we anticipate this will foster a culture of research and expose students to the potential for community-based research in future practice. We’re very excited about this entirely innovative advancement in teaching and learning, research, and pharmacy practice.”



Photo: (l-r) A patient with Dr. Leslie Phillips

Research Matchmaking Game

The second Pharmacy Research Matchmaking Game took place on February 4, 2016. Approximately 20 undergraduate and graduate students ranging from pharmacy, biology, computer science, and medicine gathered in the Bruneau Centre Atrium to grab a sneak peek at some of the research happening in the School.

Six faculty members were situated at six stations, and were given seven minutes to present a research project they're currently running. Students were arranged in small groups and given three minutes to ask questions until a buzzer sounded and they moved to the next station

Pharmacy seeking rock star researcher

At Memorial's School of Pharmacy, the search is on for a Tier 2 Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) Chair in Health Care Sustainability and Policy Evaluation.

The individual will direct research that aligns with the institute's mandate for health research themes — health systems services and/or social, cultural, environmental and population health — and will support two themes of Memorial University's **Strategic Research Intensity Plan (SRIP)** themes: governance and public policy and

social justice. Rising health-care costs consume almost half of most provincial budgets in Canada, according to the 2013 National Health Expenditure Trends Report. The report also cites Newfoundland and Labrador as having the highest total health expenditures per capita in Canada, with an alarmingly high number of chronic diseases such as hypertension, arthritis, diabetes and heart conditions.

In 2013 Newfoundland and Labrador spent \$7,132 per capita on health care — the most in the country, with 77 per cent of that money coming from the public sector. These numbers were forecasted in the report to increase.

“So the need for research in health sustainability is loud and obvious, in this province more than anywhere,” said Dr. Marra, who believes there is a potential for pharmacists to help alleviate this strain on the health care system. He says research being conducted in the school aims to provide evidence of this. He says this position could propel Memorial University to take health-care sustainability strategies in Newfoundland and Labrador and in Canada to the next level and strengthen an emerging area of the university's research.



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Promotions and Leaves

Drs. Christine Hughes, Cheryl Sadowski, and Nese Yuksel were all promoted to full professor in the fall of 2015. Congratulations to these 3 accomplished researchers and teachers on achieving this major milestone in their careers.

Dr. Kamaljit Kaur has resigned her position at the University of Alberta to pursue a new position at Chapman University in California. We wish her the best of luck in her new endeavors.

General Faculty News

Update from the PharmD for Practicing Pharmacists Program

The Class of 2015 from the full-time program had 15 graduates receive their degree on November 18th. The full-time program also welcomed the Class of 2016, with 21 students beginning last September.

The Faculty launched its new part-time distance PharmD for Practicing Pharmacists in January, with 14 students currently enrolled in the program.

Grants

Congratulations to **Dr. Christine Hughes, Ms. Terri Schindel** (co-PIs) and **Dr. Rene Breault** (co-Investigator) for their grant entitled: "Completing the Shift in Pharmacy Practice: How Pharmacists Provide Patient Care Services Using the Pharmacy Services Framework in Alberta", which was awarded funding from the Canadian Foundation of Pharmacy Innovation Fund and was also funded by the Alberta Pharmacists' Association.

Making about Hormone Therapy in Women Who Had an Early Surgical Menopause.
Co Investigators: Dr. S. Ross, Ms. T. Siyam, Dr. T. Shandro, Collaborators: Dr. N. Schuurmans, Ms. L. Battocchio, Ms. S. Hagen, Dr. S. Ginther
Congratulations to Nese and her team.

Dr. Hoon Sunwoo received an NSERC "Cooperative Research and Development Grant". This program involves a university-industry-NSERC partnership and provides \$270,000 over the next 3 years. The project involves the production of calcium carrier peptides from egg yolk. Congratulations Hoon!

Congratulations to **Dr. Michael Doschak** for receiving a CIHR Proof of Principle - Phase 1 Grant in the amount of \$160,000 to pursue his research entitled: Bone-Seeking Iron Oxide Nanoparticles for Imaging Bone Metablism. This funding will be used towards further development of bisphosphonate-conjugated super paramagnetic iron oxide nanoparticles (BP-SPIONs), that offer a non-radioactive alternative to detect dynamic bone turnover (using MRI), compared to the current nuclear medicine 99m-Technetium MDP bone scan (which uses radionuclides and gamma detectors).

Dr. Nese Yuksel received a WCHRI Clinical Research Seed Grant for the project Perspectives and Decision

Awards

Candace Necyk, clinical assistant professor, was awarded the Award of Merit for Teaching in June (see

page 5 of [UAlberta Pharmacy Magazine](#) for the full story).

UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Supporting Outstanding Mentors Through the John McNeill Excellence in Health Research Mentorship Award



Photo by Ivan Yastrebov

Cardiac surgeon-scientist and UBC Pharm Sci alumnus, Dr. Subodh Verma, MSc'93, PhD'97, has established the John McNeill Excellence in Health Research Mentorship Award, in honour of his graduate training supervisor, Dr. John McNeill, professor and dean emeritus, UBC Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences. The annual award recognizes outstanding mentorship by faculty members in any of UBC's health-related disciplines. To read the full story visit <http://pharmsci.ubc.ca/news/we-rise-lifting-others>

Faculty Pays Tribute to Undergraduate Student Mentors

Twice each year, the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences pays tribute to its undergraduate student mentors (commonly referred to as practice educators) with its Practice Educator of the Year Award program. Established in 2012, the Practice Educator of the Year Award recognizes exemplary pharmacists that distinguish themselves as entry-to-practice educators. These dedicated individuals volunteer their time and expertise to the next generation of Canadian pharmacists by providing them with meaningful on-the-job learning experiences. And in speaking with this year's recipients in the category of Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experience (IPPE), their reasons for doing so are just as meaningful. To read the full story visit:

<http://pharmsci.ubc.ca/news/mentoring-meaning>



Photo by Ivan Yastrebov

Advocating Interprofessional Learning Experiences that Foster Collaboration Among Health Care Practitioners

On January 8, 2016, more than 800 students and practicing pharmacists participated in the fifth annual Interprofessional Medication Reconciliation Event (IP MedRec), hosted by the University of British Columbia (UBC) Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, in conjunction with the Faculty of Medicine and School of Nursing. Medication reconciliation is a process by which members of a patient's multidisciplinary health care team collaborate to identify a complete list of medications the patient is taking as they proceed through transition points in care. The goal of medication reconciliation is to reduce medication errors and improve patient safety. To read the full story visit <http://pharmsci.ubc.ca/news/becoming-advocates-medication-reconciliation>



Photo by Ivan Yastrebov

UBC Pharm Sci Releases Fall/Winter Issue of Discover Magazine

Explore the Fall/Winter issue of Discover Magazine to find out more about the first week of classes, what the meaning of the white coat is, how undergraduate research creates a lasting impression and more. To read the full issue visit:

http://issuu.com/ubcpharmsci/docs/discover_fall_2015_issuu

Research in Focus: Adverse Drug Events and Patient Safety

Research in Focus is a bimonthly publication dedicated to highlighting the activities of our talented scientists, students and postdocs. Every second month, we will profile a different area of research focus and the work that goes on behind the scenes. For this issue we highlighted Dr. Peter J. Zed's work on "Adverse Drug Events and Patient Safety." For the full publication visit http://issuu.com/ubcpharmsci/docs/rif_august_2015_low

Recent Publications

To view our latest publications, visit:

<https://pharmsci.ubc.ca/research/research-publications>.

DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY

Faculty News

CCAPP conducted an on-site evaluation at the College November 23-25, 2015, as part of the accreditation process.

On December 1st, 2015 Dalhousie University opened the new Collaborative Health Education Building (CHEB). The building houses a section of the Health Sciences Library, classroom spaces and simulation space for interprofessional and uniprofessional activities; simulation space includes multiple office settings, small hospital wards and a small apartment to simulate home visits.

In 2016, **Drs. David Gardner** and **Andrea Murphy** will be completing a pan-Canadian pan-Australian online survey measuring pharmacists' attitudes toward and experiences with people at risk of suicide. They are looking for people and organizations (national and provincial regulatory and professional organizations, businesses, etc.) to help ensure that as many pharmacists across Canada are aware of the survey and the opportunity to participate. If you are interested or know an organization or individual who may be interested in learning more about the research project contact Dr. Gardner at david.gardner@dal.ca.

Grants

Dr. Ingrid Sketris is a co-investigator of the recently funded CIHR training grant led by Lisa Dolovich at McMaster focusing on drug safety and effectiveness: The Drug Safety and Effectiveness Cross-Disciplinary Training (DSECT) Program, November 2015- October 2020.

Dr. Jennifer Isenor and **Dr. Susan Bowles** are Co-Principal Investigators on a Dalhousie Pharmacy Endowment Grant: "Evaluating the Impact of Pharmacists as Immunizers on Influenza Vaccine Coverage in Nova Scotia".

Dr. Andrea Murphy, Dr. David Gardner, C. O'Reilly, T. Chen, D. Himmelman, S. Kutcher, A. Rosen, L. Salvador Carulla, and S. Webster received funding for: "Community Pharmacists' Knowledge, Attitudes, and Experiences with Patients at Risk of Suicide" from the Dalhousie Pharmacy Endowment Fund.

Dr. Andrea Murphy, Dr. David Gardner, S. Kutcher and R. Martin-Misener received funding from the Nova

Dr Andrea Murphy is a member of the International Social Pharmacy Workshop organizing committee and the upcoming conference will be held in Aberdeen, Scotland, from July 19th to 22nd 2016. For more information or to register, visit:

<https://www.abdn.ac.uk/events/social-pharmacy-2016/>

Confirmed keynote speakers include Dr. Ian Graham, Senior Scientist at the Centre for Practice-Changing Research, Ottawa Hospital Research Institute.

Dr Anne Marie Whelan is on sabbatical July 2015-June 2016.

Awards

The Poster Award for Clinical Research at the 2015 *Canadian Association of Paediatric Health Centre's* annual conference was accepted by **Barbara Hill-Taylor**, on behalf of her co-authors P Spin, **Dr. Ingrid Sketris**, C Ward, and K Hurley. Their paper was entitled: "A Cost Analysis of Salbutamol Administration by Metered-Dose Inhalers with Spacers versus Nebulization for Patients with Wheeze in the Pediatric Emergency Department: Evidence from Observational Data in Nova Scotia".

Scotia Health Research Foundation for "Building the Role of Community Pharmacists in mental illness and addictions care".

Dr. Andrea Murphy is a co-investigator on a Nova Scotia Health Research Foundation grant for "SafetyNET-Rx Online: Sustaining a leading community pharmacy medication error initiative through e-learning".

Dr. Emily Black, M. MacInnis, E. Fitzpatrick, K. Hurley, and S. MacPhee received funding for "Evaluation of a Pharmacist-led Antimicrobial Stewardship Service in a Pediatric Emergency Department" from the Dalhousie Pharmacy Endowment Fund.

Presentations

Dr Ingrid Sketris presented on "Optimal Prescribing and Medication Management" to the C.D. How Institute's Health Policy Council on November 19, 2015 (by videoconference).

Dr. Andrea Murphy was a successful applicant chosen to be one of 10 PechaKucha presenters at the 2nd Annual Research and Innovation in Health Care Forum in October. Her presentation, “Are untapped mental health resources close to home?”, focused on the roles of community pharmacists in mental health care. Links to the presentations can be found here: <http://thechronicleherald.ca/innovation-in-health-care>

Publications

Meghan MacKenzie, Zed PJ, Ensom MH. Opioid Pharmacokinetics - Pharmacodynamics: Clinical Implications in Acute Pain Management in Trauma. *Ann Pharmacother*. 2016 Jan 5. pii: 1060028015625659.

Wilbur K, Paiva M, **Emily Black**. Pharmacy Student and Preceptor Impressions of Faculty Liaison Visits to Experiential Training Sites. *Am J Pharm Ed* 2015;79(9):Article 134.

Pollen K.F. Yeung; Jodi Tinkel, and Dena Seeto. A Pilot Study to Assess Adenosine 5'-triphosphate Metabolism in Red Blood Cells as a Drug Target for Potential Cardiovascular Protection. *Cardiovasc Hematol Dis-Drug Targets* 2015; 15(3)224-232.

Andrea Murphy, Phelan, H., Haslam, S., Martin-Misener, R., Kutcher, S.P., and **David Gardner**. Community pharmacists' experiences in mental illness and addictions care: a qualitative study. *Substance Abuse, Treatment, Prevention, and Policy*. Advance Online Publication. 2016. DOI: 10.1186/s13011-016-0050-9.

Andrea Murphy, David Gardner, Kisely, S., Cooke, C., Kutcher, S., & Hughes, J. System struggles and substitutes: a qualitative study of general practitioner and psychiatrist experiences of prescribing antipsychotics to children and adolescents. *Clin Child Psychol Psych*. 2015 Advance Online Publication. DOI:10.1177/1359104515617518.

Curran, J.A., **Andrea Murphy**, Burns, E., Plint, A., Taljaard, M., MacPhee, S., Fitzpatrick, E., Bishop, A.,

Moienzadeh A, Massoud T, **Emily Black**. Evaluation of the general public's knowledge, views, and practices relating to appropriate antibiotic use in Qatar. *Int J Pharm Pract* 2015 Dec 16. doi:10.1111/ijpp.12233 [Epub ahead of print]

Emily Black, Ingrid Sketris, Skedgel C, MacLean E, Hanly JG. Adherence to Guidelines and the Screening Tool of Older Persons' Potentially Inappropriate Prescriptions Criteria for Colchicine Dosing for Gout Treatment in Beneficiaries of the Nova Scotia Senior's Pharmacare Program. *Clin Ther* 2015;37(10):2339-46. doi: 10.1016/j.clinther.2016.08.016

Chorney, J., & Bourque, M. (in press) Essential content for discharge instructions in pediatric emergency care: a Delphi study. *Ped Emer Care*.

Boyle, T. A., Bishop, A., Morrison, B., **Andrea Murphy**, Barker, J., Ashcroft, D. M., Phipps, D., Mahaffey, T., MacKinnon, N.J. Pharmacist work stress and learning from quality related events. *Res Soc Admin Pharm*. 2015 Advance Online Publication. DOI: 0.1016/j.sapharm.2015.10.003

MacDougall D, Halperin BA, **Jennifer Isenor**, MacKinnon-Cameron D, Li Li, McNeil SA, Langley JM, Halperin SA. Routine immunization of adults by pharmacists: attitudes and beliefs of the Canadian public and health care providers. *Hum Vaccin Immunother*. 2016 Jan 25. DOI:10.1080/21645515.2015.1093714 [Epub ahead of print]

Student News

Pharmacy Resident **Dr. Laura Minard** was winner of the 2015 Pharmacy Practice Residency Award, sponsored by CSHP (NS and NB Branches) for her project “Pharmacists' perceptions of the barriers and facilitators to the implementation of clinical pharmacy key performance indicators”.

UNIVERSITÉ LAVAL

FACULTY NEWS

Evening of recognition and excellence 2015 of the Faculty of Pharmacy

The inaugural Evening of recognition and excellence of the Faculty of Pharmacy was held on November 28th, 2015. This event was hosted at a festive cocktail within the grounds of the *Théâtre de la Cité universitaire*. Over 250 guests were in attendance.

At the event ceremony, individual donors, members of the Faculty of Circle and corporate donors, members of the Faculty of Honor Circle received several recognitions from Dr. Jean Lefebvre (Dean) and Mr. Yves Bourget (President and CEO of the *Fondation de l'Université Laval*).

Later, the generous donors had the opportunity to see concretely what their dollar amounts provided, as the Faculty had awarded more than \$153,000 in scholarships to deserving students involved in their community. These scholarship awards were made possible through the generous financial support from various donors, paid into the Fund for education and research at the Faculty. To close the ceremony, some of the staff were honored in connection with the excellence of their work. Finally, all

participants socialized in a friendly "after ceremony" where sparkling wine and sweet bites were provided.

The Faculty of Pharmacy wishes to thank the Foundation for its collaboration and all the guests who made this evening a real success!

Refer to [Table honor of the evening](#).



From L to R: Thérèse DiPaolo-Chênevert, prof, Faculty of Pharmacy, Camille Girard-Bock, Steve Jobin, Marine Tournissac, Aurélie Louit, Sandrine Sallé, Jean Lefebvre, Dean of the Faculty of Pharmacy (Photo taken by Jean-François Rivard)

Master program in Advanced Pharmacotherapy (hospital pharmacy)

The new cohort (2015-2016) of twenty-one residents completed their courses this autumn. They began their clinical rotation on January 2016.



Julie Méthot, Director of the Master Program Advanced in pharmacotherapy, Julie Fortier, hospital coordinator and 21 students in the Master Program Advanced in pharmacotherapy

TEACHERS NEWS

The Paris Match interviewed Dr. Frédéric Calon about essential tremor

One of the latest discoveries of Dr Frederic Calon's group has been showcased in *Paris Match*, a popular French weekly magazine with over 500 000 copies/issue. To read the article on Dr Calon, professor at the Faculty of Pharmacy, see:

<http://www.parismatch.com/Actu/Sante/Decouverte-de-son-origine-et-pistes-de-traitement-Le-tremblement-essentiel-845479>

Québec Science talks about the research of Dr. Nicolas Bertrand

In its latest issue, the *Québec Science* magazine devoted a page to research results of Dr. Nicolas Bertrand, Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Pharmacy. His research is in nanomedicine.

To view the [Québec Science Article](#)

To read the [original article](#)

Dr. Paul Poirier won a *Profession Santé* prize

Cardiologist at the University Institute of Cardiology and Pneumology of Quebec (IUCPQ) and professor at the Faculty of Pharmacy of Laval University, Dr. Poirier won the award in the category of Knowledge Sharing - Doctors. The *Profession Santé* prizes have a mission to spread the values of teamwork and communication for healthcare professionals. These awards are given to nurses, doctors and pharmacists whose practices stand out and deserve recognition.



Dr Paul Poirier, MD, Ph.D., professor, Faculty of Pharmacy at Laval U.

To learn more about Dr. Paul Poirier’s recognition, see: <http://www.professionsante.ca/microsites/prixProfessionSante/laureats/2015/paulPoirier.html>

International associated Laboratory OptiNutriBrain (France-Canada)

On November 12th 2015, the International associated Laboratory OptiNutriBrain (France-Canada), co-directed by our colleague Frederic Calon and Sophie Layé, was officially launched in the presence of representatives

from Université Laval, Université de Bordeaux and INRA. The news was communicated by different media throughout Canada.

STUDENTS NEWS

Students of the Faculty stand again at the CIBC Run for life

On Sunday, October 4th, 2015, CIBC Run for Life occurred on the Plains of Abraham. The team of students from the Faculty of Pharmacy won for the sixth consecutive year, in the school team challenge for the team raising the most money as a donation to the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation, with the collection of more than \$ 5,000.



Students at CIBC Run for Life on October 4th from the Faculty of Pharmacy, Université Laval

Andrée-Anne Poirier won the purse-Didier Mouginot 2015

The scholarship Didier-Mouginot 2015, in the amount of \$12,000 for one year, was awarded to Ms. Andrée-Anne Poirier, a doctoral student and candidate with the best application performance axis neuroscience Research Center at the Centre hospitalier universitaire de Québec.

This first place finish (1st place out of 30 applications received by the Hospital Foundation) was evaluated based on academic achievement, the record of scientific publications and the scientific relevance of the research project. Under the supervision of Dr. Denis Soulet and Thérèse Di Paolo, Ms. Poirier's research project is entitled: “Neuroprotective effects and anti-inflammatory modulators treatment of enteric system in Parkinson's disease.”

Jacinthe Leclerc receives scholarship AbbVie-RQRM

In the category Doctoral Fellowship, the Nomination Panel for joint grants AbbVie-RQRM chose Mrs Jacinthe Leclerc, Ph.D. candidate in Pharmaceutical Sciences - pharmacoepidemiology at the National Public Health Institute of Quebec. Ms. Leclerc is working under the direction of Prof. Paul Poirier, MD, Ph.D., Claudia Blais, Ph.D. and Line Guénette, Ph.D. and her project is entitled "Characterization in patients with ischemic heart disease or heart failure, the impact of generic substitution ".

FER and studentship from the Fondation du CHUQ (bourse Desjardins)

From Dr Frederic Calon's group: Olivier Kerdiles and Marine Tournissac have received studentships (\$7,500 and \$17,500 respectively) from the “Fonds d’Enseignement et de Recherche (FER)” from our Faculty, while Jessica Virgili was awarded a \$12,000 studentship from the Fondation du CHUQ (bourse Desjardins).

Anna Cieślak, Ph.D. student in pharmaceutical sciences, obtained a research grant from the Foundation of the Centre hospitalier universitaire de Québec – Uaval

Congratulations to Anna Cieślak who on November 10th received scholarship support in emerging research from the foundation of the *Centre hospitalier universitaire de Québec*, to highlight the importance and originality of her research project and the excellence of her academic record.

This scholarship (\$7,000) will enable this young pharmacist to continue her research on the therapeutic potential of omega 3 fatty acids and their bioactive derivatives in the treatment of autoimmune hepatobiliary diseases such as primary biliary cirrhosis and primary sclerosing cholangitis.

The achievements of the candidate allowed her to integrate the 7 award-winning students among the 35 nominations submitted by axis endocrinology and nephrology research center of Centre hospitalier universitaire de Québec-ULaval. Her research is conducted within the molecular pharmacology laboratory (Pavilion Genome Centre CHUL) under the supervision

of Olivier Barbier, professor at the Faculty of Pharmacy at Laval University. For more information: http://www.fondationduchudequebec.org/article/soutenir_la_releve_en_recherche/512/

Students from the Faculty recipients of Leadership Awards and sustainable development

During the 2015-2016 scholarship ceremony, 4 students from the Faculty of Pharmacy have distinguished themselves by obtaining a scholarship for leadership and sustainability in different categories.

Congratulations to:

1. Eric Allain, social / humanitarian leadership (3rd cycle)
2. Véronique Beaulieu-Leclerc, scientific leadership (first cycle)
3. Maxime Dubé, social / humanitarian leadership (2nd cycle)
4. Philippe Giguère, sport leadership (first cycle)

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

Individual Faculty News

In the spring of 2016, **Ronald F. Guse**, the Registrar of the College of Pharmacists of Manitoba, retired after a long and successful career in the profession of pharmacy.

He has served as an instructor and lecturer at the University of Manitoba since 2004 and continues to serve as a Clinical Assistant Professor on special assignment. In honour of Ron Guse and his dedication to his profession and community, a scholarship fund was established at the University of Manitoba in 2015 with over 150K in donations to date.



Dr. Neil Davies, College of Pharmacy Dean, received an Award of Appreciation for his contributions and dedication to the establishment of the First Middle Eastern Conference on Interprofessional Education in Doha, Qatar on December 4-6, 2015.

Dr. Emmanuel Ho has been granted tenure by the University of Manitoba, effective July 1, 2016.

Dr. Chris Louizos has been promoted to Senior Instructor by the University of Manitoba, effective March 1, 2016.

Drs. Ho, Tranmer and Burczynski are now Associate Editors of the Journal of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences.

Faculty News and Events

The University of Manitoba College of Pharmacy continues to make significant strides in the development of our Pharm.D. program.

The College of Pharmacy held our White Coat and Student Recognition Ceremony on October 5, 2015 and welcomed 51 pharmacy students to the profession.



The University of Manitoba College of Pharmacy hosted the annual AFPC Council of Deans meeting on November 15, 2015. Attendees had the unique opportunity to visit the inspiring Museum for Human Rights, opened in 2015, and The Forks, Winnipeg's renowned meeting place.

We awarded our third Leslie F. Bugey Professorship to **Dr. Hope Anderson** on December 2, 2015. Dr. JoAnne Bugey, Leslie Bugey's daughter, and Dr. Sheryl

Zelenitsky, last year's winner of the award, assisted with the presentation.

November 14th, 2015 marked the 4th annual Mr. Pharmacy Pageant. The event was attended by students, faculty and professionals from the community and was a huge success. The goal for this event is to promote unity amongst practitioners and students in celebration of our chosen profession and to provide 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.



The College of Pharmacy is participating in sponsoring and fund raising for a Syrian refugee family to relocate to Winnipeg.

Grants

Dr. Mike Namaka is part of a research group that received the ALS Canada-Brain Canada Arthur J. Hudson Translation Team grant for their project "Selective knockdown of misfolded SOD1 as a therapy for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis". Funding is over 5 years and totals \$1,600,250.

Dr. Mike Namaka received \$16,000 from Bayshore in support of the Manitoba Multiple Sclerosis Research Network Organization.

Dr. G. Tranmer received NSERC Connect Grant Development funds as part of a New Partnership to Address Flow Chemistry in GMP Production.

Dr. Emmanuel Ho has established a service agreement with Population Council, Inc., a non-profit organization

based out of New York to "Develop two different nanoparticle gel formulations for the prevention of HIV infection" with funds in the amount of \$24,619 USD for one year.

Dr. I fan Kuo is the recipient of a Manitoba Medical Service Foundation 2015 Competition for Funds award in the amount of \$25,000 for "Mood and Anxiety Disorders and Psychotropic Use in Spousal Caregivers of Dementia: A Population-Based Study."

Dr. Jamie Falk is the recipient of the fall 2015 competition of the internal grants programs (URGP) in the amount of \$7,500 for "Utilization of Blood Glucose Test Strips in Manitobans and the Potential Impact of Evidence-Based Policy."

UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

General Faculty News

The College of Pharmacy and Nutrition was one of ten pharmacy schools selected for this year's American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists video series. The video was broadcast at the 2015 AAPS Annual Meeting and Exposition in Orlando, Florida, on October 25 to 29. [Watch the video.](#)



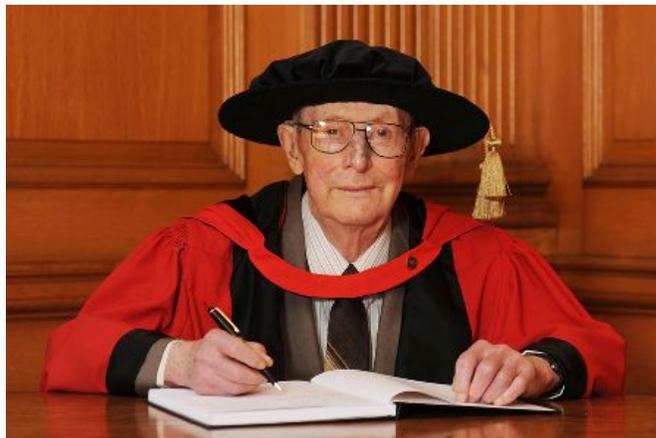
The College's Medication Assessment Centre was awarded the Patient Care Enhancement Award by the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists for the submission "The Medication Assessment Centre: A Novel Student Training and Patient Care Program."

Our entry to practice PharmD program has been formally approved by the University Council and the U of S Board of Governors. This is a major milestone for the College and congratulations go out to everyone involved for their time and efforts. A special thank you to **Dr. Linda Suveges**, **Dr. Yvonne Shevchuk**, and **Shauna Gerwing** for leading the process.

The Continuing Professional Development for Pharmacists office has trained over 800 pharmacists to administer injections. The Pharmacy Association of Saskatchewan provided \$350,000 in funding to train pharmacists.

The Nutrition Program Accreditors were on-site on Monday, October 26 and Tuesday, October 27 to review our program. The site visit went very well and we received a very favourable review of our program. Complete accreditation results will follow on the College's website.

Alumnus and former faculty member **Dr. J. Gordon Duff** bequeathed a donation for over \$285,000 to the College. His generous gift to the college included \$25,000 for historical archival purposes, and the remaining \$260,000 is to be used at the discretion of the Dean of Pharmacy and Nutrition. A portion of the gift will go towards establishing a new Graduate Student Training program in the College, while the remainder will be reserved for future use.



Dr. J. Gordon Duff.

Photo credit: Dalhousie University

Individual Faculty News

Dr. Jane Alcorn has been re-elected to the Canadian Society for Pharmaceutical Sciences Board of Directors for 2016.

Dr. Jonathan Dimmock was part of an innovative project by dentistry student Dania Alkhani to find a less invasive, more effective treatment for oral cancer. [Read more.](#)

Dr. Charity Evans has been appointed the new Director of Continuing Professional Development for Pharmacists.



We would like to thank Dr. Linda Suveges for her years of service to this position and wish her all the best in her well-deserved retirement.

Dr. Derek Jorgenson was in Qatar in November as a Visiting Professor to share his experiences and learn about the programs offered at Qatar University. He presented on the Medication Assessment Centre, ADAPT Continuing Education Program, and curriculum program evaluation. He also helped teach in their professional skills lab, observed teaching, and toured many of the hospital and primary care based SPEP sites.



Dr. Adil Nazarali has been designated a Fellow of the Society by The Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

Dr. Adil Nazarali has been elected as the next Neuroscience Research Cluster leader. The Neuroscience Research Cluster comprises of 21 faculty members and over 60 trainees and research staff at the University of Saskatchewan.

Dean Kishor Wasan has been selected for the Prix Galien Canada Jury. [Read more.](#)

Grants

The Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada recently awarded Dr. Tremlett (UBC) and her team, including co-investigator **Dr. Charity Evans** (Pharmacy), a three-year Clinical and Population Health Operating grant to assess the safety monitoring of patients taking MS oral treatments.

Dr. Hassan Vatanparast (Nutrition) and his colleagues, Drs. Saija Kontulainen and Adam Baxter-Jones (Kinesiology), **Susan Whiting** (Nutrition), and Michael Szafron (Public Health), were awarded \$81,100 by Dairy Farmers of Canada for their research project entitled “Role of Milk and Alternatives on Bone Material and Strength, Body Composition and Cardio

Dean Kishor Wasan has been reappointed to the Fellowship Committee of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences (2015-2017).

Dr. Jason Perepelkin was one of the authors of the recently release “Pharmacy Management in Canada” textbook, which is the first Canadian textbook dedicated to pharmacy management since 1998.



Dean Kishor Wasan and his colleagues were presented with a recognition award from the Members of the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists Global Health Focus Group for their work on supporting, educating, and training young scientists as global health professionals.

Dr. Susan Whiting was awarded Osteoporosis Canada - Saskatchewan chapter Backbone Award for 2015.

Metabolic Risk from Childhood to Adulthood through the Pediatric Bone Mineral Accrual Longitudinal Study”.

Drs. Darcy Marciniuk (Medicine) and **Thomas Rotter** (Pharmacy) have been awarded \$100,000 over 3 years from Novartis Pharmaceuticals Canada to support the development, implementation, and evaluation of clinical pathways for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease in Saskatchewan.

Dr. Azita Haddadi was awarded a \$25,000 NSERC Engage Grant for her project “Nanoparticle formulation and evaluation of novel synthetic immune stimulating agents.”

Student News

Congratulations to **Jayesh Changela**, **Darren Bogle**, **Madison Schmidt**, and **Trista Zacharias** who took first place in the CAPSI Compounding Competition at Professional Development Week.



On Thursday, January 28, the inaugural First Year Pledge Ceremony was held in the Health Sciences lecture theatre. Both pharmacy and nutrition students recited their pledges in front of their peers to

demonstrate their commitment to professionalism in their education and careers. These pledges were written by the students to reflect their values when it comes to professionalism.

Three new students started their studies in our graduate program this January: Katherine Ford (Nutrition MSc. with **Dr. Susan Whiting**) and Fakir Yunus (Nutrition MSc with **Dr. Gord Zello**), and welcome back Sarah Fatani (Pharmacy PhD with **Dr. Anas El-Aneed**).

Staff News

Stephanie Mulhall, Coordinator, Assessment and Evaluation, received her Master of Education, Educational Administration, in October. Her graduate project involved a teaching evaluation tool for the College.

Melissa Surkan joined the Dean's Office as our new Clerical Assistant, Administrative and Finance, on Monday, November 2.

In The Media

Dr. Yvonne Shevchuk and Janine Hiebert (BSP, 1998) appeared in a Global Saskatoon News segment on Friday, October 16, speaking about the benefits of the flu shot. [Watch the video.](#)

Dr. Carol Henry was featured in a Western Producer article on Thursday, November 26, about the benefits of pulse crops. She spoke about her work in Ethiopia to use pulses to improve nutrition in poor rural regions. [Read the article.](#)

Dr. Carol Henry and two of her graduate students were profiled in the Saskatoon Star Phoenix's Young Innovators series for their work with pulse crops. [Read the article.](#)

Dr. Carol Henry was interviewed by The Canadian Press about the United Nation's International Year of the Pulses. The interview appeared in multiple media outlets on Wednesday, January 6. [Read the article.](#)

Dr. Holly Mansell was profiled by the Flin Flon Reminder, her hometown newspaper, on Wednesday, November 4. The article reflects on how she became interested in science, and her research on organ transplantation and the role of medications. [Read the article.](#)

Karen Jensen and **Dr. Fred Remillard** were featured in On Campus News on Friday, November 20, for their work on PharmaZzz, a pilot program that looks at non-medication therapy to help those suffering from insomnia. [Read the article.](#)



Karen Jensen & Dr. Remillard Photo credit: Lesley Porter

Dr. Susan Whiting appeared on Global Saskatoon News on Tuesday, October 27, to discuss the WHO warning about processed meats and cancer. [Watch the video.](#)

Recent Publications

Dong, C., **Badea, I.**, Poorghorban, M.*, Verrall, R., Foldvari, M. (2015) Impact of phospholipids on plasmid packaging and toxicity of gemini nanoparticles. *Journal of Materials Chemistry B*, 3(45): pp. 8806-8822.

Pammatt, R.T.*, **Blackburn, D., Taylor, J., Mansell, K.,** Kwan, D., Papoushek, C., **Jorgenson, D.** (2015) Evaluation of a community pharmacy-based screening questionnaire to identify patients at risk for drug therapy problems. *Pharmacotherapy* 35(9): pp. 881-886.

Fang, J. Classification of fruits based on anthocyanin types and relevance to their health effects (2015) *Nutrition* 31 (11- 12), pp. 1301-1306.

Asiamah I*, Hodgson HL, Maloney K, Allen KJ, **Krol ES.** (2015) Ring substitution influences oxidative cyclisation and reactive metabolite formation of nordihydroguaiaretic acid analogues. *Bioorg Med Chem* Sep 25. pii: S0968-0896(15)30064- X.

Maini S*, Fahlman BM*, **Krol ES.** (2015) Flavonols protect against UV radiation-induced thymine dimer formation in an artificial skin mimic. *J Pharm Pharm Sci* Nov; 18(4):600-15.

Hu, Y., An, Y., Fang, N., Li, Y., Jin, H., **Nazarali, A.,** Ji, S. (2015) The optimization of soluble PTEN expression in escherichia coli. *Open Biochemistry Journal*, 9, art. No. A1, pp. 42-48.

Alaverdashvili M*, Li X*, **Paterson PG.** (2015) Protein-Energy Malnutrition Causes Deficits in Motor Function in Adult Male Rats. *J Nutr.* 2015 Sep 30. pii: jn216382.

Michaelsen MH, **Wasan KM,** Sivak O, Müllertz A, Rades T. (2015) The effect of digestion and drug load on halofantrine absorption from self-nanoemulsifying drug delivery system (SNEDDS). *AAPS J.* Oct 20. [Epub ahead of print]

Taha DA, **Wasan EK, Wasan KM,** Gershkovich P. (2015) Lipid-lowering Activity of Natural and Semi-Synthetic Sterols and Stanols. *J Pharm Pharm Sci.* Nov;18(4):344-67. PMID: 26626241

Setayeshgar, S.*, **Whiting, S.J.,** Pahwa, P., **Vatanparast, H.** (2015) Predicted 10-year risk of cardiovascular disease among Canadian adults using modified Framingham risk score in association with dietary intake *Applied Physiology, Nutrition and Metabolism* 40 (10), pp. 1068-1074.

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Academic Appointments

Dr. Keith Pardee joined the Faculty as an Assistant Professor, effective January 1, 2016. Dr. Pardee's research program combines biochemistry, molecular engineering, and electronics to create a new class of sterile and abiotic tools for applications both in and outside the lab. By generating *in vitro* synthetic biology programs and creating *in vitro* environments to host these biomolecular programs, he aims to produce small, programmable sensors and devices for research, portable diagnostics, implantable therapeutics, and tools for regenerative medicine and tissue engineering. Dr. Pardee's research has been published in *Cell*, *Nature*, *PLoS Biology*, and *Genes and Development*, among others.



Dr. Maria Zhang was appointed Clinician Educator at the Faculty this fall. In this joint position with the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, Dr. Zhang will work as an advance practice pharmacist and teach in our PharmD program. Dr. Zhang holds BSc and Post-Baccalaureate PharmD degrees from the Faculty, and recently completed her MSc degree as part of the Collaborative Program in Addiction Studies under the supervision of Dr. Beth Sproule. Dr. Zhang teaches in the area of addictions, instructing in PHM302 Pharmacotherapy 7: Neuropsychiatry and co-coordinating in PHM386 Mental Health and Addiction.



Dr. Nardine Nakhla was appointed Lecturer and Continuous Professional Development (CPD) Education Coordinator at the Faculty, effective January 1, 2016. Dr. Nakhla coordinates and instructs in the Minor Ailments (PHM388) and Introduction to Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience (PHM400) courses for the PharmD curriculum. She also coordinates and instructs in the Canadian Pharmacy Skills II Self-Care – Assessment and Counseling Skills course for the International Pharmacy Graduate Program and is the academic lead for the CPD Minor Ailments course. Dr. Nakhla's areas of clinical expertise are minor ailments and self-care.



Faculty News

In January, the Faculty held an Academic Planning Summit in Toronto to determine our key priorities and shape the future of the Faculty over the next five years. Following an intensive period of interviews with key internal and external stakeholders, the planning summit allowed participants (including faculty members, students, administrative staff, and external stakeholders) to discuss the key issues affecting our Faculty and identify our strategic priorities going forward.

Over the next few months, the information acquired at this meeting will be synthesized and applied to the drafting of an academic plan, to be reviewed and approved by our Faculty Council and then by the University of Toronto's Academic Board. The new plan, which will be in place by July 1, 2016, will guide our growth and development for the next five years.

This fall, the Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization designated the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy the site of the World Health Organization **Collaborating Centre for Governance, Transparency and Accountability in the Pharmaceutical Sector** for a four-year term.

Leveraging the existing research facilities at the University of Toronto, the Centre will conduct pharmaceutical policy research, analysis, and training on critical issues related to good governance and transparency in medicines. Through this work, the Centre will establish a global network of researchers, policy makers, and advocates and share its findings globally. Ultimately, the Centre will promote collaboration on a global scale and help strengthen the work of the WHO in good governance and transparency in medicines. The key goals of the Centre are to generate and disseminate knowledge, provide training, and increase global access to good drugs.

Associate Professor Jillian Kohler is the Director of the Centre, which will also include Professor Zubin Austin, Associate Professor Suzanne Cadarette, and Associate Professor Alison Thompson from the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy, as well as members of the Dalla Lana School of Public Health, Munk School of Global Affairs, and Rotman School of Management at the University of Toronto, and external collaborators from institutions including the World Bank, Boston

University, Georgetown University, the University of San Diego, and researchers from academic institutions across the Americas.

In November, the Faculty welcomed reviewers from the Canadian Council for Accreditation of Pharmacy Programs to review our PharmD program. During the visit, the team met with students, faculty, staff, preceptors, University of Toronto administrators, and external stakeholders to gain a full appreciation of our PharmD program. The final report from this process will be reviewed by the CCAPP Board of Directors at their next board meeting at the end of June and will form the basis of their recommendation regarding the accreditation status of our PharmD program.

The Optimizing Patient Care program

The Optimizing Patient Care program at the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy released three new online learning modules (available at www.optimizingpatientcare.ca) to help pharmacists further develop the skills, confidence, and knowledge needed to embrace their full scope of practice on a daily basis. Developed by the Faculty's Centre for Practice Excellence and Office of Continuous Professional Development, and supported by the Ontario College of Pharmacists, these free learning modules are designed to provide practicing pharmacists and pharmacy students with the practical knowledge and tools to successfully deliver patient-centered services.

How Can I Manage Workflow in My Busy Community Pharmacy to Provide Optimal, Patient-Focused Care? challenges pharmacists to rethink how pharmacy services can be delivered to maximize patient outcomes, highlights different approaches to workflow, and showcases different ways to utilize pharmacy assistants, technicians, and/or students to optimize patient-focused care.

What Will the Doctor Think? Managing Relationships with Physicians identifies strategies that can be used to mitigate tensions and build solid relationships between pharmacists and physicians, and promotes a collaborative approach to caring for shared patients.

“What Can You Do For Me?” Managing Relationships with Patients identifies the difference between customers and patients, provides new methods to manage patient expectations, and offers examples to enhance dialogue between pharmacists and patients about the expanding scope of practice and the role of the pharmacist in the healthcare team.

These modules join three previously released modules that focus on clinical decision-making, differences of opinion, and documentation practices. Since their release in May, these learning modules have been viewed over 4,000 times by pharmacists from across Canada and a host of other countries, including the United States, the United Kingdom, Spain, New Zealand, United Arab Emirates, Guyana, Egypt, India,

Publications

A recent study published in *Cell* by a research team co-led by Associate Professor **Stephane Angers** of the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy and Associate Professor Jason Moffat from the University of Toronto’s Donnelly Centre, have switched off, one by one, almost 18,000 genes – 90 per cent of the entire human genome – to find the genes that are essential for cell survival. In mapping out the genes that keep our cells alive, this study lays the foundation for identifying the role of every single gene in the genome, and which genes are crucial in diseases like cancer. By turning genes off in five different cancer cell lines, including brain, retinal, ovarian, and two kinds of colorectal cancer cells, the team uncovered that each set of cells relies on a unique set of genes that can be targeted by specific drugs. The finding raises hope of devising new treatments that would target only cancer cells, leaving the healthy tissue unharmed.



Sudan, Saudi Arabia, Morocco, Kuwait, Italy, Bahrain, Namibia, and Pakistan.

To learn more about the Optimizing Patient Care program, or to view any of the six free online learning modules, please visit www.optimizingpatientcare.ca

Grants

The Canadian Institutes of Health Research has awarded Associate Professor



Lee Dupuis and colleagues a one-year grant to explore the effects of olanzapine on children undergoing chemotherapy. Used to treat mental illness, olanzapine has also been shown to improve chemotherapy-induced nausea and vomiting in adults. While used safely in children with mental illness, its safety as an anti-nausea agent for children has yet to be examined.

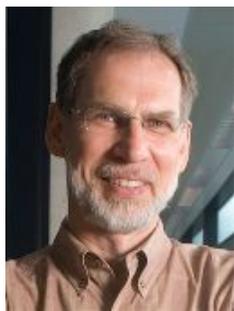
This study will reveal whether or not olanzapine has the potential to reduce some of the distress faced by children who receive chemotherapy, thus leading to increased quality of life. These are children undergoing chemotherapy as part of a bone marrow transplant – almost all of whom experience nausea and vomiting even when provided the best available medicines to control this.

Dr. Angers also co-led a study with Professor Michel Cayouette from the Institut de Recherches Cliniques de Montréal published in *Developmental Cell* that discovered a mechanism that enables the production of cellular diversity in the developing nervous system. In this study, the team demonstrated that a gene, Suppressor APC domain containing 2 (SAPCD2), influences cell division orientation. They also showed that the orientation of division controls daughter cell fates *in vivo* by using animal retinal stem cells that were genetically engineered to either express or not express the SAPCD2 gene. Through these efforts, they noticed that a fair number of the divisions changed orientation and the type of daughter cells produced were different in the absence of the SAPCD2 gene. When the gene was present, however, they saw that the daughter cells that were produced were identical, leading them to conclude that the SAPCD2 gene controls stem cell division orientation, which, in turn, affects cell diversification. This discovery could lead to an improved ability to program stem cells to generate particular types of cells and design more targeted approaches to slowing down tumor progression.

Jillian Kohler published “Policy versus practice: a community-based qualitative study of the realities of pharmacy services in Nunavut, Canada” in the *Journal of Pharmaceutical Policy and Practice*.



Professor **Murray Krahn** and colleagues at the Toronto Health Economics and Technology Assessment (THETA) collaborative recently partnered with the National Cancer Institute to compare the differences in the costs and approaches to end-of-life cancer treatment in the United States and Ontario. In this study, published in *Palliative Medicine*, the researchers compared end-of-life costs for health care services in patients with non-small cell lung cancer, the leading cause of cancer death



in both Canada and the US. Using administrative healthcare databases, the study concluded that the public payer costs for advanced non-small cell lung cancer patients were slightly higher in the US than in Ontario until one month before death. However, when co-insurance and patient deductible costs are included for the US cohort, costs are higher in the US than in Canada throughout the end-of-life cycle. The results of the study suggest that higher rates of chemotherapy use may contribute to higher overall costs in the US, and that reductions in hospitalizations, which contributed the most to costs in the last month of life, could potentially reduce Ontario costs. The study reveals that cost savings could be realized in both Ontario and the US by moving to a home-based palliative care model at the end of life, and contributes important data about costs for cancer patients at the end of life to complement the consideration of other factors – including patient-reported outcomes, quality of care, quality of life, and patient satisfaction – in the evaluation of models of care before dying.

In a recent issue of *Scientific American*, Professor **Shana Kelley** explained how tiny new probes using nanotechnology are able to diagnose infections in 20 minutes in “Disease Detector.” In this article, Dr. Kelley provides an overview of current modes of disease detection and chronicles the development of a new technology that leverages nanoscale probes that are more effective at finding low levels of disease specific molecular markers in blood samples than traditional testing because of their size. Through a series of experiments, the Kelley lab found that using gold nanostructures on a silicon chip provided excellent disease detection results from small sample sizes. In so doing, they found that they could produce results in as little as little as 20 minutes using an inexpensive device that could easily be incorporated into a doctor’s office or clinic setting. This article goes on to explain how Xagenic, the company founded by Dr. Kelley to bring this technology into the healthcare system, has further developed this discovery to produce a plastic cartridge that contains the sensor chip and everything required to run a diagnostic test. The accuracy of these cartridges will be the focus of clinical trials beginning in 2016. If this study is successful, Xagenic will submit the data to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for clearance to launch a commercial product.



Awards & Recognition

In January, the Canadian Cancer Society named its Top 10 Research Impact Stories of 2015. Professor Shana Kelley’s development of an extremely sensitive chip-based blood test to detect cancer mutations, which was published in *Nature Chemistry* this summer, was the first discovery on this list. In describing this discovery, the Canadian Cancer Society noted how “this new, non-invasive test is fast and simple to perform. It is now being developed as an alternative to tissue biopsies to detect cancer, monitor how patients respond to therapy and personalize treatment decisions.”

Lecturer and Experiential Education Coordinator **Certina Ho** and her team at the Institute for Safe Medication Practices Canada were recognized with a Pharmacy Innovation Award at the Commitment to Care & Service Awards.



The team received this award for the Safety Alerts as Drivers for Pharmaceutical Opinion Program. Supported by a Canadian Foundation for Pharmacy Innovation Fund Grant, this program aims to motivate pharmacists to integrate cognitive services into their daily workflow while being recognized and reimbursed by the Pharmaceutical Opinion Program.

In this pilot study, Certina and her team, including recent graduates Ambika Sharma and Amanda Chen from the Faculty, developed practical tools to help pharmacists identify, respond to, and bill for drug-drug interactions that would otherwise have led to hospitalizations. Recognizing that pharmacists are uniquely positioned to intervene in potential drug-drug interactions, this program attempts to provide

practitioners with the support and training required to integrate this role into their daily practice.

The team developed a Safety Alert Handbook for all of the pharmacies participating in this pilot study, targeting 13 drug-drug interactions. It also created evidence-based algorithms to help pharmacists quickly formulate recommendations for physicians, and developed standardized forms to document interventions with physicians. Additional resources, including strategies to better incorporate Pharmaceutical Opinions into the daily workflow, were also provided to participants.

Over the pilot program, the 35 participating pharmacies submitted 230 Pharmaceutical Opinions. Approximately one-third of these opinions were related to drug-drug interactions highlighted in the Safety Alert Handbook. At \$15 an intervention, this pilot study cost the Pharmaceutical Opinions Program a little over \$1,000. In contrast, the team estimates that these pharmacist-based interventions averted almost 70 potential hospitalizations and spared the Ontario healthcare system more than \$73,000 in hospitalization charges.

This fall, Women’s College Hospital celebrated excellence in education at the Hospital by recognizing staff members who demonstrate a commitment to education, create an environment that enhances understanding and teamwork, and who have a broader impact on the hospital, women’s education, and interprofessional activities.



Clinician Scientist and Assistant Professor **Lisa McCarthy** received a Teacher / Educator Award. In recognizing Dr. McCarthy, her nominators praised her for “develop[ing] a trusting and open relationship with her students; she will share her knowledge in her areas of research expertise and points students to other resources or experts when required. She works with students individually to understand their goals and gives them opportunities to experience different phases of research during their research rotations. Students value the effort Lisa puts into their individual learning experiences.”

Adjunct Lecturer **Marko Tomas** was the recipient of a New Teacher/Educator Award. According to his nominator, Marko deserved this award as he “has developed into one of our core preceptors for student training in the pharmacy department. He has demonstrated a strong commitment to excellence in ambulatory care experiential education as demonstrated by his commitment to teaching; his ability to address individual student learning needs; and by serving as a role model to our students.”

Professor **Reina Bendayan** received the AAPS Leadership Award at the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists Annual Meeting and Exposition in Orlando, Florida. This award was presented to Dr. Bendayan in recognition of the leadership she has provided to the Pharmacokinetic, Pharmacodynamic and Drug Metabolism section of AAPS.



Professor **Zubin Austin** was recognized as one Canada's Leaders in Pharmacy by *Pharmacy Business* magazine. The 2016 Leaders in Pharmacy initiative celebrates eleven pharmacists from across the country who are helping to set a course through the changing pharmacy landscape in Canada. The recipients were cited for their experience, foresight, and ability to help break new ground for a stronger, more resourceful, and more valued pharmacy sector in Canada.



This year, the awards emphasized collaboration as a key to success in the evolving pharmacy field. Dr. Austin was recognized as a result of his collaborative and highly successful research program, and his ability to build strong relationships as an instructor at both the graduate and undergraduate levels.

Additionally, as the Murray B. Koffler Chair in Pharmacy Management and Academic Director of the

Student News

This fall, 38 of the Faculty's outstanding MSc and PhD students were recognized with a total of 16 internal and 10 external awards at the Faculty's annual Graduate Student Awards Ceremony and Convocation Celebration. This event also provided the Faculty with the opportunity to celebrate 4 PhD and 12 MSc students who graduated from their respective programs at a convocation ceremony held the previous day.



This year, students in the PharmD program, with the support of the Centre for Practice Excellence, established a Toastmasters International club at the Faculty. Designed to help Pharmacy and other healthcare students become more confident public

speakers and leaders, the club has attracted over 30 charter members from Pharmacy, Medicine, and other healthcare professions, and has held several meetings

Each year, the Faculty welcomes our newest Doctor of Pharmacy students to the pharmacy profession at the annual Induction into the Professional Community of Pharmacy Ceremony. The Faculty and distinguished guests from Ontario's pharmacy community welcomed the Class of 1T9 at this year's event, which featured remarks from a variety of speakers, the recitation of the pledge of professionalism, and the always-popular presentation of lab coats.



Professor **Gang Zheng** has been elected a Fellow of the American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering (AIMBE) by the members of the AIMBE College of Fellows. In outlining the reasons for his election to this prestigious group, AIMBE cited two of Dr. Zheng's many outstanding contributions – his pioneering work on activatable photosensitizers for photodynamic therapy and his discovery of porphyrinsome nanotechnology that opens new frontiers in cancer imaging and therapy.

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UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO

Appointments

Associate Professor **Shawn Wettig** was appointed Associate Director, Research and Graduate Studies. Dr. Wettig had served as interim chair of graduate studies and will continue to ensure the continued operation and success of the program while also guiding Waterloo Pharmacy forward in meeting our strategic research goals. He teaches at both the undergraduate and graduate levels and his research lab focuses on the design, synthesis and characterization of novel surfactants and their application in drug delivery. Dr. Wettig has been a member of Waterloo Pharmacy since its opening in 2008 and has served in many leadership roles.

Associate Professor **Mike Beazely** was appointed Associate Director, Curriculum. Dr. Beazely, an instructor in both undergraduate and graduate courses, will be responsible for the didactic portion of the curriculum and will co-chair the Curriculum Committee with Elaine Lillie, Director of Interprofessional Education and Curriculum Development. His research interests include molecular pharmacology and treatment of neurological disorders.

Associate Professor **Andrea Edginton** was appointed Programmatic Assessment Officer. Dr. Edginton teaches both undergraduate and graduate courses in pharmacokinetics and is a 2015 recipient of an Excellence in Science Teaching Award from the Waterloo Faculty of Science. She is also the University of Waterloo Chair of the Clinical Research Ethics

Board. In her new role, she will be responsible for implementing our assessment plan with a goal of continuous quality improvement of all of our programs.

Tom McFarlane has become a Clinical Lecturer at the School of Pharmacy. Dr. McFarlane was previously a member of the adjunct faculty at the School of Pharmacy as well as a pharmacist at Cambridge Memorial Hospital. Dr. McFarlane's research and teaching are primarily focused in the area of oncology where he practiced clinically for a number of years.

Jeff Nagge has joined the faculty at the School of Pharmacy as Clinical Associate Professor. Dr. Nagge was previously an Adjunct Clinical Assistant Professor. Dr. Nagge is well known for his expertise in cardiovascular therapeutics and has established a number of pharmacy-led primary care clinics such as the anticoagulation clinic at the Centre for Family Medicine, a family health team located on the Health Sciences campus of the University of Waterloo.

Trenny McGinnis joined the School as Administrative Officer in January 2016. Trenny comes to the School of Pharmacy with more than 30 years of experience at the University of Waterloo including several years in the Secretariat as the Associate University Secretary. While in the Secretariat, Trenny helped prepare some of the original submissions to the government that resulted in the approval of the School of Pharmacy at the University of Waterloo.

Grants

Assistant Professor **Tejal Patel** received an Innovation Fund Grant from the Canadian Foundation for Pharmacy (CFP).

Dr. Patel's project, entitled "Pharmacist Interventions to Reduce Polypharmacy and High Risk Medication Use among the Frail Elderly in Primary Care: A Case-Controlled Comparison" will also explore the use of high-risk medication and appropriate gastrointestinal protection for her target population – elderly and frail Canadians.



Photo: Dr Tejal Patel receiving her grant from CFP

Assistant Professor **Sherilyn Houle** also received Innovation Fund Grant from CFP. Her project, “Determining the Clinical Effectiveness and Patient Satisfaction of a Pharmacist-Managed Travel Medicine Clinic under an Expanded Scope of Practice”, explores value of pharmacist intervention and the expansion of services in the Canadian healthcare system. Of the three CFP Innovation Fund Grants awarded this year, Waterloo Pharmacy professors won two.

Elaine Lillie, Director of Interprofessional Education and Curriculum Development, and vanguard class alumna **Jeffrey Wong**, a family health team pharmacist in the Hamilton area, received a Shared Online Course Fund (\$55,000) from the Ministry of Training, Colleges, and Universities. They share the fund with co-applicant and physician Michael Lee-Poy from McMaster

University’s Michael G. DeGroot School of Medicine. The three recipients will collaborate with the University of Waterloo Centre for Online Learning to develop an online module on Transgender Health, addressing the fundamentally interprofessional approach necessary for interacting with this vulnerable patient population.

Praveen P Nekkar Rao received \$10,000 in funding from the Network of Aging Research, a University of Waterloo group that builds connections across disciplines, enabling researchers of aging to collaborate in multidisciplinary ways. Dr. Rao’s NAR-funded project is entitled: “Development of novel therapies for Alzheimer’s disease”.

Student News

Alumna wins national care and service award

Waterloo pharmacy alumna **Marisa Ramandt** received the Commitment to Care and Service Student Leadership award, an annual national program hosted by *Pharmacy Practice+*. The award recognizes Ramandt’s dedication to professional activities within the School and to working with Community Action Now, a student group that fundraises and implements projects in support of vulnerable populations in Waterloo Region. This is the second time a Waterloo Pharmacy student has won the prestigious award in the last three years as alumna Danielle Paes won in 2013.



Photo: Marisa Ramandt, alumna from the class of 2015, wins national award.

Waterloo Pharmacy students organize PDW2016

For the first time, University of Waterloo pharmacy students hosted Professional Development Week (PDW). The theme this year was “Soaring to New Heights,” addressing the new heights pharmacy students will be reaching as they enter a profession that is improving patient outcomes through the provision of clinical services. Hosted at Niagara Falls, this year’s PDW was the first to feature a debate with

representatives from every pharmacy school in the country.

Faculty News

Annual public lecture on Antibiotic Apocalypse

Assistant Professor **Brett Barrett** and Assistant Professor **Kelly Grindrod** teamed up to deliver Waterloo Pharmacy’s annual public lecture on November 12th. Their topic – the Antibiotic Apocalypse – was timely as the following week was designated “antibiotic awareness week” by the World Health Organization. A mixed audience of community members and students learned about distinctions between bacterial and viral infections, the rise of antibiotic resistance, and strategies for minimizing antibiotic use.

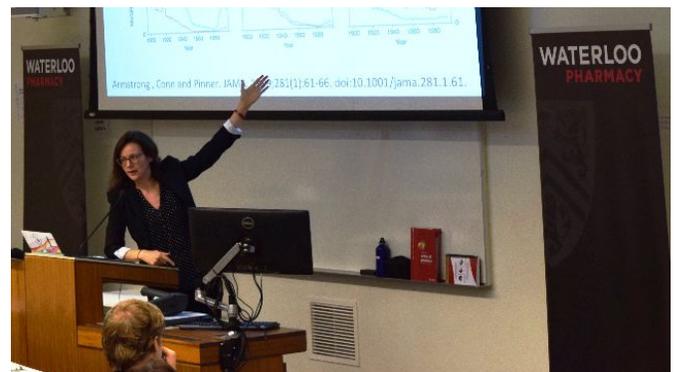


Photo: Kelly Grindrod presenting on the Antibiotic Apocalypse at our annual public lecture.

Nutraceuticals Research Captures Media Attention

Assistant Professor **Paul Spagnuolo** made headlines in publications like the Daily Mail and Time with groundbreaking research published in *Cancer Research*. Dr. Spagnuolo and his team found a lipid in avocados that combats acute myeloid leukemia (AML) by targeting the root of the disease – leukemia stem cells.

Worldwide, there are few drug treatments targeting leukemia stem cells that are available to patients. His lab has partnered with the Centre for Commercialization of Regenerative Medicine to file a patent application for the use of compound, named avocatin B, to treat AML.



Photo: Paul Spagnuolo's lab is researching the use of a lipid in avocados to fight AML.

Patient Care Rotations

A Novel Patient Care Rotation Model through Communities of Practice

This past Fall the School of Pharmacy graduated the first class from its entry-level Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) degree program. The program capstone employs a unique experiential model, in which students complete three eight-week direct patient care rotations in the final eight months of the program. Students are placed in one of 14 regions in Ontario where they are immersed in the region's interconnected health care community – the *Community of Practice (COP)* model. Key to this model is the cross-appointment of 14 Regional Clinical Coordinators (RCCs) who guide and support students, Clinical Preceptors, and other health care professionals within their respective regions. The RCCs, all pharmacists, bring a varied expertise to the experiential team, including hospital practice, primary care, and regulatory affairs. Leveraging this expertise along with regional level contacts, the School has delivered a surplus of high quality clinical rotation practice sites.

The *COP* model and delivering patient care rotations via a regional framework have been very well received. To validate this initial feedback and identify areas for future improvement, the School has undertaken a quality assurance process in the context of a formal thematic analysis, where student and preceptor feedback (qualitative survey responses) are quantified to categorize themes associated with activities that

Publications

Tarek Mohamed, **Praveen P. N. Rao**, Facile approaches toward the synthesis of N4-monosubstituted quinazolin-2,4-diamines. *Tetrahedron Letters* 56, 6882-6885 (2015).

Angeles Ramirez-Cisneros M, Berenice Aguilar-Guadarrama A, **Praveen P. N. Rao**, Rodriguez-Lopez V, Yolanda Rios M. In vitro COX-1 and COX-2 enzyme inhibitory activities of iridoids from *Penstemon barbatus*, *Castilleja tenuiflora*, *Crescentia alata* and *Vitex mollis*. *Bioorganic and Medicinal Chemistry Letters* 25, 4505-4508 (2015).

Lee EA, Angka L, Rota SG, Hanlon T, Mitchell A, Hurren R, Wang XM, Gronda M, Boyaci E, Bojko B, Minden M, Sriskanthadevan S, Datti A, Wrana JL, **Edginton AN**, Pawliszyn J, **Joseph JW**, **Quadrilatero J**, Schimmer AD, **Spagnuolo PA**. Targeting mitochondria with avocatin B induces selective leukemia cell death. *Cancer Research*. 15;75(12):2478-88 (2015).

enhanced learning and areas for further development. In meeting continuous quality improvement standards, the School looks forward to implementing survey recommendations to ensure the ongoing success of this truly innovative experiential model.

Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

Our CPD division continues to offer programs for pharmacists, pharmacy technicians and allied health professionals. Current program offerings include:

- **Drug-Nutrient Interactions:** A unique online learning program for pharmacists, dietitians and other healthcare practitioners that improves your ability to identify, prevent and manage clinically relevant drug-nutrient interactions
- **Orientation to Pharmacy in Long-term Care and Residential Care Facilities:** offered by the Ontario Pharmacists Association (developed with the participation and support of University of Waterloo School of Pharmacy)
- **Management of Oral Anticoagulation Therapy:** offered in partnership with Waterloo Centre for Extended Learning and The Centre for Family Medicine

For more information, visit:

<https://uwaterloo.ca/pharmacy/degrees-and-professional-development/distance-education-continuing-professional-development>

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