

DAWG SCRIPTS

Pharmacy Alumni Association & School of Pharmacy News

SPRING 2013

Building Connections, Strengthening Communities

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Distinguished
Alumnus Award



UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

From the PAA President

DAWG SCRIPTS

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The paper in this issue of Dawg Scripts was made with 10-percent post-consumer waste and manufactured in the Pacific Northwest.



This has been an exciting time for the Pharmacy Alumni Association. Our fall membership drive was a huge success. Our goal was to increase membership by 10 percent, and we flew past that goal and increased it by almost 20 percent! It's great to see the growing support for the PAA and the work we do together with the School of Pharmacy. Membership dues help fund our student scholarships and provide special events, among other things. To join the PAA today, visit sop.washington.edu/paa.

I am also pleased to announce that we have added several new positions to our PAA Board of Directors in order to better serve you. Michael Ayres, '11, joins us as chair of student relations, and will represent the PAA as we develop a student mentoring program. Michael is a clinical pharmacist at Kindred Hospital First Hill. Ryan Oftebro, '03, pharmacist and co-owner of Kelley-Ross Pharmacy, is our new chair of alumni recognition. Ryan recently led the selection committee who picked the 2012 Distinguished Alumni Award winner. [Read about this year's award winner on Page 13.] Longtime PAA board member Judi Mar-Burbidge, '82, '00, and Ben Michaels, '97, '11, a past PAA president, also have become class representatives for alumni who graduated in the 1980s and the 1990s respectively.

The Katterman Lecture also has a new chair. Adam Brothers, '06, a clinical pharmacist in the Bone Marrow Transplant Unit at Seattle Children's Hospital, is making his mark on one of our signature events. Of course, I would like to thank Adam's predecessor, I2P2 Endowed Clinical Professor Don Downing, whose hard work and dedication were instrumental to the Katterman Lecture's success for the past 15 years.

We also have two new pharmacy student representatives on our board from the Class of 2016. Arya Mehr and Nina Sharma eagerly pursued this appointment, and we are grateful to have such enthusiastic students on our team.

We hope you will extend a warm welcome to all of our new board members. If you'd like to get involved, we are still seeking an events chair, membership and marketing chair, Eastern Washington representative, class representatives and an incoming president. Please email rxalumni@uw.edu for more information about these positions.

On another note, for those of you who were able to attend our recent Katterman Lecture, we hope you enjoyed the event's new format — in which the lecture was held at the Museum of Flight in conjunction with the Dean's Recognition Reception. We were so excited to have the UW School of Pharmacy's own Stergachis Family Endowed Director of PORPP Sean Sullivan as the lecture presenter.

And I personally am excited to see just what other developments the PAA will have in store in the near future as we continue to bring in new faces with fresh ideas.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Glasco, '09
President, Pharmacy Alumni Association

From the Dean



In January, the Washington State Office of the Attorney General sent a letter to eight legislative members of the Joint Select Committee on Health Reform Implementation. It included an informal opinion that said: “Pharmacists are health-care providers and must be compensated for services included in the basic health plan that are

within the scope of the pharmacist’s practice.”

It is an opinion pharmacists in this state have been waiting to hear for decades. Because even though pharmacists are trained to provide clinical services, they are primarily reimbursed for filling prescriptions. Which has meant that many patients can’t get their vaccinations, screenings, medication-management reviews or other clinical services covered by their insurance if they want to use their pharmacist for those services.

This prescription-coverage-only reimbursement model for pharmacists was introduced in the fifties when drugs became mass produced and, for a time, people’s reliance on their neighborhood pharmacist as one of their most accessible sources of health information decreased. But in recent decades, patient advocates have been pushing to return to a system in which pharmacists can put their clinical and pharmacological expertise to better use in addition to filling prescriptions. Ultimately, this will make clinical services more available to patients who may not be able to get to a doctor because of scheduling, transportation or other access issues.

We are proud of the many faculty members, students and alumni who have put so much of their own time into lobbying for a change in this reimbursement model. I2P2 Endowed Clinical Professor Don Downing and the Washington State Pharmacy Association, in particular, have

been involved for many years, collaborating with a bipartisan group of legislators to ensure there is a larger understanding of the role pharmacists play in providing health-care. Our colleagues at Washington State University and their pharmacy students have also been closely involved.

Now people in the pharmacy profession nationwide are paying attention to our state in hopes that we will be the first to usher in a new era in pharmacy nationally.

Washington state has long been a trailblazer in moving the pharmacy profession forward — and our School has been a major contributor. It is part of what attracts such a stellar group of students to our program each year. Many of them want the chance to hone their leadership skills while helping shape healthcare and their future profession.

Indeed, our pharmacy students and graduate students have many opportunities to shape healthcare. They work with faculty members who are involved in initiatives and research projects aimed at improving the healthcare delivery model and health outcomes. They benefit from our School’s partnerships with industry leaders who help us ensure our curriculum is always evolving. And they get to be part of a university that emphasizes collaboration across the health professions.

So as the pharmacy profession and healthcare evolve, our School will continue to applaud the many ways our faculty and students are contributing. We will also make sure the next generation of pharmacists and pharmacy researchers are prepared for whatever may await them in their chosen profession.

With regards,

Thomas Baillie, PhD, DSc
Dean

Upcoming Events

NORTHWEST PHARMACY CONVENTION - UW ALUMNI RECEPTION

June 1

5:30 p.m.

Coeur d’Alene Resort
Coeur d’Alene, Idaho

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CYTOCHROME P450

June 18-22

Hosted by the Department of Medicinal Chemistry

UW HUB, Seattle
Visit depts.washington.edu/p450 for more info and to register

DEAN’S CLUB NIGHT AT THE MARINERS

July 10

Mariners vs. Boston Red Sox
Safeco Field, Seattle

Contact: Sarah Egan
(206) 616-7613

rxevents@uw.edu

This event is by invitation only

HOMECOMING ALUMNI SOCIAL

Look for more information soon about our Seattle Homecoming event during the weekend of October 25th.

Contact: Sarah Egan
(206) 616-7613

rxevents@uw.edu

Highlighting Our Community Partnerships & Connections



As a pharmacy school with a mission to improve health, our work extends beyond the classroom. Our faculty and students regularly engage with patients, community members and research subjects in many capacities. As a result, our School has formed wide-ranging collaborations — with rural communities, nonprofits, care centers and more. These partnerships not only provide resources and outreach to people who can benefit from them, but they also help our own students and faculty grow. Three partnerships, profiled herein, offer a snapshot of the relationships we’re building and the work we’re doing to enhance the health of communities and individuals.

The UW/Hearthstone Pharmacy Education & Service Program

In 1989, Professor Emeritus Joy Plein, her late husband, Professor Emeritus Elmer Plein, and four pharmacy students initiated the UW/Hearthstone Pharmacy Education & Service Program. The program, based at Seattle’s Hearthstone Continuing Care Retirement Community, was the result of several months of planning in collaboration with the Hearthstone’s leadership. Its purpose is to provide senior care pharmacy education to UW pharmacy students and medication-therapy consultations for Hearthstone residents and staff.

As of this year, 140 students — including bachelor’s and PharmD

students, residents, and pharmacist postgraduate students — have completed the advanced practice experience courses (or rotations) in senior care at Hearthstone. These students, with faculty preceptor guidance, serve residents in Hearthstone’s three care levels — independent living, assisted living and the skilled nursing facility. Students interview their assigned patients, assess their status, recommend therapy, and counsel patients and staff on medication use. The program emphasizes interprofessional collaboration with Hearthstone staff and providers. It also emphasizes continuity of care for patients.

An introductory pharmacy practice course for second-year PharmD students was introduced at Hearthstone in

2007. Seventy-five students have now completed it.

The UW/Hearthstone Program has provided hundreds of consultations to patients. It has also offered more than 60 educational programs — both in-service programs for staff and medication-related seminars for residents.

In addition to our School’s Hearthstone rotation program, many UW pharmacy students participate in outreach programs there. The UW student chapter of the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists (ASCP), a national senior care pharmacy organization, has conducted osteoporosis screenings for Hearthstone residents. ASCP students also arrange for annual site visits that are hosted by residents and



LEFT: PharmD students counsel a Hearthstone resident at an osteoporosis screening organized by ASCP. **RIGHT:** UW health sciences students provide screenings to attendees at a recent Latina Health Fair.

staff. In addition, some students have conducted or participated in research at Hearthstone. Others have assisted residents in the yearly “Wellness Walk” around Green Lake.

“Interacting with residents at the Hearthstone has been an outstanding experience,” said ASCP member Mitul Patel, ’14. “It’s great to get this understanding of the geriatric population and how I can serve them in my career.”

Hundreds of Hearthstone residents have benefitted from our School’s involvement over the years. Indeed, many residents credit the School of Pharmacy’s program with helping them identify potential medication issues and with the improvement of their health.

The UW/Hearthstone Pharmacy Program was honored by LeadingAge Washington with its 2012 Leading-Edge Care and Services Award. This award recognizes programs that are models of innovation and excellence and that contribute significantly to the quality of life for the individuals.

Plein credits the Hearthstone staff, administration and residents for the role they play in educating our students. They have been essential to the success of this partnership.

“Among the UW/Hearthstone Pharmacy Program’s important legacies,”

said Plein, “is that many of our former students have become preceptors or clinical faculty themselves. And some of them have become both.”

Latina Health Fair Collaboration

In 2005, faculty and students from our School started volunteering at the Latina Health Fair. This fair is a community event for the region’s Spanish-speaking population. Initially geared toward women, it is now open to men and families. Run by the nonprofit Sea Mar Community Health Centers, the annual event provides education, resources and screenings to 300 to 500 attendees.

At the event, our pharmacy students, under the guidance of I2P2 Endowed Clinical Professor Don Downing, worked at a booth alongside health sciences students from the UW student organization SPARX (Student Providers Aspiring to Rural/underserved eXperiences). All told, they offered blood pressure, body-mass index, hypertension and cholesterol screenings as well as health information to more than 200 people.

Our School has continued to participate in and provide financial support to the Latina Health Fair every year since then. Dozens of our students, fac-

ulty and alumni preceptors volunteer. Our students partner with UW dental, medical, nursing and physician assistant students in this work.

Luis Ramos, ’10, volunteered at the Latina Health Fair throughout his time as a student and has continued his involvement since graduating. In fact, Ramos — now a pharmacist and co-adviser to our student chapter of the Student National Pharmaceutical Association — has joined the fair’s organizing committee and helped enhance the services UW students offer at the event.

“We’ve grown our program so we now can triage attendees during the fair,” said Ramos. “Depending on the results of their screenings, the participants can talk to a student for more information, see a Sea Mar provider, or get referrals to establish primary care with providers at one of Sea Mar’s clinics.”

Attendees can also get dental, vision and foot care at the fair. Women can get mammograms and cervical cancer screenings.

“The majority of people who attend this event don’t have health insurance,” said Ramos. “So I am proud of how the fair opens doors to access to healthcare for people who may not otherwise have many resources.”

For example, some participants

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Drug Interaction Database Continues to Grow

In 2012, the UW's Metabolism and Transport Drug Interaction Database (DIDB), housed in our Department of Pharmaceutics, celebrated 10 successful years.

The database is a web-based research tool for scientists from academia, government and the pharmaceutical industry who work in drug discovery and development. It was founded by Rene Levy, professor emeritus and former chair of pharmaceutics.

The database compiles and analyzes published data and regulatory reviews about new and commercialized drugs and drug interactions. In so doing, it allows scientists to better understand the potential risks of the medications they're developing.

In the past few years, the DIDB has had several new developments. Many new companies, research organizations and academic departments have become members. It is currently used by over 60 companies worldwide. The database has expanded its content to include clinical data related to renal or hepatic impaired function and drug exposure. Further, in early 2013, the DIDB Program launched a database focused on pharmacogenetics (or personalized medicine).



The original DIDB co-founders, from left: Isabelle Ragueneau-Majlessi, Sonia Carlson, Rene Levy and Houda Hachad

As a result of these developments, the DIDB platform is now the largest repository of manually curated in vitro and in vivo data related to drug-drug, disease-drug and pharmacogenetics-drug interactions in humans. It allows users to predict drug interactions beyond the reported observations and identify optimal therapeutic options.

"It has been an amazing experience to see the use of the DIDB expand over the years and to witness the impact the program is having on scientific research in the field of drug interactions," said DIDB Director Isabelle Ragueneau-Majlessi. "The DIDB is a remarkable

platform for scientific collaboration, and we greatly enjoy working with colleagues from around the world."

The program, which has grown its team, is continuing to develop its technology to strengthen the platform for users. In addition, it is involved in multiple collaborative projects with scientists across the UW as well as at external institutions.

Dean Tom Baillie has had cause to use the database as a scientist from an external institution. In fact, he was the first-ever scientist to sign up for database membership when he previously worked in drug metabolism at Merck.

"It is no surprise to me that our DIDB program has been so successful," said Baillie. "From day one, under the leadership of Dr. Levy, it was an excellent resource for scientists. And now under the leadership of Dr. Ragueneau-Majlessi, the program continues to play a vital role in our School and in the research community."

On the larger scale, the School of Pharmacy's Drug Interaction Database Program is helping ensure safer, more effective medicines are getting to the people who need them. 🌐

Introducing A New School of Pharmacy Database

The Pharmaceutical Outcomes Research & Policy Program recently launched the Performance Based Risk Sharing (PBRs) Database. It is a web database containing details about performance-based risk-sharing schemes, which are a kind of arrangement between medical product manufacturers and healthcare payers (i.e. insurers). In these arrangements, coverage and reimbursement levels are tied to future performance of the product in research or clinical practice. PBRs arrangements allow payers to control costs, ensure value and provide access to important medical products. They allow manufacturers to secure timely market access and global product pricing strategies.

Essentially, the information provided in the database helps its subscribers assess what types of arrangements have been implemented, the results of arrangements to date, and how to develop future arrangements for their medical products. The database, which is in its pilot phase, currently has a handful of subscribers and pending subscribers from pharmaceutical research and biotechnology companies. The long-term goal is to be a widely used tool by companies seeking information about this innovative form of coverage and reimbursement.

To find out more, visit c4c.uwc4c.com and scroll down the page to the PBRs database link.

School & Faculty News

The National Association of Chain Drug Stores Foundation awarded \$1,000 to the School of Pharmacy for its proposal to sponsor a health fair supporting the Million Hearts/NACDS Foundation "Heart to Heart Community Health Fairs."

The Pharmaceutical Outcomes Research & Policy Program (PORPP) received a grant from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality to launch a full-time, two-year institutional career development training program that provides training for three scholars in the patient-centered outcomes research field.

Josh Akers, clinical affiliate faculty member and pharmacy manager at Kelley-Ross Pharmacy at the Polyclinic, has been named the UW School of Pharmacy IPPE Preceptor of the Year.

Professor of Medicinal Chemistry **Carlos Catalano** received a Volunteer Recognition Award at the UW Health Sciences 2013 Martin Luther King, Jr. Tribute.



Lingtak -Neander Chan receiving his ASPEN award from ASPEN President-Elect Ainsley Malone

Associate Professor of Pharmacy **Lingtak-Neander Chan** recently received the Distinguished Nutrition Support Pharmacist Service Award from the American Society of Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition (ASPEN).

Professor of Pharmacy **Shelly Gray** was appointed

vice chair for curriculum and instruction in the Department of Pharmacy, a role supporting the instructional mission of the department to facilitate excellent educational outcomes.

Ryan Hansen was appointed acting assistant professor in the Department of Pharmacy and selected to be a K12 PCOR Scholar.

A paper published in *Clinical Pharmacology & Therapeutics* by faculty members **Mary Hebert**, **Yvonne Lin**, **Danny Shen** and **Ken Thummel**, and alumnus **Songmao "Ben" Zheng**, '12, was featured on the journal's "Top Ten Most Viewed Papers" list.

Professor of Pharmaceutics **Rodney Ho** has received the Research Achievement Award in Biotechnology from the American Association for Pharmaceutical Scientists.

Associate Professor of Pharmaceutics **Nina Isoherranen** received the Drug Metabolism Division Early Career Achievement Award from the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics.

Adjunct Professor of Pharmacy **Andy Stergachis** has been elected to the Institute of Medicine, one of the highest honors in health and medicine.

Stergachis Endowed Professor and Director of PORPP **Sean Sullivan** was named to the Rho Chi Society Alumni Honor Roll.

Special Note: The late **Sid Nelson**, dean emeritus and professor of medicinal chemistry, recently received two posthumous awards — an *American College of Apothecaries Dean's Recognition Award* and a *Washington State Pharmacy Association Distinguished Leadership Award*.



Nikki Klatt

Pharmaceutics Welcomes New Faculty Member

Nikki Klatt recently joined the Department of Pharmaceutics faculty as an assistant professor. The focus of her work is on biotherapeutics in infectious diseases and global health.

Klatt received her PhD in immunology and molecular pathogenesis from Emory University in 2008, and she also studied as a visiting fellow at the University of Pennsylvania from 2006 to 2008. She completed her postdoctoral training at the National Institutes of Health in 2012 in the Laboratory of Molecular Microbiology, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases in Bethesda, Maryland.

The Klatt Research Lab in the Department of Pharmaceutics focuses on better understanding the mechanisms by which HIV infection causes dysfunction of the gastrointestinal and reproductive tract immune systems. Klatt is focusing on using this knowledge to develop novel therapeutic interventions to prevent transmission of HIV and to treat HIV-associated disease. 🌟

“Script Your Future” Challenge Emphasizes Medication Adherence



A group of UW health sciences students and their nursing preceptor at a February outreach event on the UW campus.

Three out of four Americans with chronic health conditions such as diabetes and heart disease don't take their medications as directed. This can lead to serious complications or to hospital admissions.

Pharmacists are essential in helping ensure that patients take their medications as directed. This past February, a group of pharmacy students got proactive in getting the message out about medication adherence. They participated in the Script Your Future Campaign Medication Adherence Team Challenge.

The Script Your Future Campaign, sponsored by the nonprofit National Consumers League, seeks to raise awareness about the importance of taking medications as directed. The Medication Adherence Team Challenge was a month-long project enlisting student pharmacists and other health sciences students to offer creative solutions to raise awareness about this public health issue.

Our students took the Script Your Future message to several community outreach programs. They worked with UW dental, medical, nursing and public health students on these endeavors. One outreach program they participated in was the Wear Red Day campaign, a national event focused on heart disease prevention in women. More than 140 people on the UW campus received blood pressure screenings and 100 people received health information. The team also

offered screenings and medication adherence information to residents of Legacy House, a senior living community in the International District.

In addition, the students created a public service announcement for YouTube. The video features health sciences students encouraging viewers to take the pledge to talk to their healthcare providers about their medications. It has had many views. [See it at sop.washington.edu/videos/.]

“Participating in this challenge helped me better understand how difficult it can be to manage chronic health conditions because of factors like resources, language barriers and health literacy,” said Eva Linh, '15, one of the student organizers. “It also made me think more about how student pharmacists can address this issue by collaborating with interprofessional teams to educate the community.”

Our students successfully raised awareness within multiple communities about medication adherence. And they were inspired to keep getting the word out in as many ways as they can. 🐾

Staff Member and Her Dog Bring Comfort to Countless Patients



Kathy Hobson with Mason

Last year, Pharmaceutics Graduate Student Adviser Kathy Hobson worked with her dog Mason to get him certified as a therapy dog. The sweet-natured Australian shepherd now brings joy to hospital patients throughout the region. Hobson regularly takes Mason to visit patients at places including the Veteran's Hospital, Ronald McDonald House and the UW Medical Center. In fact, Hobson's work with Mason was recently honored at the UW Medical Center Annual Volunteer Awards Luncheon. Mason is one of only two therapy dogs who visit patients at UW Medical Center, and the two animals were featured in a slideshow during the program.

Animal assistance therapy is a growing trend in patient care. Research has shown that when animals are around, people's blood pressure goes down, anxiety levels are reduced, and people forget about their pain. What's more, the presence of animals can distract pediatric patients so nurses are better able to perform check-ups.

Although Hobson gives the credit to Mason for his work with patients (and by “work,” we mean adorable bonding), she volunteers with him five hours a week, driving him all over the region. She also takes Mason to the “Reading with Rover” program at area bookstores. Reading with Rover helps children gain literacy skills and confidence by reading in a safe environment in front of dogs.

Of course, many School of Pharmacy faculty and staff members also love when Mason comes to visit. There's nothing like a happy dog — and the sight of one's co-workers sitting on the floor playing with a four-legged friend — to re-energize the work day.

Student News

This past October, nearly 450 UW health sciences students convened as teams to apply their diverse skills in a medical scenario. Groups consisted of first-year physician assistant students, second-year pharmacy and medical students, and senior nursing students. This was one of a series of large-scale interprofessional skills training events for UW health sciences students.

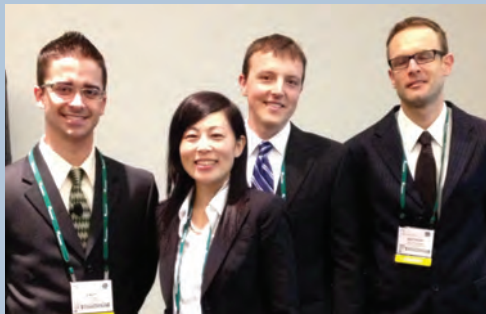
Our student chapter of the American Pharmacists Association (APhA)-Academy of Student Pharmacists received the first runner-up Chapter Achievement Award in the AA Division at the APhA annual meeting in Los Angeles in March.

Two pharmacy student groups — the Unified Professional Pharmacy Organizations of Washington and Kappa Psi — raised more than \$1,300 for the Seattle Step Out Walk and South End Step Out Walk to Stop Diabetes.

UW Health Services graduate student **Jeanette Birnbaum** won this year's Pharmaceutical Outcomes Research & Policy Program (PORPP) Endowed Prize in Health and Economics for her paper on comparative effectiveness of biomarkers for cancer treatment targeting. Birnbaum collaborated with PORPP faculty member **Josh Carlson** on this research.

William Canestaro, a graduate student in PORPP,

has been named a 2013 UW Magnuson Scholar for his academic performance and potential contributions to research in the health sciences.



Zach Hren, Xiaocui "Karen" Sun, Nick Clayville and Anthony Hager at the AMCP Annual Meeting in San Diego.

Third-year PharmD students **Nick Clayville, Anthony Hager, Zach Hren** and **Xiaocui "Karen" Sun** were finalists in the Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy (AMCP) Pharmacy & Therapeutics Competition. The team was one of eight teams to compete nationally at the AMCP Annual Meeting in San Diego in April. This is the fifth time in five years that a UW team has made it to the national competition.

Third-year PharmD student **Laura Hart** has been named a Paul Ambrose Scholar, which will allow for her to attend a public health symposium in Washington, DC, this summer. As part of the scholarship, she will implement a public health

project in our region with her faculty mentor, Associate Dean **Nanci Murphy**. Hart was also named a Walmart Scholar. As a Walmart Scholar, she and her faculty mentor, Senior Lecturer **Dana Hammer**, will receive a scholarship to attend the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy Annual Meeting in Chicago in July.

Pharmaceutics graduate student **Nora Lee** received a travel award to attend the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics Annual Experimental Biology 2013 Meeting in Boston in April.

PORPP graduate student **Cara McDermott** presented a poster, "Evaluation of a lecture on hospice care for PharmD students," at the American College of Clinical Pharmacy Annual Meeting. **Dana Hammer** was the co-author.

Pharmaceutics graduate student **Jessica Tay** received a second place award for her poster presentation in the Predoctoral Awards Competition at the International Society for the Study of Xenobiotics (ISSX) conference.

Pharmaceutics graduate student **Jenna Voellinger** received a third place award for her poster presentation in the Predoctoral Awards Competition at the ISSX conference.

Plein Endowed Research Fund Proposals are due July 1.

Apply for one of three awards ranging from \$500 to \$5,000.
sop.washington.edu/pleinfund

Class Notes

1970-1979

Beverly Schaefer, '70, was named Washington State Pharmacist of the Year by the Washington State Pharmacy Association (WSPA).

1980-1989

The UW Medical Center/Seattle Cancer Care Alliance Anticoagulation Services Program — led by **Ann Wittkowsky**, '88 — was designated a Center of Excellence by the Anticoagulation Forum. This honor goes to programs that provide the highest level of comprehensive care and achieve the best possible health outcomes for patients.

1990-1999

Jim's Pharmacy, owned by **Joe Cammack**, '94, received a Medallion Award for community engagement from the National Association of Secretaries of State.

Vandana Slatter, '90, Amgen Senior Medical Liaison, is running for Bellevue City Council.

2000-2009

Brian Beach, '00, and **Jennifer Beach**, '01, welcomed their second child, Rose Belle Beach, on November 6th, 2012.



Rose Belle Beach

Jennifer Kreidler-Moss, '01, received the WSPA Innovative Pharmacy Practice Award.

Ryan Oftebro, '03, received the WSPA Distinguished Young Pharmacist of the Year Award, sponsored by Pharmacists Mutual.

2010-Present

Joseph Babigumira, PhD, '11, received a grant from the UW

School of Public Health and the UW Center for AIDS Research for a pilot study examining how monetary and non-monetary incentives influence the rate of circumcision among males in Uganda, thereby reducing their risk of contracting HIV.

Special Congratulations:

Herb Bridge, U.S. Navy Rear Admiral retired, was chosen as the inaugural winner of the UW Distinguished Alumni Veterans Award! Bridge, '47, an alumnus of the UW College of Arts and Sciences, is a long-time friend and supporter of the School of Pharmacy. His late wife, Shirley Bridge, '45, was a trailblazer for women in pharmacy in our state.

Let us know what's new in your life. Please send us an email with updates and photos to rxalumni@uw.edu.

Did You Know? Councilman Who Started Streetcar Line Was Alum



Benson Trolley, circa 1994
(Photo courtesy of Wikimedia Commons)

The *Puget Sound Business Journal* recently reported that the Seattle Department of Transportation is considering bringing the Benson Waterfront Trolley back to downtown Seattle.

The two-mile Benson line used to run from Pioneer Square to Myrtle Edwards Park on the waterfront. George

Benson, the late city councilman, was behind bringing the trolleys to town in 1982.

Benson also happened to be a School of Pharmacy alumnus, graduating in 1947. He worked in many pharmacies during his life, including running the Mission Street Pharmacy on Capitol Hill with his wife, Evelyn, a 1950 School of Pharmacy graduate.

George Benson was a five-term Seattle City Council member from 1974 to 1994. He made many positive contributions to the city, including starting one of the of the country's first "vintage rail" systems, which ran until 2005. George Benson passed away in 2004, two years after Evelyn.

Today, according to the *Business Journal*, a retired director of King

County Metro is working to resurrect the Benson Streetcar as Seattle looks to make changes when a tunnel replaces the waterfront viaduct. Some high-profile people are supporting the cause, including former Gov. Dan Evans.

Ultimately, it's unknown whether the Benson streetcar line will ever grace Seattle streets again. But regardless of what happens, the School of Pharmacy remains proud of our connection with this piece of Seattle history.

George and Evelyn Benson were proud UW School of Pharmacy alumni who founded the Benson "Golden Pharmacists" Endowed Fund at our School. You can read more about their fund at sop.washington.edu/support. 😊

Alumni Profile: Dave Porubek, PhD in Medicinal Chemistry

When Dave Porubek was pursuing his PhD in medicinal chemistry at our School, he didn't quite grasp the complexities involved in bringing a drug to market. He remembers getting his first patent when working in the lab of his adviser, the late Professor Sid Nelson.

"I was so naïve and so excited," said Porubek. "I thought, 'I'll get a patent and a drug will result.' I now know, of course, that having an interesting drug candidate and actually getting it to market is much more involved than that."

This just made him more interested in working in a field that seeks to find medicines that can make it to patients who can benefit from them.

After getting his PhD in 1984, he received a postdoctoral fellowship at the Karolinska Institute in Sweden. Afterward, he returned to our School to serve as a postdoctoral fellow in the lab of then-Professor of Medicinal Chemistry (and now School of Pharmacy Dean)



Dave Porubek

Tom Baillie. He then went to work for several area research companies — many of which focused on cancer drug development. He has worked in roles from research scientist to project manager at places including Cell Therapeutics, Pathogenesis Corp. and OncoGenex. He is currently a research consultant.

Porubek loves being part of this city's cancer research community. "There has been so much growth in cancer therapeutics that it's fascinating to see the diversity of drugs we now have,"

Porubek said. "It's exciting to think that we're approaching the possibility of moving cancer from being a fatal disease to a treatable disease."

He is proud that his UW degree has allowed him to be part of such important research. He credits many Department of Medicinal Chemistry faculty mentors for their guidance and friendship over the years.

Indeed, it is Porubek who was called in to teach Sid Nelson's classes after Nelson passed away unexpectedly in December 2011. "Although it's heartbreaking, it is an honor to be asked to do this," he said. "It is humbling to take what Sid taught me and share it with other students."

From his own time as a student, Porubek has fond memories of playing softball with faculty (including Nelson) and grad students and hanging out at the College Inn Pub. He is glad that, to that end, some things don't change. 🍷

Teaching Fifth Graders About the World of Pharmacy

In February, our School welcomed students from Eton Montessori School in Bellevue. The students learned about pharmacy practice from faculty member Shanna O'Connor and a group of pharmacy students. They also learned how to compound lactose capsules.

O'Connor collaborated with teacher Pete Kashevarof on a curriculum for the field trip. It re-emphasized or clarified topics the students had learned in science class earlier in the year.

"We also talked to the kids about the importance of science and math at their age if they are interested in a career in the health sciences," said O'Connor.

The students toured the university campus, as well.

"They were impressed with the campus, and many stated they had plans to attend the UW in the future," said O'Connor.



PHOTOS AT LEFT: PharmD students teach elementary school students and their chaperones how to compound lactose capsules. (The field trip students were, of course, instructed to dispose of the pills properly afterward.) **ABOVE:** A student shows off the finished product.

Alumni & Friends: Out & About

Pharmacy Legislative Day Washington State Capitol Building, February 27, 2013



Pharmacy students and faculty members from the UW and WSU are joined by pharmacy practitioners and alumni in Olympia at this annual event sponsored by the Washington State Pharmacy Association.

Dean's Club VIP Reception

Columbia Tower Club, February 28, 2013



LEFT: L to R: Clinical Associate Professor Suzanne Lee, '88, '01, Dean Thomas Baillie, Kathleen Baillie, '93, '97, and Professor of Pharmacy Gail Anderson, '78, '81, '87. **RIGHT:** L to R: Carol Carnahan, '80, and Bill Fisher, '76, both of the Bartell Drug Company.



Alums Connect at Company Meeting

Donna Cook, '96 (left) sent us this photo of her and two other alumni at a training at Amgen Headquarters in California in March. With Cook in this photo are, from left, Vandana Slatter, '90, and Jessie Thomas, '89, '96. All three of them are Amgen Senior Regional Medical Liaisons — Cook and Slatter in the Metabolic Bone Disease area in North Carolina and Seattle respectively; Thomas in Health Outcomes and Pharmacoeconomics in New Jersey.



Do you have your own photos with fellow alumni? Email event photos and captions to us at rxalumni@uw.edu

UPPOW Auction

UW South Campus Center, April 5, 2013



PharmD students and guests socialize at this annual event that serves as a fundraiser for the Unified Professional Pharmacy Organizations of Washington.



Rochon is This Year's Distinguished Alumnus

The 2012 Distinguished Alumnus in Pharmacy Practice is Jeff Rochon, Washington State Pharmacy Association (WSPA) Chief Executive Officer.

"It is an honor to receive this award," said Rochon. "I am humbled, and I am grateful for the guidance of so many mentors along the way who have afforded me the opportunity to do what I love every day."

Rochon received his PharmD in 1999. As a student, he co-founded and was the first president of the Unified Professional Pharmacy Organizations of Washington (UPPOW) — the UW's student pharmacy organization that is now nationally recognized.

Since graduation, Rochon has devoted his career to finding innovative ways to enhance pharmacy practice. At Kelley-Ross Pharmacy, he helped develop immunization and chronic disease state screening and management programs. At the Polyclinic, he developed and ran an anticoagulation clinic using prescriptive authority through the collaborative drug therapy agreement.

In 2002, Rochon joined the WSPA as director of professional development.



Jeff Rochon

He became CEO in 2008. His accomplishments at the WSPA include advocating in Olympia on behalf of patients, implementing statewide medication-therapy management programs and strengthening relationships with entities like the Washington State Department of Health.

"Jeff has been a pharmacy leader since the day he entered school," said I2P2 Clinical Endowed Professor Don Downing, who has collaborated with Rochon on efforts to enhance pharmacy practice. "He is a change agent, and I look forward to seeing what else he accomplishes on behalf of pharmacists."

Rochon's long list of academic

presentations covers topics including community health screenings and payment for pharmacy care services. He has lectured on such topics at our School as well as at multiple national, regional and state conventions. He has held multiple positions with the American Pharmacists Association. In 2004, he was named WSPA's Distinguished Young Pharmacist of the Year.

Rochon has also served as a board member of the Pharmacy Alumni Association and the UW Alumni Association. He lobbies for higher education funding as a board member of the non-profit advocacy organization UW Impact. He is on our School's Pharmacy Practice Board. What's more, Rochon regularly attends and volunteers at UW PharmD student fundraisers and other outreach activities to support the next generation of pharmacists.

Jeff Rochon is a tireless advocate for enhancing pharmacy practice and improving patient care. And he is devoted to the School of Pharmacy's faculty and students. For these reasons and more, we are proud to call him our newest Distinguished Alumnus. 🍷

In Memoriam



Lars Hennem

Lars Hennem, '43, passed away on April 1, 2013.

The child of Norwegian immigrants, he attended Lincoln High, received a BS in

pharmacy from the UW, and did graduate study in bacteriology. He played oboe in the UW Concert Band, the University Symphony and the Seattle Philharmonic Orchestra, where he met his first wife, Mary Hennem.

He worked as a pharmacist, as a negotiator for the Retail Clerk's union, as a state lobbyist and on the Washington State Board of Pharmacy. He was named the 1984 UW School of Pharmacy Distinguished Alumnus.

Lars and Mary owned a store in Lynden, built a house in Edmonds and raised three sons. Divorced in 1970, he remarried Claire Green in 1974, enjoying happy years of culture, socializing and gardening.

After retiring, he remained active in issues of healthcare and aging into his 80s, always advocating for the unfortunate, serving as president of the Washington State Council for Senior Citizens and as president of the Resident's Council at Horizon House.

Lars created the Claire and Lars Hennem Endowed Scholarship for Pharmacy Leadership at the UW to provide financial assistance to pharmacy students.

He is survived in the next generation by Joany and Robert, Vaughan and Martha, Nels, and Erik and Carol; in the following generation by Susan, Barbara, Claudia, Miranda, Taylor and Mia.



Stephen Setter

The School of Pharmacy would like to pay tribute to **Stephen Setter**, a colleague from Washington State University who collaborated with many of

our faculty members and alumni over the years. He passed away in March.

Steve received his PharmD degree from Washington State University in 1996. He completed a Geriatrics Fellowship at Elder Services in 1997. He was a WSU faculty member for 15 years, and he started their College of Pharmacy's Geriatrics Team. That team has long worked closely with members of our School's Geriatric Program.

He was a well-respected researcher with significant expertise in diabetes and in caring for complex older patients. As a pharmacist, Steve loved caring for his "golden age" patients, as he called them. He worked with Elder Services in Spokane, providing training to numerous students and residents. He served as a pharmacy consultant to the Parkinson's Resource Center of Spokane and the Inland Northwest Alzheimer's Association.

In 2001, he was named the Washington State Pharmacy Association Pharmacist of the Year. He was an inspiration to geriatric pharmacists throughout the state.

Steve is survived by his parents, Thomas and Shirley; daughters Courtney and McKenzie; siblings, Mike Setter of Minnesota, Michele Morrison of Michigan, Barb McCarthy of Ohio, Mary Sloan of Utah and Karen.



Lyle Wellman

Lyle Wellman, '32, of Escondido, California passed away in May 2012 at age 100.

Lyle was born on April 30, 1912 in Terra Haute, Indiana. Lyle was

the second of five children.

After the family relocated to Index, Washington, Lyle graduated at 16 years old from Mt. Index High School. He attended the UW in Seattle and graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Pharmacy in 1932.

He married Roberta Norris Wellman and had two children, Sandra Wellman Heberling and Lee Allen Wellman. He later married Margaret Newson Wellman and had two children, Barbara Wellman Mason and Kathleen Wellman Doorly. Many years later, he married Grace Oliver Wellman.

Lyle was licensed by Washington State in 1933 and began his career as a registered pharmacist. In 1935, he joined Abbott Laboratories, of North Chicago, Illinois and remained there until 1945. After World War II, he moved to Portland, Oregon to work for Haack Pharmaceutical.

In 1949, Lyle moved to Seattle, where he co-founded Kirkman Laboratories. He later moved to California in 1969 where he worked in the pharmaceutical business until his retirement at the age of 70. In 1987, he moved to Desert Hot Springs, California.

Lyle is survived by his brother, Arnold Wellman; his children, eight grandchildren, several great-grandchildren, and a great-great-grandchild.

have come to the fair in past years and learned they have high blood pressure or cholesterol. They were able to see a primary care provider and take steps to improve their health thanks to their participation in the fair.

Ramos notes that he is also proud of how this event offers our students the chance to enrich their learning and to work with underserved communities.

The 2013 Latina Health Fair will take place on May 18th

Tribal Council members in a rural Yup'ik community discuss research progress and findings at a meeting with NWA-PGRN partners from the Center on Alaska Native Health Research.



Northwest-Alaska Pharmacogenomics Research Network

In 2009, Professor and Chair of Pharmaceutics Ken Thummel and Professor and Chair of Bioethics and Humanities Wylie Burke received a \$10 million, multi-year NIH grant to create a center to study pharmacogenomics in American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) and rural Pacific Northwest populations. Through the grant, they founded the Northwest-Alaska Pharmacogenomics Research Network (NWA-PGRN). Researchers from across the UW — including from our departments of pharmaceutics and medicinal chemistry — are working with tribes, partner universities, research institutes and health providers on this project.

NWA-PGRN is researching the use of genetics to guide the effective use of medicine. One research goal is to assess how gene variation contributes to the pharmacological response to the blood thinner warfarin, the anti-estrogen tamoxifen and the immunosuppressive drug tacrolimus. Another area of focus is whether dietary factors impact hereditary associations related to warfarin. For example, many Yup'ik people eat a diet rich in polyunsaturated fatty acids and low in commercial green vegetables — which might contribute to changes in

blood clotting and warfarin dosing.

In addition to the research goals, the grant seeks to support community-university research partnerships. Tribal communities have historically been overlooked in health-related research. Regrettably, when they were included, the research was often conducted without their input or oversight, and with little data sharing afterward.

“Given this history, a major component of our work is to restore trust between research communities and tribal communities,” said Thummel. “We are doing this not only by working with tribal elders and members and their healthcare providers, and seeking their input on procedures, but also by being as transparent as possible.”

As part of that transparency, the PGRN has organized two conferences focused on understanding the parameters of strong university-community partnerships. The Pathways to Trust meeting, held in 2012, was a forum for

discussing appropriate approaches to data sharing. The PGRN has also formed advisory groups with Alaska's Yup'ik people and Montana's Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes. Tribal members have attended workshops focused on genetics, aided by American Indian scholars who have developed culturally anchored educational programs.

The NWA-PGRN team brings together diverse expertise, and includes researchers who are members of AI/AN communities as well as researchers experienced in building community partnerships. The program also supports several graduate students, including Joe Yrache-ta in the Thummel Lab, a member of the P'urhépecha (Tarascan) and Raramuri (Tarahumara) Tribes of Mexico. Yrache-ta and other AI/AN grad students on the project are learning to build research partnerships while developing scientific research skills

Burke and Thummel know they need to take a long-term approach to this project — not just in terms of research but also in terms of building trust among AI/AN communities. Their motivation, however, is simple.

“Discoveries in pharmacogenetics that can contribute to improvements in drug efficacy and safety should benefit all the people living in our region,” said Burke. 😊

Find Out More

Hearthstone Retirement Community:

www.hearthstone.org

Latina Health Fair:

womenshealth.gov/nwhw/events

**NWA Pharmacogenomics
Research Network:**

sop.washington.edu/pgrn



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Sid Nelson Endowed Professor is Bill Atkins

In a fitting tribute to our late colleague, mentor and friend, the School of Pharmacy is humbled to share that we have formally established the Sid Nelson Endowed Professorship in Drug Metabolism. The seeds for the professorship were sown in December 2011, after our much-loved Professor of Medicinal Chemistry and Dean Emeritus passed away suddenly. Our community rallied together to honor Sid's life and contributions to the School by creating the Sid Nelson Memorial Fund. The memorial fund later became the Endowed Nelson Professorship — a fund that we hope to eventually turn into a more substantial endowed fund in honor of Sid.

The recipient of this professorship is a distinguished faculty member in the field of drug metabolism — Professor of Medicinal Chemistry Bill Atkins.

Bill Atkins earned his bachelor's in chemistry with honors from The College of William & Mary, his master's in pharmacology from Harvard Univer-



Bill Atkins

sity and his PhD in biochemistry from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. From 1988 to 1991, he performed postdoctoral research in the Department of Chemistry at The Pennsylvania State University as a National Institutes of Health Kirschstein Fellow.

He has been on our Department of Medicinal Chemistry faculty since 1991. His research focuses on the biochemical nature of detoxification enzymes and on drug metabolism, with emphasis on biophysical mechanisms.

He has been awarded NIH grants for research on several enzyme systems. Recent research also includes characterization of nanoparticles for drug delivery and targeted therapy.

“This is the first named professorship to be established in the Department of Medicinal Chemistry,” said Dean Tom Baillie. “I am delighted that we can pay tribute to Sid in this way thanks to the generosity of our donors.”

Baillie also notes that Atkins, who was a colleague of and co-author with Nelson for two decades, will carry on Nelson's legacy well. He possesses the devotion to research and education that were hallmarks of Sid's career.

For his part, Bill Atkins is honored to be the inaugural recipient of this professorship that pays tribute to the life and work of a friend who we all miss deeply.

To read more about Sid Nelson's life and to make a gift in his honor, visit sop.washington.edu/remembersid. 