Entrepreneurial Spirit

UF Pharmacy Family Puts Patient Care First

GATOR
University of Florida College of Pharmacy | Spring 2005
In April 2005, we will be dedicating the new CVS/pharmacy Education Center of the University of Florida College of Pharmacy at St. Petersburg College. It will be an exciting time as our distance campus programs continue to grow and mature. We will be admitting our fourth class to completely “build out” the campuses in St. Petersburg, Orlando and Jacksonville. Our students are doing great things academically and professionally. I could not be more proud of their accomplishments!

As we tour the new building in St. Petersburg, we will see a new skills laboratory that is a miniature of the skills lab we have in our new building in Gainesville. It will have a model pharmacy and stations used for compounding. We have an increasing presence in our curriculum for compounding and those practices that seem to be providing a niche area of specialty for pharmacy. Our students are interested in many areas of pharmacy but we see an increasing desire among our students for preparation to own their own business.

Along with those interests, the college has successfully conducted its inaugural Institute for Pharmacy Entrepreneurs which hosted 85 participants. The Institute was designed to bring pharmacy owners who are contemplating an “exit strategy” for retirement together with pharmacists interested in ownership. Educational tracks were developed for each group and social events allowed for the participants to become acquainted. The college has been fortunate to appoint Brian Kahan, Kahan & Associates, P.L., as the new Director of the Institute. Plans for a second institute are underway.

Along with our growing first-professional-degree program, we continue to have significant growth in the Working Professional Pharm.D. program. Since 1997, we have graduated more than 700 Pharm.D. students from the program. We add approximately 200 new students each year. This year, we have new students located in Korea. Korea is moving toward the Pharm.D. degree as the entry level practice degree and the baccalaureate pharmacy graduates there have asked for our program to help them prepare for the change. Our first class of German students will graduate this May. The college has truly developed a global outreach to pharmacist wishing to have the skills associated with the Pharm.D. with the intent purpose of using those skills in their own country. It is exciting to see our vision of pharmaceutical care moving worldwide.

Our faculty continue to be productive in research. The college is now ranked number 13 in total NIH funding among all colleges and schools of pharmacy. This ranking puts us ahead of such notable schools as Purdue, Ohio State, Kentucky, UNC Chapel Hill, Minnesota, University of Texas, Austin, University of Wisconsin, University of Maryland and the University of Michigan among others. We won’t stop there! The faculty continue to work hard every day educating future scientists and our professional students while at the same time producing research that will change the world we live in.

I continue to be proud to be the dean of such a wonderful college. The faculty, staff and students are among the best anywhere. We also want to thank our alumni for their continued support of our programs. Go Gators!!!

William H. Riffee, Ph.D.
Associate Provost for Distance, Continuing & Executive Education
Dean, College of Pharmacy
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The College of Pharmacy skills lab is filled on random weekends with bustling pharmacists in lab coats, mixing, measuring, and weighing ingredients — beakers and burners ready at hand. The state-of-the-art facility used to train beginning pharmacy students now is also a training facility for experienced pharmacists mixing-up medical compounds.

A pharmacist's role of preparing drug mixtures and ointments and recording their own formulas, or compounding, dates back to early civilization, when a mortar and pestle was a primary tool of the trade. The Latin phrase *Secundum Artem* — “to make favorably with skill” — was used to describe the task of combining medicines to address a patient's particular needs. The familiar symbol Rx, still used today, comes from the Latin abbreviation for “recipe.”

But with the Industrial Revolution came the founding of pharmaceutical companies, which manufactured drugs in mass quantities. The modern pharmacist's role shifted from mixing to distributing. The number of pharmacists practicing compounding began to decline by the 1940s. Even so, 60 percent of prescriptions dispensed required skill in compounding to prepare pills, powders, ointments and medicated waters.

Today, the pharmacy profession is returning to its roots with patients and doctors again realizing the need for specific doses and customized medications. By the turn of this century, with more than 40,000 compounded drugs being dispensed each day, there has been a renewed demand for this specialized skill.

The college, partnering with a pharmaceutical supplier Medisca Network, Inc., offers the comprehensive pharmacist training certificate program. The program curriculum begins with a self-study section for 26 hours of continuing education credit. Upon completion, the pharmacist attends a four-day live program at UF for an additional 30 hours of credit.

“Licensed pharmacists from anywhere in the world can benefit from continuing education in compounding by studying from home and then traveling to UF for further hands-on interactive training,” said Art Wharton, M.S., director of continuing education and clinical associate professor in the College of Pharmacy.

Compounding, simply put, is customizing a prescription. The pharmacist — in consultation with the prescribing physician — creates a pharmaceutical alternative that is better suited to a specific patient need. Routine compounding performed by pharmacists may include creating a topical cream to replace an analgesic tablet; preparing a liquid medicine alternative for patients who have difficulty swallowing; mixing a child-approved flavor to help a parent and even altering a medicinal form or flavor for improved veterinary use.

There are several important roles the compounding pharmacist plays in partnership with physicians, Neil Cohen, director of technical operations at Medisca Network, Inc. said. The primary role is to assist the physician by reinforcing positive therapeutic outcomes. ‘Non-compliant behavior’ is a phrase used by medical practitioners in describing a patient who does not adhere to a prescribed drug regimen. Compounding is often the solution to improving compliance by tailoring the medicine to the patient's needs or preferences, Cohen said. When the pharmacist becomes skilled at this, doctors will come to depend on them for compounding advice.

Besides being a consultant, the compounding pharmacist must also be a technical expert, researcher and business developer. The live CE program focuses on these varied topics. Led by Wharton, sessions are also taught by College of Pharmacy faculty Cary Mobley, Ph.D., Jeff Hughes, Pharm.D., Ph.D. and Paul Doering, M.S.
Supporting Pharmacy Entrepreneurship through Continuing Education

The corner drugstore, commonly thought of as an American icon of the past, struggles to survive today with increasing market competition in pharmaceutical sales. The College of Pharmacy hopes to help preserve the future of private ownership with the creation of the Institute for Pharmacy Entrepreneurs.

A three-day workshop designed by business and financial experts, under the guidance of Earlene Lipowski, R.Ph., Ph.D., associate professor in the UF College of Pharmacy, uses a combined approach of educating and networking to facilitate independent pharmacy ownership. The workshop, offered for the first time last August at UF’s College of Pharmacy campus, was designed with two curriculum tracks. One track benefits pharmacists who are current business owners and the other track targets recent graduates and pharmacists working for others who may be interested in becoming independent pharmacy owners.

Theresa Wells-Tolle, president of the Florida Pharmacy Association, worked with business leaders and College of Pharmacy educators for the past year to devise a quality program that provides business education to pharmacists and students.

As an independent owner of Bay Street Pharmacy in Sebastian, Fla., Wells-Tolle identifies a major issue that community pharmacy owners face.

“What happens to their business as they approach retirement? They want to know how their business can go on as the neighborhood drugstore without being bought out by national drugstores,” Wells-Tolle said.

The National Community Pharmacy Association reports that between 1991 and 2001, the number of all retail pharmacies remained relatively unchanged, with a total of about 55,000 drugstores in the United States. During that time period, however, the number of privately owned stores decreased by 32 percent. Chain outlets accounted for about 12 percent of the shift in market share, while the remaining 20 percent of the market was taken by mass merchants and supermarkets adding pharmacy departments to their stores.

Workshop presenter Robert H. Buchanan, J.D., from PCE Stratus Valuations, notes that when a large mass merchant store like Wal-Mart appears, it usually displaces more than one small drugstore in the area. However, Buchanan points to an industry trend, new since 2001, in which independent pharmacies are beginning to make a comeback and regain their share of the market.

“As a patient care service, there is a demand for the community pharmacy with its personalized service,” Buchanan said. “They aren’t as easily replaced as the local hardware store and this creates a great opportunity to keep independent pharmacies alive in the community.”

Wells-Tolle sees education about the business side of the pharmaceutical industry as the key to exploiting this new opportunity. Students are exposed to many career opportunities in clinical experiences and internships for retail pharmacies, but they typically don’t learn about their own business opportunities, she said.

Designed to meet the needs of working pharmacists, the workshop was planned as a weekend event. The curriculum, offering continuing education credit, teaches pharmacists how to implement a business and financial plan, make “build vs. buy” decisions, prepare a succession plan, and develop exit strategies.

With its first-time offering, Institute organizers hoped to attract at least 50 participants who could be split into the two curriculum tracks. The response was so favorable that registration was closed after 86 pharmacists from Florida, Georgia and Alabama signed up, Lipowski said.

Dinner and evening social activities were included in the weekend so that pharmacists could begin to develop networking relationships and collaborations for possible future business ventures, critical to the succession plan of independent ownership.

“One of the long term goals of the institute is to facilitate interaction between the two groups — buyers and sellers — to see if this might be a way to help them connect for business opportunities and exchanges,” Wells-Tolle said.
When you enter Bill’s Prescription Center in Brandon, Fla., it’s hard to believe the words, “Est. 1956” embossed into the threshold as you enter this modern pharmacy bustling with pharmacists, technicians and clerks. It’s not unlike the Walgreens across the street, except that it’s more like walking into a family reunion.

Justo “Bill” Noriega worked hard to open his own pharmacy after he graduated from the University of Florida College of Pharmacy in 1954. As his business grew, so did his family of pharmacists. In 1965, his sister, Melecia Noriega graduated as a pharmacist from UF. In 1981, son John Noriega, and in 1990, daughter Mary Noriega Denham also graduated as pharmacists from UF.

Bill shows great pride in telling about his family. His grandfather, a pharmacist in Cuba, moved to Florida and practiced pharmacy in nearby Ybor City. He describes his father, who was not a pharmacist, as a tireless family man who worked 365 days a year. He calls his father his hero, who taught him the work ethics that enabled Bill to put himself through pharmacy school and later made his business thrive.

“My father taught me that you only have to work half a day,” Bill said, “So, I worked 12 hours and I took 12 hours off.”

Applying the same “working math” to his retirement, Bill still works about four hours a day while his son, John, runs the family business full time.

Today, the pharmacy has 21 employees including Mary, who works part time along with her family responsibilities that include raising twins. Bill’s sister, Melecia, completed her pharmacy internship in the family store, but later went on to work in hospital and other pharmacy settings.

The Noriegas have built their community pharmacy practice on patient care from the first year when Brandon had only 1,800 residents and two doctors. Bill had a phone extension from the business to his home next door. Pediatricians called him in the middle of the night asking if he could mix up drug formulas for babies. It did not matter to Bill whether or not the families were his customers.

“I had the first 24-hour pharmacy way back in 1956,” Bill states proudly. “For the first 14 years, no one answered the store phone but me. When patients called, they always spoke to the pharmacist,” he said.

Robert and Marcia Mehaffy, both 84, have been customers since the store opened in 1956. Robert suffered an industrial accident in 1968 that...
required multiple surgeries over many years to reconstruct his jaw. The Noriegas made sure that his prescriptions were always available, even when times were tough. They offered patient care far beyond the average retail pharmacy, Robert said.

“I wouldn’t change pharmacies – no way! I couldn’t praise this family any higher,” Robert said as he waited to pick up his order.

With a population of 200,000 today, their patient care philosophy has not changed. John, who literally grew up in his father’s store, now manages the business. Sharing his father’s commitments, his focus is on patient care, giving service, and being the best pharmacy — not only in Brandon — but in the world.

It is common for John to chat with customers while he is working — asking them how they are doing. One time a customer answered that she had just been stung by a bee and wasn’t sure what to do. He stopped what he was doing to see if she needed immediate medication. He gave her water and asked if he could give her a ride home.

“You have to listen to patients problems even when you are really busy,” John said. “Being a pharmacist means being on your feet, giving service, every day.”

John has kept the business growing through modern technology and specialization. Computers and robotic pill machines ensure accuracy and speed in keeping up with the daily demand for prescription medicines. He also has improved services like drug compounding, providing specially mixed formulas not only to his customers, but to other area pharmacies as well.

Building the best pharmacy isn’t the end of the road for John, it’s just the beginning. When asked about his vision for the future, he says he hopes to see community pharmacy practice grow throughout the United States. John has contributed a $100,000 gift to his family’s alma mater in support of his belief in pharmacy education and to help establish the UF Institute for Pharmacy Entrepreneurs. The Institute offered its first educational workshop August 2004, and in keeping with the Noriega dream of reaching across the country, it will be offered August 2005 in Atlanta, said Institute Director Brian Kahan.

“I would like to bring young and old pharmacists together so we can continue the growth of U.S. community pharmacy practice,” John said.
Hundreds of University of Florida faculty members have patented one or two of their discoveries, while a few have several patents or even a dozen.

Ray Bergeron has 90 issued patents and 104 patents pending.

Bergeron, Duckworth Eminent Scholar and a graduate research professor of pharmacy, is also among an elite few academic researchers nationally with two separate drugs in clinical trials – the final stage before marketing. The bulk of his patents, meanwhile, are paid for or licensed by pharmaceutical companies that seek to someday benefit from his discoveries, he says.

“For an academic research group to have two compounds in clinical trials... I doubt there's another such group in the country,” says Thomas Neenan, vice president for business operations at Genzyme Drug Discovery & Development, which is conducting clinical trials on Bergeron's drugs aimed at treating some forms of cancer and a genetic blood disorder known as Cooley's Anemia.

Bergeron says he's scientist first, businessman second. For him, it's crucial that his scientific work make the jump from “paper to patient.”

“I could take the posture that, 'I did a nice job with a research project — it's in a Class A journal, people ask me to talk about, I'm No. 1 in the field, and I can go home now,'” Bergeron says. “But when you see patients and you see sick kids, you say, 'I can't do that, I have kids, too.'”

Bergeron didn't start his career with that perspective. After earning his doctorate in chemistry at Brandeis University in 1972 and serving under a Nobel laureate as Harvard fellow, he spent four years studying how microorganisms uptake and sequester iron at the University of Maryland – as basic science a pursuit as they come.

But when a job offer led him to UF in 1979, he developed a friendship with Richard Streiff, a hematologist at Shands Hospital at UF; who shared his interest in iron-related diseases.

The friendship increased Bergeron’s appreciation for applied sciences. His first area of interest: diseases related to or complicated by iron overload — particularly thalassemia, or Cooley's Anemia. The disease shortens red blood cells' lifespan, requiring patients to receive regular blood transfusions, which in turn introduces excess iron. Unless it is removed artificially, the iron builds up and causes liver and heart failure and death. The standard treatment: A wearable pump that injects an iron-binding chemical through a needle into the stomach. The ordeal is so painful that many of the estimated 25,000 Cooley's Anemia patients in the United States opt out of the proper treatment regimen, some with fatal consequences.

Bergeron knew a better treatment would be a pill. He experimented with iron-binding molecules until he came up with one that seemed like an excellent bet.

In the popular misconception of how new drugs come about, that would be the end of the story — problem solved, cure created. However, Bergeron spent as much time advocating for his new drug as he did engineering it.

Such advocacy is key: Clinical trials typically involve three phases, each costing millions of dollars. It’s not unusual for drug companies to spend $100 million on a single drug before it reaches consumers. Given that enormous expense, companies only invest when they think they have a sure bet.

“The reality is, even if you do get your technology patented, the fight has just begun,” Bergeron says. “Because all future developments are controlled not by me or the university, but in board rooms, and you have to be willing to work very closely with the corporate sector.”

If the Genzyme clinical trials are successful, and if Bergeron's other developments reach similar peaks, both he and UF stand to reap quite a windfall, but money is not his motivating factor.

“If these things work, everything good happens,” he says. “I'll make some money, but most important to me, I get to look at myself and say, 'You really did something that helped people!'”

Raymond Bergeron, Ph.D., Duckworth Professor of Drug Development, has turned drug patent profits into an investment in research at the College of Pharmacy. The department of medicinal chemistry received a patent royalty payment of more than $400,000 from Genzyme Corp. and used the money to purchase a nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectrometer.

Patent income like this is extremely desirable, Bergeron said, because it would take $12.6 million in grant awards to generate comparable revenue to purchase the device.

The state-of-the-art NMR, with a superconducting magnet and a UNIX workstation, is used by researchers to determine chemical structure in the same way microbiologists use a microscope to examine cell structure.

“Having this equipment will be quite a benefit to our department,” said Margaret James, Ph.D., department chairwoman. “It will make us more competitive in securing future grant awards and in recruiting top researchers.”
You’ve seen the television shows — Crime Scene Investigators — you name the city. There is always a team picking up samples at the scene of a crime. There are scientists in lab coats looking at drug samples and DNA through microscopes, and experts giving testimony in courtrooms.

So who are these people, and how did they get their credentials anyway? They aren’t doctors, nurses, or EMTs… The answer is they are forensic scientists, and they go to colleges like the University of Florida to get advanced education in the field of forensic science.

Students like Terry Gallegos, a crime lab coordinator for the Tucson Police Department Crime Lab, and Mike Byrnes, a special agent with the FBI, convened in Gainesville to take final exams as their last step toward earning a master’s degree from the University of Florida’s distance learning forensics degree program.

The more than 20 students of forensic toxicology completed their coursework online so they could work full time while updating their credentials at home.

“‘This program allowed the most flexibility,’” said Gallegos, who received her master’s degree and a certificate in forensic toxicology. “‘The degree will augment my credentials in court, and it will also help with new methods and programs that may be brought into the lab.’”

The UF distance learning program offers master’s degrees or certificates in three areas. The forensic DNA and serology, and drug chemistry degrees are awarded through the College of Pharmacy. The forensic toxicology degree is awarded through the College of Veterinary Medicine.

A program that is available in all areas of the country may be especially important for rural area law enforcement that struggles to keep staff updated with new technology and crime scene techniques.

Byrnes, who lives in Pennsylvania and participates on the Bureau’s crime scene/forensic team Evidence Response Team, is currently pursuing a master’s in drug chemistry as well as a certificate in DNA and Serology.

“I find that this scientific training helps me maintain an analytical mindset, both toward daily case work and crime scene analysis,” Byrnes said. “I also help teach techniques to other law enforcement agencies and am always interested in presenting the most insightful and up-to-date information available.”

Interest in UF’s distance education forensic science program has increased over the past four years, said Ian Tebbett, Ph.D., a college of pharmacy professor and program director. The program started out with a first-year enrollment of 112, and this year course enrollments are expected to exceed 1,000.

“The program has practically doubled enrollment each year since its inception in 2000,” said Tebbett. “We expect to see continued growth for the foreseeable time.”

A program that is practical and available in all areas of the country may be especially important for rural area law enforcement that struggles to keep staff updated with new technology and crime scene techniques.
DigiScript Inc., a leading provider of on-demand learning and training solutions, and the College of Pharmacy announced in December a $2.3 million partnership extension.

Over the next three years, the College of Pharmacy will continue to use DigiScript’s video-based distance learning solution, IntelectureSM, to offer its Doctor of Pharmacy degree program to off-campus students in Orlando, St. Petersburg and Jacksonville, Fla.

“Our partnership with DigiScript has been tremendously successful since its inception,” said William H. Riffee, Ph.D., UF Associate Provost for Distance, Continuing and Executive Education and Dean of the College of Pharmacy. “Intelecture has helped us reach out to new audiences that otherwise would not have had a chance to attend our college. In the time it would have taken to build the necessary facilities to accommodate additional degree candidates and hire an entirely new faculty, we have students well on the way to their careers.”

Intelecture is an online, on-demand distance education solution that captures traditional classroom lectures on video and makes them available to students through an interactive Web-based learning platform. Students access Intelecture via the Internet and can log-on to a class, watch video footage of the lecture, view handouts and browse synchronized PowerPoint® slides from anywhere at anytime.

“It’s a win-win situation for us,” said Riffee. “Not only are we expanding our college in a cost-effective way, we are preserving the integrity of the classroom experience by capturing our professors at their best: in a lecture setting among students.”

DigiScript’s on-campus staff will record 800 to 1,000 hours of lectures per semester over the next three years. DigiScript has also added a new indexing feature to Intelecture that College of Pharmacy students can use to search thousands of archived lectures in a variety of ways, including searches by keyword and by faculty member.

“The University of Florida is a true leader in the distance learning field,” said Edward Pearson, DigiScript’s president and CEO. “We are proud of our work with the College of Pharmacy over the last few years and excited to continue our rewarding partnership.”

The University of Florida began its relationship with DigiScript in the fall of 2002 to help increase enrollment in its pharmacy program in response to a serious nationwide pharmacist shortage. Since 2002, the College of Pharmacy has added 150 students each year and expects to double its current number of graduates to 1100 students, 600 at off-campus sites and 500 on the Gainesville campus, by 2006.
Looking for Preceptors

While internship has long been a part of pharmacy training it is only relatively recently that pharmacy education recognized the importance of incorporating practice experience, provided by pharmacy practitioners, as part of the formal educational process. The exposure of pharmacy students, to patients and practice experience is no longer limited to the fourth year — it’s now offered throughout the entire curriculum. This growth recognizes the unique educational value that the preceptor-practice environment brings to the student to model behavior in the “real world” setting. The college setting, no matter how good the discussion groups or practice simulations, cannot duplicate the actual practice setting. This is where students apply what they have learned from a passive lecture environment to an active practice setting.

Education literature supports this Chinese Proverb: “I hear, and I forget. I see, and I remember. I do, and I understand.” Classroom instruction typically produces retention rates of five percent for lectures, 20 percent for audio visual presentations, and 50 percent for discussion groups. In contrast, 75 percent retention occurs through actual practice. Only by being a part of clinical practice can students see the details. In the practice arena preceptors are able to demonstrate and explain the small details while allowing students to implement the knowledge they learned in class.

The Benefits of Being a Preceptor

The benefits can be thought of in two ways. There are immediate benefits, which occur during rotation and the long term consequences of being a role model. The old training saying, “see one, do one, teach one,” is backed up by educational literature that indicates that you can achieve 90 percent information retention when you assume a teaching role. You can never really understand a process until you have taught it to successive students, answered their questions, and observed their understanding.

The greatest benefit for the preceptor is that intangible and unpredictable long-term benefit of self-satisfaction that you have made a difference in one — or many persons — lives. When we practice, we affect patient care positively everyday. For each student we teach who does the same; we add a multiple to our own benefit to the world. Henry Adams said that a preceptor affects eternity; he/she can never tell where their influence stops.

Being a Role Model

A role model is much more than the sum of your pharmacotherapy or technical knowledge accumulated over the years. Content changes every day and what is the drug of choice today, is out tomorrow and back again the day after. What stays constant is how you deal with change and the complex series of competing interest in your professional and personal life. What you model, that is vitally important, are attributes such as being patient centric, creating professional and therapeutic relationships, making decisions in a setting of uncertainty, balancing competing priorities, and dealing with not being perfect.

Students who learn these lessons will make the transition to competent professionals with much greater ease. It is after that transition that they then become good colleagues and partners. Anything we can do to help that transition is a benefit to our patients, our profession, and ourselves.

The UF Pharmacy Student Experience

Students at the University of Florida are required to complete several introductory experiences in their first and second years. These experiences (Practicum I-IV) are meant to provide an opportunity to look through a window into the profession. In these they begin the process of practice-based learning.

By far, the most concentrated experience-based learning comes at the end of the student’s degree program in their Advanced Practice Experiences (rotations). These rotations are full time, four or eight-week experiences in a variety of practice settings with at least one clinical faculty member preceptor. Our students participate in 44 weeks of rotations as third and fourth-year students. They start rotations in March of their third professional year and finish in February of their fourth professional year. Beginning Spring 2006, 330 students will be scheduled for 11 rotations each. That is a total of 3,630 rotations needed. For this reason, we are in need of new sites that would be able to provide the following rotations:

Looking for Preceptors
Ambulatory Care
(8 weeks in an ambulatory clinic)
Adult Medicine
(8 weeks general inpatient)
Drug Information (4 weeks)
Community Practice (4 weeks)
Oncology, Pediatrics or Geriatrics
(4 weeks inpatient or outpatient)

Priority Needs
Ambulatory care and Drug Information rotations are a high priority as we ramp up from 205 students in 2005 to 330 students for the 2006 year. We are interested in sites that can provide rotations that students could choose as electives. These electives span the entire possible range of pharmacy career types. Most of our sites are in Florida, but we are open to sites and locations outside of the state and even the United States.

How to Become a UF Preceptor

Becoming a preceptor requires an:
1) Affiliation agreement, if your practice site does not already have one
2) Faculty appointment
3) Rotation syllabus that provides a description of your expectations of the students

These requirements are the paperwork, which is necessary but typically not too difficult, that allows a rotation to be included in the possibilities for students. The one requirement, which does not have paperwork, is your desire to teach what you do and what you know to the next generation of pharmacists. If you have that, we can help you with the rest. Please contact the Office of Experiential Programs to find out more about the process of becoming a preceptor.

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UF is “Springing Up” at St. Petersburg College

By Linda Homewood

The College of Pharmacy showcases its newest facility April 15-16, at St. Petersburg College with a combined building dedication and National Advisory Board meeting.

The CVS/pharmacy Education Center at the University of Florida College of Pharmacy at St. Petersburg College was opened to returning pharmacy students in the spring 2005 semester. More than classrooms, the 8,500-square-foot facility offers a new skills laboratory that is a scaled-down version of the lab used in the new Gainesville pharmacy building. It also features a model pharmacy, patient counseling room, and stations for compounding — a growing area in pharmacy practice, said College of Pharmacy Dean and Associate Provost of Distance Education William Riffee, Ph.D.

“This is an exciting time as our distance campus programs continue to grow and mature,” Riffee said. “We will be admitting our fourth class this fall to complete the ‘build-out’ of the St. Petersburg, Orlando and Jacksonville campuses.”

Speakers for the Friday morning dedication ceremony represent institutions with varied interests, but whose leaders share a common vision in education. The speaker lineup for the event includes: Jon Roberts of CVS/pharmacy — honoring the $1.1 million building gift when it acquired Eckerd Corp. in Florida; UF College of Pharmacy representatives, William Riffee, Ph.D., dean, and Jessica Ortiz, student council president; Carlos Alfonso, member of UF Board of Trustees; Carl Kuttler, Ph.D. and Lars Hafner, representing St. Petersburg College and its University Partnership Center; and Theresa Dolan, D.D.S., dean of UF College of Dentistry, who — with construction now underway for a sister facility — applauds the pharmacy completion.

An open house and tours of the new pharmacy education facilities follows the dedication ceremony. The College of Pharmacy National Advisory Board convenes in the afternoon at the CVS/pharmacy Education Center to begin their semi-annual meeting. The board continues its meeting Saturday morning, ending with a look at “student life at a distance campus,” and then joining students and their families at a Family Day luncheon.

Photos from top: Ilgar Isskenderov; St. Petersburg Campus; Jennifer Konaszewski (front) and Gina Hanna.
Prescription for Drug Safety in Rural Hospitals

Improving medication safety in small rural hospitals has been a work-in-progress for researchers at the University of Florida College of Pharmacy. The project’s principal investigator, Abraham Hartzema, Pharm.D., a UF College of Pharmacy professor and eminent scholar, said improving patient safety and preventing medication errors were the research team’s primary goals.

UF has collaborated with the Department of Health, Office of Rural Health and Florida Medical Quality Assurance, Inc. to increase the safety of medication management in 12 rural Florida hospitals. Designated as critical access hospitals, these facilities have 25 or fewer beds and provide emergency medical treatment to small communities.

“These hospitals have very limited resources and staffing. They often do not have a pharmacist physically on staff and must contract with pharmacists at other sites for medication review,” Hartzema said.

The researchers presented their work on drug safety in rural hospitals in December at the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists mid-year clinical meeting in Orlando.

The Journal of the American Medical Association in 1995 published a study that found medication errors resulted from 16 types of failures in the hospital management system. Aspects of the management system related to drug knowledge, dosing, allergies, transcription, tracking and inter-service communication accounted for 78 percent of the errors. In 2000, The Institute for Safe Medication Practices studied adverse events nationally that led to serious injury or death. The study found pharmacy management systems can prevent errors at every stage of the medication process.

To work toward creating a management system, The Department of Health, Office of Rural Health awarded nearly $95,000 each year for three years to establish internal quality control for each of the 12 critical access hospitals. The hospitals enlisted UF as a research and education provider. In the first year, UF faculty made site visits and organized summit conferences and hospital staff completed a needs assessment and started two medication safety initiatives. Each hospital appointed medication safety officers and established medication safety committees. In the second year, UF faculty continued to make site visits and observed operational procedures established by the newly formed committees.

Hartzema’s project team includes Almut Winterstein, Ph.D., clinical assistant professor and Jessica De Leon, Pharm.D., coordinator of research programs from UF; Tom Johns, Pharm.D., associate director for pharmacy services at Shands HealthCare, Alyson Widmer from Shands/UF Information Technology and Robert Winkler, hospital administrator and Warren Bailey, Pharm.D., from Doctor’s Memorial Hospital in Bonifay, Fla.

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality awarded an additional $150,000 six-month grant last fall to fund health information technology planning, which includes computer systems that allow for timely review of new prescription orders by pharmacists in other locations. This planning grant will lead to larger funding for implementation — a goal the UF team is working toward, Hartzema said.

Kristin Weitzel, Pharm.D., clinical assistant professor in the department of pharmacy practice, chosen as the 2005 College of Pharmacy Teacher of the Year, is recognized for her excellence, innovativeness, and effectiveness as a teacher.

After receiving her Doctor of Pharmacy with Highest Honors from UF in 1998, Dr. Weitzel completed a Community Practice Residency at Virginia Commonwealth University/Medical College of Virginia School of Pharmacy. Dr. Weitzel assisted in the development of the Pharmacotherapy 2 and Pharmacotherapy 6 courses, creating strategies to promote an active, student-centered approach that incorporated group collaboration and presentation, case-based essay and multiple-choice examinations, and peer evaluation. She examined technologies for alternative content delivery and assessed Blackboard and WebCT utilities. Strategies and outcomes in these courses have been documented through manuscript and abstract publication in the peer-reviewed American Journal of Pharmaceutical Education.

Collaborating with other faculty to design a template for Advanced Community Pharmacy Practice experiential teaching, Dr. Weitzel has developed a 12-hour curriculum used to provide training for almost 200 pharmacy preceptors throughout Florida. Now, transitioning this program to a Web-based platform, she hopes to establish it as a resource for advanced community pharmacy experiential training for colleges/schools of pharmacy nationally.

In her work to further pharmacy education, Dr. Weitzel has developed and revised teaching curriculum for accredited community pharmacy practice and primary care pharmacy residency programs, serving as a preceptor for 13 residents in these programs.
Pharmacy Chair Appointed to Professorship in Pharmaceutical Sciences

Julie A. Johnson, Pharm.D., College of Pharmacy professor and department chair, was named the V. Ravi Chandran, Ph.D. Professor in Pharmaceutical Sciences this September by College of Pharmacy Dean William H. Riffee, Ph.D.

“Dr. Johnson’s extraordinary leadership and excellence in research has been recognized by her peers in the academy and now by our college through her appointment to the Chandran professorship,” Riffee said.

Johnson joined UF in 1998, and three years later was appointed professor of pharmacy and also of medicine, in cardiology. In July 2002, she was appointed chair of the department of pharmacy practice. Her current research focuses on pharmacogenomics and cardiovascular disease-gene associations, as well as the influence of race and ethnicity on drug responses.

UF Alumnus V. Ravi Chandran, Ph.D. established the professorship in 2000 with a $100,000 gift to the college. This year, he contributed another $100,000, which combined with other donations and matching funds, has brought the endowment to more than $400,000.

Chandran earned a master’s in pharmaceutical science from Jadavpur University in Calcutta. In 1981, he left India to study pharmaceutics and pharmacokinetics at UF, where he earned his Ph.D. In 1989, Chandran started one of the first pharmaceutical companies to create generic drugs for products whose brand patent had expired. Today his company, American Generics, Inc. in Albany, N.Y., is a fully automated, computer-integrated manufacturing facility.

While acknowledging the honor in being selected for an endowed professorship, Johnson credits the valued support of alumni who make it possible.

“It’s former UF graduates like Dr. Chandran who give so much back to their college that really make a difference,” Johnson said.

A New Approach to Studying Proteins that Affect the Aging Brain

A UF pharmacy researcher is taking a novel approach in his study of the effects of protein oxidation on the brain during the aging process. Like an astronomer searching the galaxy for only specific stars, Laszlo Prokai, Ph.D., must first identify dozens of proteins out of millions.

The National Institute on Aging awarded a five-year $1.3 million grant to Prokai, a professor of medicinal chemistry in the College of Pharmacy, to study the biochemical mechanisms that cause age-related deterioration in brain function through free-radical oxidative damage. This process, called carbonylation, results in a chemical change brought on by free-radical attack mostly within energy-producing mitochondria.

Prokai has discovered a way to streamline the protein search using mass spectrometry together with his newly developed isotope-coded affinity-tag (ICAT) methodology — now under UF patent pending.

“The ICAT method has broadened the scope of identifiable proteins,” Prokai said. “Only a handful of all possible oxidation-susceptible proteins could be detected before. This new method will make it possible for us to discover hundreds.”

Common research protocol was very tedious and limiting, Prokai said. In the study of genomics, researchers have to sift through approximately 30,000 genes to gather data, which is not a simple task. In proteomic research — the study of proteins — the task becomes exponentially compounded because there are millions of proteins. To further complicate this research, while genes are like static blueprints, proteins have functions and the aging process does not affect all proteins, Prokai said.

“This makes the research multi-dimensional. Not only do we have to find the right proteins to study, we have to look even farther to examine parts of a protein to find out where the oxidation is occurring,” Prokai said.

Using existing research methods, the process of searching for proteins that suffer oxidative damage upon aging was intuition-driven with no clear point of beginning. Each protein had to be examined one by one, most being ruled out. Prokai compares his new method to having a road map.

Prokai said the improved research technique is a stepping-stone to a bigger goal. In the future, he hopes to apply the understanding of age-associated carbonylation of brain proteins to discoveries in drug treatment or prevention of neurodegenerative diseases like Alzheimer’s, Parkinson’s, and to treat strokes and brain injuries.
As Charlie kicked off what turned out to be a very long hurricane season for Florida last August, UF/Shands Drug Information and Pharmacy Resource Center found a new role researching drug stability during extended power outages.

The center, a free service to healthcare professionals located in the State of Florida, received a phone call from Damon Day, Pharm. D. at Walgreens Pharmacy in Edgewater, Fla. His store lost power during the hurricane and Dr. Day, a recent UF College of Pharmacy graduate, was concerned about the stability of their refrigerated medications. He asked the center to provide any information they could to help him determine which drugs could be kept, and which ones would need to be disposed.

Candy L. Smith and Leigh T. Jolliff, Pharm. D. candidates, were on student rotations at the center and researched the following drugs for him:
- Neurontin Liquid (seizures, neuropathic pain and diabetic neuropathy)
- CombiPatch (hormone replacement therapy)
- Promethagen suppositories (nausea and vomiting)
- Desmopressin (central diabetes insipidus)
- Foradil (asthma, COPD, bronchospasm prophylaxis)
- Lantus Insulin (Diabetes)
- Thyrolar (hypothyroidism)
- Orapred (asthma, COPD, gout, lymphocytic leukemia)
- Xalatan (eye drops for treatment of glaucoma)

The stability of these medications after reaching room temperature is important because temperature can affect the drug’s shelf-life. If temperature decreases the drug efficacy, the appropriate result may not be achieved and the patient’s health may be compromised, said Paul Doering, center co-director.

Dr. Day’s store soon had its electricity restored, but several area pharmacies remained without power, which increased his work load tremendously. He not only used the information researched by the center for his own practice, he also forwarded it system-wide. Ultimately, the center’s drug research reached all Walgreens pharmacies in Central Florida – proving to be a valuable resource throughout the state as three more hurricanes loomed ahead.

**Faculty Recognition & Appointments**

**Veronika Butterweck, Ph.D.**  
Assistant Professor of Pharmaceutics  
Journal Advisory Board Member

The Journal Planta Medica is one of the leading international journals dedicated to the field of medicinal plant and natural products research. As a member of the journal’s advisory board, Dr. Butterweck will provide general scientific input to the editorial board and will be involved in the review of manuscripts submitted to the journal.

**Guenther Hochhaus, Ph.D.**  
Professor of Pharmaceutics  
Fellow in American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists (AAPS)

AAPS confers the honor of Fellow to recognize individuals for outstanding contributions that elevate the stature of the pharmaceutical sciences and for professional excellence in the field relevant to the mission of AAPS. The primary criterion for selection as an AAPS Fellow is professional competence reflected through scholarly and research contributions to the pharmaceutical sciences such as original articles, scientific presentations at AAPS Annual Meetings and/or patents.

William Millard, College of Pharmacy executive associate dean congratulated Hochhaus on his achievement.

“Fellowship in AAPS is very prestigious honor,” Millard said. “Fewer than five percent of the 10,000-plus members of AAPS are Fellows.”

**Julie Johnson, Pharm.D.**  
Professor and Chair of Pharmacy Practice  
Ohio State University College of Pharmacy  
2005 Distinguished Alumni Award

This award, in its 35th year, is given to OSU alumni who have made outstanding contributions to the profession of pharmacy, in the fields of public health and public service, and/or promoting the activities of the college and its students. It will be presented to Dr. Johnson in May at the OSU Annual Alumni Awards Banquet.

The OSU letter stated, “You have distinguished yourself as a celebrated educator, administrator, investigator and clinical pharmacist. Your alma mater is very proud of you.”

**Sean Sullivan, Ph.D.**  
Associate Professor of Pharmaceutics  
Editorial Board Appointment to Current Pharmaceutical Biotechnology

Current Pharmaceutical Biotechnology publishes full-length reviews and mini reviews on major topics in Pharmaceutical Biotechnology. The aim of the journal is to cover all the latest and outstanding developments in the medicinal chemistry, pharmaceutics and pharmacology of molecular drug targets such as disease-specific proteins, receptors, enzymes or genes.

Each issue contains a series of timely in-depth reviews written by leaders in the field covering a range of current topics in Biopharmaceutical Sciences. Current Pharmaceutical Biotechnology is an essential journal for all pharmaceutical scientists involved in drug discovery and development.

As a member of the editorial board, Dr. Sullivan will be responsible for review of manuscripts for publication in the journal. He will also become an advocate of the journal, promoting the journal to colleagues and inviting them to contribute review articles and/or special issues.

**Kristin Weitzel, Pharm.D.**  
Clinical Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice; 2005-2006 Chair American Pharmacists Association (APhA)- Academy of Pharmacy Practice and Management (APPM) Clinical/Pharmacotherapeutic Practice Section

The APhA Academy of Pharmacy Practice and Management (APhA-APPM) is the academy for pharmacists involved in delivering or managing pharmaceutical services in every pharmacy setting, including retail pharmacies, hospitals, clinics, and specialized settings. The American Pharmacists Association has more than 50,000 members dedicated to improving medication use and advancing patient care. Founded in 1852 as the American Pharmaceutical Association, APhA is the first-established and largest professional association of pharmacists in the United States.
New Research Method Could Bolster Antibiotic Arsenal

By Melanie Fridl Ross

Call it a chemical crystal ball. A new approach to predict whether a drug in development is likely to work, and which dose is best, could get antibiotics to market faster and more cheaply. Hartmut Derendorf, Ph.D., chairman of the department of pharmaceuticals reported in March at the annual meeting of American Society for Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics.

In recent years, scientists worldwide have sounded the alarm: There simply aren’t enough drugs to combat bad bugs. Bacteria are increasingly adept at outwitting the traditional antibiotic arsenal.

Yet designing and testing new antibiotics can be a slow and costly process — if pharmaceutical companies even bother, Derendorf said. Many would rather invest in compounds aimed at patients with chronic conditions such as high cholesterol or diabetes, not in drugs designed to be used for a week or two and then stopped once an infection clears, he said.

Now UF researchers have devised a patent-pending method that combines testing of various drug concentrations right at the site of infection with a series of laboratory analyses and mathematical models designed to streamline drug development. The method helps better determine which drugs are worth studying in people and at which dose, avoiding the typically lengthy and expensive trial-and-error approach that can take years to play out.

“About one new antibiotic a year is approved,” Derendorf said. “That’s certainly not enough. Even more worrisome — there are very few in the pipeline right now.”

About 70 percent of bacteria found in hospitals resist at least one of the drugs commonly used to treat the infections they cause, according to the Food and Drug Administration, which warns that unless problems are detected early and swift action taken to find substitute drugs that work, previously treatable diseases could again emerge in more virulent forms. Public health officials cite antibiotic resistance as a growing problem for a host of diseases, from childhood ear infections to malaria.

Last year, the Food and Drug Administration published a report calling attention to inefficiencies in the drug and medical product development process, urging changes to make the process “more predictable and less costly.” The latest estimates put the cost of bringing a new product to market at $1.6 billion or more.

UF researchers are working on an approach known as PK/PD, which combines principles of pharmacokinetics, or an analysis of drug concentrations in the body, and pharmacodynamics, their effect on bacteria or how a drug kills bacteria.

“In the past, the focus always was on the serum concentration; blood samples were taken and the serum concentration of the drug was measured and that number was used to make dosing decisions,” said Derendorf, whose work is primarily funded by the pharmaceutical companies Pfizer and Sankyo. “And that may not always be the right place to look. Most infections are not in the blood but in other sites of the body. Some of the recommendations we have may not be the optimal doses.”

UF researchers have developed a patent-pending technique called microdialysis that uses a small needle probe to measure how much of a drug actually ends up in the fluid surrounding the bacteria at sites of infection and are among the first in the country to test the method in people. These concentrations can differ widely from those found in the bloodstream, said Derendorf, who has published results from studies that evaluated the technique in people and animals with various infections.

In the past, microbiologists would expose bacteria to certain concentrations of an antibiotic and then determine the minimum concentration that prevents bacterial growth. That number was taken and compared with concentrations of the drug in the blood, and from those two numbers a dosing decision is made.

“We feel that’s not the optimal way go,” he said. “It doesn’t give you the full story — it doesn’t tell you, for example, how quickly the bacteria are killed.”

So UF scientists developed a system of pumps they can use to expose bacteria to changing concentrations of an antibiotic, mimicking the concentration profile that would be present in a patient at the actual site of an infection. They can then measure how quickly the bacteria are killed or see if they regrow, and use mathematical modeling to estimate the optimal dose for the patient.

Consider one recent example: Derendorf led a series of laboratory experiments designed to evaluate an investigational, sustained-release form of a cephalosporin antibiotic. Ultimately the PK/PD approach showed that the difference in drug concentrations in the tissues arising from the standard form of the drug versus the sustained-release variety was so minimal that development of the new formulation was not warranted.

“Using the information early on to make a ‘no-go’ decision for a product so you don’t do a lot of other experiments to study a compound that later will be dropped — that alone saves a lot of money.”

UF researchers say they will continue to apply the screening approach to other drugs in various situations and also will seek to develop better ways of determining how frequently and at what dose a drug should be given to minimize the development of resistance. They recently collaborated, for example, with NASA to analyze blood and tissue concentrations of an antibiotic in people living for a few days in a simulated zero-gravity atmosphere.

“This approach is not just limited to anti-infectives,” Derendorf added. “We can expand it to other classes of drugs. It may be useful to answer many, many different questions.”
# Annual Report in Brief

## Publications & Invited Presentations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Refereed</th>
<th>Non-Refereed</th>
<th>Books</th>
<th>Abstracts</th>
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<tr>
<td>Pharmacy Health Care Administration</td>
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<td>4</td>
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<td>12</td>
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<td>Pharmacy Practice</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>13</td>
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<td><strong>25</strong></td>
<td><strong>158</strong></td>
<td><strong>74</strong></td>
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## Patenting Activity

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<th>Applications Filed</th>
<th>Patents Issued</th>
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### Federal Agencies

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<td><strong>$5,657,503</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Companies

- **AstraZeneca**
  - Count: 1
  - Total: $23,500

- **ChelaDerm, Inc.**
  - Count: 3
  - Total: $89,141

- **Eon Laboratories**
  - Count: 9
  - Total: $79,167

- **Geltex Pharmaceuticals Corp.**
  - Count: 5
  - Total: $1,093,750

- **Glaxo Smith Kline, Inc.**
  - Count: 9
  - Total: $141,425

- **Hoffman LaRoche, Inc.**
  - Count: 1
  - Total: $37,000

- **IVAX Corp.**
  - Count: 2
  - Total: $236,420

- **Merck & Company, Inc.**
  - Count: 5
  - Total: $102,553

- **Pfizer, Inc.**
  - Count: 1
  - Total: $37,500

- **Pharma-Forschung, Inc.**
  - Count: 1
  - Total: $10,000

- **Sankyo Company, Ltd.**
  - Count: 1
  - Total: $74,976

- **Sepracor, Inc.**
  - Count: 1
  - Total: $22,500

- **West Pharmaceutical Services**
  - Count: 1
  - Total: $32,000

| **TOTAL** | **40** | **$1,979,932** |

### Foundations & Societies

- **American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy**
  - Count: 2
  - Total: $11,000

- **American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists**
  - Count: 2
  - Total: $1,000

- **American Diabetes Association**
  - Count: 1
  - Total: $100,000

- **American Foundation for Pharmaceutical Education**
  - Count: 5
  - Total: $29,750

- **American Heart Association**
  - Count: 3
  - Total: $147,500

- **Children’s Hospital – New Orleans**
  - Count: 1
  - Total: $13,284

- **Institute for the Advancement of Community Pharmacy**
  - Count: 1
  - Total: $14,013

- **Juvenile Diabetes Association**
  - Count: 1
  - Total: $150,000

- **National Kidney Foundation of Florida**
  - Count: 1
  - Total: $20,000

- **Shands Teaching Hospital**
  - Count: 5
  - Total: $60,182

- **Suwannee River Area AHEC**
  - Count: 1
  - Total: $109,000

- **UF Foundation**
  - Count: 2
  - Total: $45,000

- **UF Research Foundation**
  - Count: 3
  - Total: $99,000

- **United Negro College Fund**
  - Count: 1
  - Total: $70,000

| **TOTAL** | **29** | **$869,819** |

### Florida State Agencies

- **Department of Citrus**
  - Count: 1
  - Total: $24,000

- **University South Florida**
  - Count: 1
  - Total: $58,362

| **TOTAL** | **2**  | **$82,362**   |
Honors and Awards

Hartmut Derendorf
• President-elect of the American College of Clinical Pharmacology

Paul Doering
• Who’s Who in America 2003
• Faculty Recognition Award 2003-2004
• Leadership Award, Florida Alcohol and Drug Abuse Association

Randell Doty
• Interdisciplinary Family Health Core Faculty Recognition Award

Gerald Gause
• 2004 College of Pharmacy Teacher of the Year
• Who’s Who Among America’s Teachers

Carrie Haskell-Luevano
• Elected co-Chair 2008 Gordon Research Conference “Peptides, Chemistry & Biology”
• Elected co-Vice Chair 2006 Gordon Research Conference “Peptides, Chemistry & Biology”

Leslie Hendeles
• University of Florida Research Foundation Professorship Award for 2003-2006

Julie Johnson
• Leon I. Goldberg Young Investigator Award, American Society for Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics, March 2004
• University of Florida Research Foundation Professorship Award, 2004-2006

Mike Katovich
• Asked to chair a NASA OBPR Life Sciences Advisory Sub-committee to design a path for rodent habitat for the International Space Station.

Doug Ried
• Academic Leadership Fellow, American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy.

Doug Ried, Mike McKenzie, Carole Kimberlin and Mike Meldrum
• Lyman Award by American Journal for Pharmaceutical Education (AJPE) for best manuscript.

Rich Segal and Almut Winterstein
• Research was winner of the APhA-APRS Postgraduate Best Paper Award in the Clinical Sciences section at the American Pharmacists Association Annual Meeting, 2004.

Sihong Song
• PHRMA Foundation Sabbatical
• 3M Junior Faculty Award

Issam Zineh
• American Society for Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics Presidential Trainee Award

College Research Dollars

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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
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<td>Administration</td>
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Department Totals

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<td>Pharmacy Health Care Administration</td>
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Funding by Category

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<tbody>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida State Agencies</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Companies</td>
<td>40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foundations &amp; Societies</td>
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Other

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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
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Sure, you’ve seen her at football games and at other events on the arm of her beau, Albert, but you probably never knew that Alberta has a real life studying to be a pharmacist. Yes, our very own pharmacy student—who shall remain unnamed—is completing her fourth and final year as a part of UF’s Spirit Mascot program. Sadly, after this year, she must shed her reptilian uniform and don her new uniform—a white coat—to complete clinical rotations in order to become a real pharmacist.

But don’t be surprised to see Alberta next year because the uniform is shared as the responsibilities are so great. It gets rather confusing in the ‘world of Gators’ where reality and identity is relative.

Besides being Alberta, the real student’s other accomplishments include serving as vice president of the Gainesville campus chapter of Rho Chi National Pharmacy Honor Society, being a member of the Academy of Student Pharmacists, and the 3PD College of Pharmacy class representative.

Alberta recalls several great experiences during her tenure as a ‘real Gator.’ One was a tailgate wedding, in which friends of the Gator-fan couple surprised them with an appearance of Alberta and Albert. However, Alberta said her most memorable experience was two years ago at the New Hope For Kids Celebrity Mascot Games in Orlando. Professional and college sports mascot teams from all over the United States competed against each other in games like tug of war, tricycle races and wheel-barrow races.

“It was a great weekend of fun for a great cause,” Alberta said.

But wait, we have still more secrets to reveal…the real Alberta is really dating Albert! Who are these mystery UF students leading double lives? Well, we can tell you that “our” Alberta and her Albert, were high school sweethearts at Lemon Bay High School (really!)

About her years as a real Gator, Alberta said she met great people along the way and saw how special the mascots are to UF and the surrounding communities.

“I was amazed that two characters could have such an impact on people,” Alberta said.
Homecoming 2004

License to Growl

Last fall, the College of Pharmacy participated in the UF homecoming parade for the first time in 10 years. The theme for Homecoming 2004 was “License to Growl” and our students used an Austin Powers theme to show their Gator spirit.

The float, sponsored by Walgreens, was decked out with dancers in go-go boots and tie-dye, a disco ball, and a prescription for Albert. The King of Mojo, Dean “Austin” Riffee, recruited by the students, took his place on the float overseeing all. The pharmacy students put their creative energy to work for five weeks to get the float ready before the big event.

Rho Chi Iota

Rho Chi Iota Chapter
Pharmacy Honor Society

Rho Chi Officers 2004-2005

President
Jamie Kisgen

Gainesville VP
Kourtney Long

Jacksonville VP
Seiha Kim

Orlando VP
Felicia Fong Kong

St. Pete VP
Amy Pasanen

Treasurer
Ben O’Neal

Secretary
Dimple Patel

Historian
Elisabeth O’Conner

Casey Adkinson
Claudia Battello
Kathryn Boles
William Bundy
Kyle Campbell
Michael Cook
Janice Curley
Heather Davis
Christopher Deisch
Joanna Doyle
Danielle Dragonette
Emily Grambling
Casie Guettler
Mandy Harrison
Amanda Hudson
Chau Huynh
Mee Soon Jang
Troy Jarvi
Katherine Jaudon
A’ishah Khan
Jean Kohler
Erica Konopka
Stephanie Kreatsoulas
Erica Ledford
Joyce Lee
Andrew Liu
Patricia Louzon
Sejal Madhav
Heriberto Martinez, Jr.
Michael Mathisen
Nicole Mathy
Huy Nguyen
Lauren Riley
Ryan Roberts
Kelli Rudidill
John Saunders
Tamara Shackelford
Rania Shamseddine
Rebecca Shay
Kelli Siglin
Peter Skrmetta
Mirta Soto
Christy Thai
Mickala Thompson
Virginia Tibbitts
Jessica Tohill
Theresa Urban
Ed Victorino
Tiffany Worsdale
Judy Wu
Sarah Yarborough
Michelle Zayas
Aaron Emmel, a second-year pharmacy student at the Jacksonville distance learning campus, received a student scholarship from the National Association of Chain Drug Stores. Selected from more than 440 applications across the United States, Aaron was one of 29 students recipients awarded a $2,000 scholarship to meet educational expenses for the Pharm.D. degree.

“The NACDS Foundation Scholarship Program is an excellent opportunity for us to support pharmacy students who have demonstrated a desire to pursue community pharmacy as a career choice,” said Kurt Proctor, NACDS Foundation president.

**Scholarships**

- **Biotechnology Education Scholarship**
  Supports students interested in Biotechnology with strong GPA; demonstrated financial need
  - Melonie Potvin

- **Russ & Carol Blaser Memorial**
  Married student with children in third or fourth professional year, GPA 3.4 or higher, financial need
  - James Morgan

- **CVS/pharmacy Scholarship**
  Good academic standing and an interest in a career in community pharmacy practice
  - Russell McKelvey, Shawn Anderson, Erika Diaz, Jamie Kisgen, Adriana Natoli

- **DeSantis Scholarship**
  Given to two students in final two years
  - Kayla Holston, Carlos Sevilla

- **DuBow Scholarship**
  Supports students in Jacksonville with “stick-to-itiveness”
  - Aaron Emmel, Tafana Fiore, Carolyn Piazza, Sarah Rainey, Kim Terhune

- **Harris and Hamilton Award sponsored by FPA**
  Student is a son, daughter or immediate family member of a current FPA member who has been a member for at least 5 years. Academic achievement, leadership qualities and accomplishments as well as involvement in extracurricular activities.
  - Marni Williams

- **Institute for Pharmacy Entrepreneurs Scholarship**
  Awarded to a 3PD or 4PD who has an interest in ownership
  - Ritesh Patel, Seiha Kim

- **Jerry Elaine Klimetz Scholarship sponsored by Broward County Pharmacists Association**
  Resident of Broward County; outstanding student; financial need
  - Kathy Boles

- **Reid Scholarship**
  Student in second professional year with financial need and academic excellence.
  - Shawn Anderson

- **Reunion Scholarship**
  Financial need, first professional year
  - Richard Boll, David Wong, Thomas Van Winkle, Eneida Metzger

- **Target**
  Third or fourth professional year, good academic standing, sincere interest in community practice & demonstrate leadership ability in maximizing relationships, effectively communicating & motivating others
  - Derek Stephens

- **Walgreens Award sponsored by FPA**
  Work experience, have at or above a 3.2 GPA, written essay “Retail Pharmacy in the Future” 300 words or less and involvement in volunteer work
  - A’ishah Khan

**NACDS Foundation Pharmacy Student Scholarship**

**American Pharmacists Association Academy of Student Pharmacists**

Back row: Sarah Yarborough, Carla Wells, Leandra LePorte; Front row: Judy Wu, Amanda McMurtrie, Mary Hopple (President), Sherine Goor, Kelli Siglin

E-mail your student organization photo to Homewood@ufl.edu
January 7-9, 2005, more than 100 pharmacy students from our four campuses, convened at the Jacksonville campus to participate in SOAR 2005. The Student Organization Annual Retreat (SOAR) is the annual student leadership retreat designed to enhance the leadership skills of current and future officers of the pharmacy student organizations. This year’s co-chairs were Kati Grudzinskas (2PD) and Brian Gaynor (2PD).

Some of the topics this year included membership recruitment, professionalism, career networking, community service, fundraising, budgets, and parliamentary procedures. Albertson’s sponsored this year’s conference and a special keynote address was delivered by alumnus and College of Pharmacy National Advisory Board member, Mr. Harold O’Steen. SOAR 2006 will be hosted by the St. Petersburg campus.

Changing of the Guard

Tour guides Derek Stephens and Janette Garcia showed off the new campus facilities and labs to the College of Pharmacy Class of ’54.

“Spending the day with the Grand Guard was an amazing opportunity,” Derek said. “Being able to see a glimpse of the past and at the same time, show them the present and future of the college was truly exciting.”
Dear Fellow Gators,

I hope this letter finds you and yours doing well after the unprecedented hurricane season of this past year. My family and I are still working on repairs to our house but otherwise we are happy and healthy. Speaking of hurricanes, I feel like a hurricane-force wind has propelled me through this past year. I cannot believe this is the end of my year as your Alumni President and that in July I will be installed as the Florida Pharmacy Association President at the FPA 115th annual meeting. Please join me in welcoming our new Alumni president, Bob Pruneau (’80) as we look forward to these exciting events.

- On April 15, the college will dedicate the CVS/pharmacy Education Center at the St. Petersburg campus site. This new, state-of-the-art facility will be located on the campus of St. Petersburg College in Seminole, Florida. The building is a smaller version of the new building in Gainesville, complete with a skills lab and CVS mock pharmacy!
- Late August, (date to be announced soon) is reserved for our 2nd annual Institute of Pharmacy Entrepreneurs, which will be held in Orlando this year. Last year’s gathering of pharmacists, business professionals, and investors was a tremendous success and we expect even more out of this year’s meeting.
- October 7-8, the college will welcome back graduates from years ending in 0 and 5 for the 2005 Alumni Reunion Barbecue, held during Homecoming weekend. On Friday, there will be a CE Program and a class party that evening. Saturday morning, join former classmates and friends at the Reunion Barbecue where you will have a chance to visit with faculty and students. Finally, the group will head to the Swamp to watch our new coach lead the Gators to victory over Mississippi State.
- October 21, is the date to mark your calendar for the Ken Finger Memorial Day and Golf Tournament. This is the 12th year the college has held this event — which kicks off with a morning CE program, followed by lunch and a golf tournament on the course at Haile Plantation. All money raised from this great event will support graduate fellowships and student enrichment activities.
- November 3-5, will be a special reunion for the class of 1955, as they will join other Gator alumni to commemorate their 50-year reunion during Grand Guard weekend.

As you can see, there are many things going on at the college. I look forward to seeing you at one (or more) of the events this year.

GO GATORS!

Kathy Petsos, R.Ph.
Class of 1979
2004-2005 College of Pharmacy Alumni President
The class of 1954 celebrated their 50th reunion this past fall with a weekend that included a tour of the new pharmacy building and its new museum, an evening of dancing, and tours of the campus. During a special lunch with Dean Riffee, the alumni shared personal stories of their careers in pharmacy, which ranged from the retail arena to pharmaceutical and hospital. Pharmacy classmate Bonny Sanchez defined his career in pharmacy as a one where “I knew what I did made a difference to people’s lives.” Third-year pharmacy students Derek Stephens and Janette Garcia joined the group for lunch and were moved by the passion these alumni shared for the college and the profession. Afterwards Derek and Janette gave the group a tour of their new pharmacy building and compared classes today with classes 50 years ago.

On November 3-5, 2005, we will welcome back this year’s Grand Guard – the class 1955. Alumni from the Class of 1955 are invited to come back to campus for a weekend full of events. In addition to the football game and induction ceremony, the College of Pharmacy will host a special lunch with Dean Riffee and other faculty members in the new Pharmacy building. This is a great opportunity to catch up with old classmates and recall memories of your days in Pharmacy school. A tour of the new building will cap off your day.

For more information about Grand Guard, please call Megan in the Development and Alumni Affairs office at (352) 265-8034.
Neither rain, nor sleet, nor hurricanes prevented UF College of Pharmacy alumni from celebrating their 18th annual barbecue reunion in September. Those who attended, welcomed the much needed relief from hurricanes and cleanup efforts. McKesson sponsored the event that included a CE component on Friday. On Saturday, there was a barbecue feast with student organizations and tours of the pharmacy building before heading off to see the Gators defeat Eastern Michigan 49-10.

With a high number of no-shows and cancellations, due to the forces of nature — the college donated unused football tickets to the United Way, who gave them to families who were affected by the hurricanes. The leftover meals were donated to the Gainesville Regional Utility crews who were working nonstop to restore power to the area.

Our reunion ended on a very positive note when the college awarded four $1,000 scholarships to deserving students. These awards were made possible due to the generosity of alumni who supported the Reunion Scholarship Challenge. A big “thanks” goes to the ‘Top Class’ of 1984 and to the ‘Top Donors,’ Paul Ackerman and Luis Lamela.

This year’s reunion will be held on Homecoming weekend, October 7 & 8. On Friday, continuing education will be offered in the afternoon, and there will be an evening reception for classes ending in “0” or “5.” On Saturday, the group will enjoy great barbecue, student booths and kid activities, with special guest appearance of Albert and Alberta. We will also have College of Pharmacy items for sale. If you are interested in helping with the reunion please contact Megan Miller at megan@cop.ufl.edu.

Mark your calendar for October 7, and join us for Good Gator Fun with friends old and new!
Honor Roll

Gifts from our alumni and friends help to create an outstanding pharmacy program and an exceptional learning environment.

2003-04 Gifts, totaled by class year:

1935 - $1,000
Dr. Charles H. Gilliland, Sr.

1942 - $500
Dr. Arthur G. Zupko

1948 - $200
Mrs. Edith P. Vass

1949 - $15
Mr. Walter E. Jacobs

1950 - $5,800
Mr. Raiford M. Brown, Jr.
Mr. Leland B. Dunwoody
Mr. Thomas R. Guy
Mr. John C. King

1951 - $350
Mrs. Wanda C. Ebersole

1952 - $375
Mr. Carey E. Jones

1953 - $11,610
Mr. Walter E. Jacobs

1954 - $2,350
Mr. Al Chiles, Jr.
Mr. Roy H. Golden, Jr.
Mr. Melvin H. Rosenthal
Mrs. Jean B. Rowland

1955 - $458
Mrs. Anita P. Thompson

1956 - $1,435
Mr. John C. King

1957 - $325
Dr. Donald E. Cadwallader
Mr. Ralph A. Fernandez
Mr. Manuel N. Glaros
Mr. John W. Jones
Mr. John H. Myers

1958 - $1,600
Mrs. Barbara W. Blood
Mr. John R. Cone III
Mr. David C. Jewell
Dr. Noel O. Nuessle
Mr. Kenneth D. Stewart

1959 - $1,355
C. Hildon Barton
Dr. Ronald J. Brenner
Mr. Richard A. Canady
Mr. James H. Leggett, Jr.
Mr. Billy R. Lowe
Dr. Robb E. Ross
Dr. Edward P. Winters

1960 - $700
Mr. Robert B. Taylor
Mr. Hoyt E. Terrell
Mr. Gilbert N. Weise, Sr.

1961 - $2,570
Mr. Walter E. Dykes
Mr. J. Warren Godcharles
Mr. Ray W. Golden
Mr. Donald H. Oakes

1962 - $3,975
Mrs. Carolyn K. Boyle
Mr. John G. Boyle
Mr. Kenneth J. Ellington
Ms. Valerie C. Griffith
Mr. Larry B. Hayes
Mr. Robert C. McCurdy
Mr. Philip D. Sparks

1963 - $11,425
Mr. Ted A. Bond
Ms. Sandra E. Buck-Camp
Colonel Henry W. Cogley
Mr. Alan M. Cohen
Dr. William J. Eells
Ms. Gay Harlove
Mr. David C. Ray
Mr. Gene Sego

1964 - $22,150
Mr. David Kazarian
Mrs. Carolyn A. Perkins

1965 - $250
Mrs. Marsha A. Tharp

1966 - $550
Mr. Charles S. Jones
Mr. T. Ray Lowe
Mr. James V. Manning
Dr. Anthony M. Messina
Mr. Robert W. Morgan

1967 - $2,545
Dr. James E. Berger
Mr. Peter R. Blake, Jr.
Mr. Edwin E. Kroeker
Mrs. Elaine Y. Muthar
Dr. Natalie A. Pope
Mr. Vincent E. Trunzo
Dr. Dennis J. Weber

1968 - $1,550
Mr. John L. Benton
Mr. Francis C. Davanzo
Mr. Gerald C. DuBois, Sr.
Ms. Janice M. Eaton
Mr. Gerald C. DuBois, Sr.

1969 - $430
Mr. Robert W. Morgan

1970 - $350
Mr. Paul A. Ackerman
Colonel Robert N. Brooks
Mr. Steven C. Kimbrough

1971 - $910
Mr. Arturo A. Codina
Mrs. Ada K. Keele
Captain Henry W. Land II
Mr. John D. Oswalt
Dr. Salvador Pancorbo
Miss Barbara F. Shank

1972 - $1,495
Mr. Willard L. Bass, Jr.
Mrs. Tweener W. Chapman
Mr. John H. Cromer
Mr. Kenneth D. Dean
Dr. Barry H. Dvorvchik
Mr. Roger R. Guntow
Mrs. Zolia Blain Martins
Mr. Stephen G. Reeder
Mr. John D. Taylor
Mr. Hewston A. Vereen, Jr.

1973 - $2,525
Mr. James W. Alonso
Mr. Paul S. Elias
Mr. Dean C. Litwiler
Mr. Marshall L. Mathis
Mr. Harry P. Maxson II
Mr. Charles K. Norman
Mr. Anthony R. Perry
Mr. C. Rod Pressnell
Mr. John M. Rutledge
Mr. Michael H. Schneider
Ms. Deborah L. Wood

1974 - $1,010
Mr. James D. Adams
Mr. John G. Boatright II
Mr. Thomas F. Emslie
Mr. J. Lamar Folsom, Jr.
Mr. William G. Perry
Mr. Danny R. Soles
Mr. George E. Udud, Jr.
Mr. Curtis M. Warren

1975 - $2,005
Ms. Gayle L. Andersen
Dr. Alice S. Batenhorst
Ms. Lisa Collo
Mr. Ralph F. Collins III
Mr. John C. Read
Mrs. Christine W. Ternenyi
Mr. George S. Temenyi

1976 - $29,339
Mr. Carl L. Allison III
Mr. Thomas P. Ball, Jr.
Ms. Marlene C. Bass
Dr. Cecil W. Hines
Mrs. Joan A. Johnson
Jennifer Y. Liang, M.D.
...Honor Roll continued

1977 - $2,925
Mr. Kenneth W. Bates
Mr. Leonard B. Black
Mrs. Susan K. Cavaliere
Ms. Catherine H. Duncan
Mr. Michael H. Hebb
Mr. David H. Hill
Mr. Michael G. Mustard
Mr. John M. Roehm
Dr. Roy J. Sturgeon
Mr. Mark R. Walker
Mr. Roger B. Woolwine

1978 - $2,222
Mrs. Lynn W. Bennett
Mrs. Louise A. Buckmaster
Mr. David A. Crane
Dr. Jimmy C. Dickert
Mr. Leon Greenstein
Mr. David Hunt
Ms. JoAnn Nuccio
Mr. David B. Winkles

1979 - $1,825
Mrs. Marjorie J. Brown
Mrs. Melindia J. Collado
Mr. Roger D. Grabach
Mrs. Linda S. Hedrick
Mr. Frank S. Katz
Mr. ChienKuo C. Lin
Mrs. Susan K. Cavaliere
Mr. David R. Hill
Ms. Catherine H. Duncan
Mrs. Melissa M. Pham

1980 - $1,160
Mr. Michael R. MacLeay
Mr. Ronald L. Morton
Dr. David W. Newton
Mrs. Kimberly M. Nichols
Mrs. Lynn Richards
Mrs. Elizabeth R. Stark

1981 - $13,690
Mr. Bruce David Adams
Dr. Philip S. Burton
Mr. Dale E. Duce
Mrs. Julia A. Hester
Mr. Mark Hobbs
Dr. Ralph P. Iafrate, Jr.
Ms. Deborah L. Klapp
Dr. Ginette Lapierre
Ms. Robin Ann Lewitt
Dr. Michael A. Mone
Mr. Carl M. Nelson
Mr. Sven A. Normann
Mrs. Maria C. Perez
Dr. A. Garnell Rogers, Jr.
Mr. Paul G. Rohrbach
Mrs. Wendy A. Stearns
Mr. Steven A. Stone
Dr. Marie Ann Talton

1982 - $245
Mr. Mark J. Ather
Mrs. Terrie S. Nager
Mr. E. Joseph Rascati
Mrs. Shari L. Sommerstein
Mr. Robert Michael Thomas

1983 - $3,200
Mrs. Dana J. Elmore
Ms. Cheryl A.
Nicolay-Giacomuzzi
Mrs. Janelle B. Perkins
Mr. Mark S. Robertson
Mrs. Susana M.
Rosado-Eliak
Mrs. Kathleen M. Smith
Dr. Gregory C. Tompkins, Jr.
Ms. Susan E. Tuttle
Mrs. Lillian S. Weiss
Mrs. Arthid A. Wells

1984 - $1,120
Mr. Alan A. Beauregard
Mr. Mark R. Heller
Ms. Oma P. Keating-Carilo
Mrs. Martha M. Little
Mrs. Audrey Mills
Mr. Terry D. Mundorf
Mrs. Marjorie S. Phillips
Ms. Jane L. Woods
Mr. Andrew Zagrafski, Jr.

1985 - $280
Dr. Charles H. Chodorow
Dr. Masako N. Murphy
Mrs. Terry L. Wehagen
Ms. Li-Fen Yeh

1986 - $310
Dr. Janet W. Montgomery
Dr. Karen L. Rascati
Mr. William Gary Simmons

1987 - $720
Dr. Pei-I Chu
Mrs. Lisa T. English
Mrs. Ivan P. Gonzalez
Mrs. Margaret A. Harris
Dr. Eric T. Rutherford
Mr. Michael R. Sale

1988 - $14,875
Dr. Robert G. Bell
Dr. Gary C. Cacciatore
Mr. John Garcia
Mr. John M. Riherd, Jr.
Ms. Pat L. Summerfield
Mrs. Theresa W. Tolle
Dr. Lesa M. Whalen

1989 - $1,195
Dr. Sheila D. Andrews
Mr. Michael P. Ciell
Dr. Ava Wix Eure
Ms. Nancy L. Francella
Dr. Darryl K. Joranlien
Ms. Lorraine M. Mobley
Dr. Isabel M. Moraguez
Dr. Dominic V. Morelli, Jr.
Dr. Douglas E. Peterson
Dr. Vera F. Reinstein
Dr. Aixa M. Rey
Mrs. Cindy A. Turner

1990 - $975
Dr. Christine K. Crain
Dr. Vanessa C. Sanchez
Dr. Michele Weiner-Simon

1991 - $150
Dr. Thomas R. Hawthorne
Dr. Sarah A. Hein

1992 - $1,280
Dr. Maria De Los A. Diaz
Dr. Frankie L. Jefferson
Dr. Tracy L. McKowor
Dr. Sophia D. Meuleman
Dr. Dawn C. Napolitano
Dr. Robert W. Townsend

1993 - $2,625
Dr. Susan D. Beltz
Dr. Katherine A. Castle
Dr. Renee M. DeHart
Dr. Karen M. K. Jeffries
Dr. Elena Mendez-Rico

1994 - $917
Dr. Donna M. Beehrle-Hobbs
Dr. Carolyn M. Brown
Dr. Jeffrey A. Crisafulli
Dr. Karen P. Daniel
Dr. Melissa K. Foss
Mrs. Bryan D. Henderson
Mr. Kevin McBride
Dr. Debra L. Phillips
Ms. Catherine S. Reilly
Dr. Debra R. Taldi

1995 - $235
Mrs. Clare I. Gumula
Dr. Angela J. Murphy
Dr. Nha H. Tran
Dr. Kim F. Yim

1996 - $375
Dr. Cristina M. Gastesi
Ms. Theresa F. Girard
Mrs. Valerie L. Hickman
Mr. Michael K. Hintz
Dr. Andrea R. Redman
Dr. Michael W. Williams
Ms. Charlotte A. Young

1997 - $1,075
Dr. Michael A. Land
Dr. Dianne E. Lane
Dr. Kristin M. Morse
Dr. Susan Rourke-Webb
Dr. Heather D. Stoeffer

1998 - $1,075
Dr. Randee P. Gore
Dr. Brenton S. Kottas
Dr. Tim E. Moyer
Dr. Scott A. Neel
Dr. Heather R. Pass
Dr. Jeffrey M. Wells

1999 - $1,375
Dr. Roger Accardi
Dr. Hector L. Cruz
Dr. Carmen N. Gerkovich
Dr. Darryl K. Joranlien
Dr. Melissa E. Marinos
Dr. Bright Chiedozie Onubogu
Dr. Scott W. Poxon
Dr. Tina M. Wegmann

2000 - $1,217
Dr. Lisa A. Boothby
Dr. Ginny M. Campbell

2001 - $1,265
Dr. Teri Y. Burnell
Dr. Brent C. Draper
Dr. Jeffrey D. Fain
Dr. Gwenn A. Haasch
Dr. Renata Krali
Dr. Loretta V. Lemoine
Dr. Regina M. Mohamed
Dr. Linda C. Popowski
Dr. Lydia G. Ross
Dr. Brian S. Ruderman
Dr. Kim C. Williams

2002 - $1,545
Dr. Osote Chaiyachati
Dr. Cynthia J. Conley
Dr. Benny B. Cruz
Dr. Erika D. Ernst
Dr. Beckie A. Fenrick
Dr. Maressa D. Glass
Dr. Helen D. Gutierrez
Dr. Carla D. Kennedy
Dr. Beate McCormack
Dr. Linda F. McElhiney
Dr. Joanne Meyer
Dr. Paul D. Mollo
Dr. Jennifer O'Donnell
Dr. Laura M. Vance
Dr. Margaret C. Yarborough
Dr. Kevin R. Zupancic

2003 - $1,190
Dr. Lauren Anderson
Dr. Gary J. Appio
Dr. Marilyn M. Aretz
Dr. Vincent J. Carnevale
Dr. Marie M. Cusack
Dr. Kevin W. Garlow
Dr. Judith B. Higgins
Dr. Kenneth H. Jackson
Dr. Shirley Kwok
Dr. Anthony W. Tamer
Dr. Natalie D. Tara-Kopal
Dr. Kimberly N. Waddleton
Dr. Cynthia G. Willis

2004 - $100
Dr. Andre B. Charvet
Alumni Update

**The 60s**
Valerie Griffith (’62)
Last July, Valerie moved into the Oak Hammock community at the University of Florida.

**The 70s**
Deborah Wood (’73) and Carl Allison (’76)
The Allisons recently opened their third pharmacy in Florida. They have two in Lake City and one in Jasper. Their son, Jared has been accepted into UF College of Pharmacy.

Melinda Collado (’79) and Anthony Collado (’64)
Anthony and Melinda’s daughter, Ashley is attending The University of Florida. Presently she is a sophomore majoring in mass communications and minor in business administration.

George E. Udud (’74)
George says he’s enjoying life, and it doesn’t seem like 30 years since he was at UF. The twins are 9 and Taylor is 14. He is moving into the new Clermont Wal-Mart Super Center this spring, and moving into a new house at the same time. George sends “Best wishes to all.”

Mark Walker (’77)
Daughter, Jessica, graduated from UCF winter of 2004 (Biology). Daughter, Casey, will graduate from UF College of Engineering spring of 2005.

Jim Nash (’75)
Since graduating in 1975, Jim has spent most of his career at St. Joseph’s Hospital in Tampa. Jim is currently a clinical pharmacist specializing in nutrition support. Jim and his wife, Donna and daughters Julie (UF graduate, August, 2004) and Joy always look forward to the UF football season.

**The 80s**
Melanie Lewis (’89)
Melanie is a home-school mom of four boys and works one day a week at Westlab Pharmacy in Gainesville. The family is excited this year to have a foreign exchange student from Sweden. Melanie says they are looking forward to teaching her about American culture and professions.

Theresa Wells Tolle (’88)
Theresa has recently completed her term as President of the Florida Pharmacy Association. She and husband Joe have three children, Taryn, age 8, T.J., age 5, and their third “baby gator” was born last October.

**The 90s**
Shannon Miller (’96)
Todd, Shannon, and big brother Brandon Miller welcomed their newest addition on January 12, 2004.

Linda Rolston (’81 & ’97)
Linda graduated from the WPPD program in 1997. Her son, Zachary, is 8 years old and she is the treasurer for his PTA. She has 21 years at Bay Pines and the VA, staying ahead in the clinical arena with prescribing privileges and team work. Linda continues to teach a geriatric clerkship and says she learns more from her students each year.

**The 00s**
Stephen Howell (’00)
Stephen and his wife, Nancy, who have been married since October 1999, welcomed a new addition to the family. Shelby Nichole Howell was born July 13, 2004. Stephen works at St. Vincent’s Medical Center in Jacksonville.

New Faces

The Development and Alumni Affairs office has grown and added lots of new faces. Don’t be confused if Megan looks different then you remember. Megan Bailey left us in August to pursue her master’s in management full time, before getting married this past January to her fiancée Zack.

In November, we welcomed a new Megan — Megan Miller as our new Assistant Director of Development and Alumni Affairs. Megan recently moved to Gainesville with her husband Scott, a financial analyst with Shands HealthCare. Before joining us, she earned her MBA from the University of Alabama and worked at Merrill Lynch in public relations. She will be spearheading our reunion and alumni events while building relationships with alumni and friends.

Jennifer Magary also joined our team in November. As the Program assistant, she dove right into Career Days. Jennifer has been in Gainesville since 1988 and graduated from the University in 2000. Her role will be to organize the 14 outreach events the office handles throughout the year (see call out box).

In October, we welcomed Diane Harris as our senior secretary. A native of Bell, Fla., she moved back to the area with her husband and two high school-aged children. After going through two hurricanes in Deland, she is excited to be back in her hometown and closer to family.

Our most recent addition is our much needed student assistant Haney Alvarez. She is studying business administration and event management at UF, and will be with us through the summer.

E-mail YOUR news to megan@cop.ufl.edu

Back row: Jennifer Magary, Diane Harris; Front row: Megan Miller, Haney Alvarez and Kelly Markey
Golf, Grads and Generosity was the theme of the 11th annual Ken Finger Memorial Golf Tournament held last November. More than 100 alumni and friends turned out to play golf and attend a morning session for continuing education. This year — thanks to the generosity of Walgreens — a prize buffet table allowed all teams to walk home with a prize. Tenet Hospital System sponsored three teams of future pharmacy graduates giving them an opportunity to mingle with alumni and pharmacists from all areas of the profession.

Thanks to the support of alumni, friends and corporations, last year’s tournament raised more than $30,000 to assist pharmacy practice fellows and the Academy for Excellence fund, making the day worthy of Ken Finger’s legacy. This year’s tournament will take place October 21 at Haile Plantation Golf and Country Club. We look forward to seeing old friends and new faces.

Thanks to our 2004 Ken Finger Memorial Day Sponsors

**Gold Sponsors**
- Abbott Laboratories
- Novartis
- Pfizer
- Wyeth
- Tenet Hospital System

**Silver Sponsors**
- CVS/pharmacy
- McKesson

**Bronze Sponsors**
- AmerisourceBergen
- Robert and Maria Bell
- Gold Standard Multimedia, Inc.
- Intellicus
- MedCo
- Pharmerica
- Roche Diagnostics
- UF Bookstores

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<th>FIRST PLACE</th>
<th>Pharmerica (Second Flight)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Roche (First Flight)</td>
<td>• Bruce Durbin • Jeff Hall • Joseph Shuryhan • Vic Morelli</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reeder Team (First Flight)</td>
<td>• Steve Reeder • Chris Reeder • Jake Beckel • Jon Beckel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staley Team (Second Flight)</td>
<td>• Ben Staley • Ken Klinker • Priyesh Patel • Richard Ernie</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medco (First Flight)</td>
<td>• Rod Presnell • Mario Gonzalas • Sara Lowe • Steve Glass</td>
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<tr>
<td>O’Steen Team (Second Flight)</td>
<td>• Harold O’Steen • Steve Simmons • John Reger • Jack Page</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Bruce Byrd, Mike Brodeur, Bill Riffee and Dan Devine

Jack Page and Harold O’Steen (pictured) along with Steve Simmons and John Reger won third place.
Donald M. Bell, Jr. (’82) – died October 20, 2000, in a plane crash. He was born January 12, 1956, in Pittsburgh to Donald M. Bell, Sr. and Jean Hayton Bell. He was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force.


George Reynaert Dinter (’54 Pharmacy/ ’65 Medicine) – Mr. Dinter died June 19, 2004. He founded the Stuart Eye Institute in 1969 and was chief of staff and head of surgery at Martin Memorial Hospital. He was born in Detroit and had lived in Fort Lauderdale as a teenager before attending the University of Florida where he received a degree in pharmacy. He served with the Air Force during the late 1950s, transporting VIPs and dignitaries to European bases. He attained the rank of captain. He attended medical school at the University of Florida, interned at Harvard and did his residency at the University of Miami and the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute. He enjoyed many outdoor activities and rode a Harley-Davidson.

Melville A. Erickson (’53) – Mr. Erickson, a Stuart resident for 17 years, died February 10, 2004. He was born in Le Sueur, MN, and served in the Air Force during WW II. He was a retired pharmacist.

Carl H. Fuhrer (’48) – died April 18, 2004 at Halifax Medical Center, Daytona Beach. Mr. Fuhrer formerly co-owned Taylor’s Pharmacy and Eastgate Pharmacy in Winter Park. Mr. Fuhrer, an army captain serving in WW II receiving a Purple Heart, was born in Jacksonville, and moved to Daytona Beach in 1982. A graduate of the University of Florida College of Pharmacy, he was a chief pharmacist for the Veterans Administration in Dallas, Albuquerque, N.M., and Vinton, VA. Mr. Fuhrer also was a pharmacy administrator in the VA’s central office in Washington, D.C. An usher and member of St. James Episcopal Church, he volunteered during special events for the City of Ormond Beach. Mr. Fuhrer was an avid bridge player and enjoyed reading, fishing and traveling.

Jack Gleaton Hamilton (’40) – passed away peacefully on August 22, 2004, at his residence in Pasadena, CA. Jack was raised in Jasper, FL, and attended the University of Florida. In 1940, Jack joined the Air Corps and flew fighter planes in Southeast Asia during WW II, where he made many eternal friendships. After military service, he married his childhood sweetheart, Lanora Ingram, in Las Vegas on June 29, 1941. Jack attended U.S.C.’s School of Medicine and obtained his M.D. degree in 1950. Jack specialized in Urology, opened a practice in Huntington Park, and joined the medical staffs of St. Francis Medical Center and Downey Community Hospital, where he was strongly admired and respected. He taught in the Urologic Residency Program at U.S.C., served as President of the U.S.C. Medical Alumni Association and earned the honor of Professor Emeritus. After the death of his wife Lanora in 1989, Jack returned to Florida to live in Orlando, while there, he married his late wife’s college roommate Jane Pace Hardy. After Jane’s death in 1999, Jack moved to Pasadena, CA to be nearer his remaining family.

James E. Hughes (’76) – died May 1, 2003 at Brockton Hospital after a period of failing health. Born and raised in Brockton, he was a graduate of Brockton High School and the University of Florida. Mr. Hughes had been a registered pharmacist and a resident of Florida for 20 years and a Brockton resident for the past 10 years. Mr. Hughes served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War.

Betty Dowling Jones (’51) – of Trenton, died November 5, 2004 at First Presbyterian Church in Lady Lake. Betty was a charter member of Azalea Park County Historical Society. Mr. Hughes served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War.

Hazel Smith Pfeiffer (’50), her husband Charles Edwin Riggs, Sr. (’45) – of Bremen, GA, moved to Central Florida in 1950. He was a member of Azalea Park Methodist Church.

John Allen Pelot (’55) – died January 9, 2004 atBlake Medical Center. He was born in Bradenton, lived in St. Petersburg many years, and returned to Bradenton 12 years ago. He was a pharmacist with Eckerd Drugs for 31 years. Mr. Pelot was a U.S. Army veteran of WW II, a member of Palm View Baptist Church, a member of The Gideons International, a Freemason, and a member of the Scottish Rite. He received a bachelor’s degree in Agriculture/Bacteriology in 1953, and also in pharmacy in 1955, both from the University of Florida.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Contact Kelly Markey at markey@cop.ufl.edu

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