



# Home

Helen & David Bean Campus of the University of Florida College of Pharmacy, Orlando



The University of Florida Research and Academic Center at Lake Nona



**GATORx** Magazine

is produced by the University of Florida College of Pharmacy Office of Development & Alumni Affairs for its alumni, faculty and friends.

**Development & Alumni Affairs** Kelly Markey, Senior Director

Editor

Linda Homewood, APR Director, News & Communication

Contributing Editor
UF HSC News Editors

Art Director Julie Esbjorn, JS Design Studio

Photography
UF HSC Photographers
Ray Carson, UF News Burea

Ray Carson, UF News Bureau Linda Homewood

**Dean** William H. Riffee, Ph.D.

Executive Associate Dean William J. Millard, Ph.D.

Sr. Associate Dean for Professional Affairs Michael W. McKenzie, Ph.D.

Sr. Associate Dean for Finance & Administration Michael Brodeur, MPA, CCBM

Associate Dean for Accreditation & Assessment Diane Beck, Pharm.D.

**Associate Dean for Experiential Education** Randell Doty, Pharm.D.

Associate Dean for Distance, Continuing and Executive Education Sven A. Normann, Pharm.D.

Assistant Deans & Campus Directors: Jacksonville: Carol Motycka, Pharm.D. Orlando: Erin St. Onge, Pharm.D. St. Petersburg: Jennifer Williams, Pharm.D.

## Giving Thanks

Dear Alumni & Friends,

It has been a great year for the College of Pharmacy thanks to our hard-working faculty, staff, students, preceptors, mentors and friends.

Our research activities have grown to more than \$10 million for this past fiscal year and the college continues to be productive in all areas of pharmaceutical discovery and development. Our students score well above the state and national averages on the NAPLEX exam, and are finding good employment opportunities.

Our college's expertise in distance education is proving successful with the growth of student access to our educational activities. UF President Bernie Machen has cited growth in distance education as the "future of the University of Florida." We are pleased to have been an early leader in this educational renaissance.

In this issue of the GATORx magazine, I am proud to share with you some of our achievements this year in research, education and innovation, including these highlights:

- The UF Medication Therapy Management Call Center contracted with WellCare, Inc. to provide medication management service to its qualified patients. Located in the new University Office Complex in East Gainesville, the UF MTM Call Center has already grown into a team of five faculty, one Fellow, two Residents and 12 students. We are very excited about the educational experience our students are receiving and the strides we are making in improving the medication therapy of the patients under our care. We are also initiating an MTM Certificate Program to aid pharmacists in acquiring new skills, and in January 2011, we are launching an MTM Master's program (online with blended face-to-face meetings).
- The UF Research and Academic Building, Lake Nona, Fla. officially broke ground this fall. The state-of-the-art education and research facility will become the new home to our Orlando campus and will house some of the most innovative pharmaceutical and medical science projects of the UF Health Sciences Center. Located adjacent to the Sanford-Burnham Research Institute, the new UF facility also neighbors the University of Central Florida College of Medicine, Nemours Children's Hospital, MD Anderson Cancer Center, and the largest Veterans Hospital and Research Center in the Southeast. What a great opportunity for our Orlando Pharm.D. students, and our research faculty and graduate students!
- Our new college website, under reconstruction, will feature an easy-to-navigate, new look for visitors seeking educational and research opportunities at our college. Designed in a content management system platform, the new site provides a workable environment allowing trained "authors" from each department or unit to manage their area's content and updates. Our web team is also sharing their knowledge by serving on the UF&Shands strategic web committees as the rest of the university also begins looking at ways to similarly improve its web platform.

As this year draws to a close with foundations laid for many successful endeavors in 2011, I'd like to extend my personal thanks to all of you in our "pharmacy family" who contribute, and support our college's goals.

William Riffee, Ph.D.

Dean, UF College of Pharmacy

William H. Reffer D

UF Orlando
How a small parcel
of land grew into a
Pharmacy campus



My Medicine
Pharmacogenomics Research
Network professor receives
\$10M NIH endorsement

## Guarding Safety

A professor in Pharmaceutical Outcomes and Policy leads FDA effort in active drug safety surveillance.



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Alumni are building a Gator Pharmacy Nation

ON THE COVER: David Bean and Dean William Riffee join UF administrators, educators and Florida leaders on Oct. 5, in a groundbreaking ceremony for the new UF Research and Academic Center at Lake Nona – new campus home for UF student pharmacists in Orlando. Photo by Ray Carson / UF News Bureau

# REFERENCE INC. NEW GROUND

THE STATE OF THE WAY CARSON, UP NEWS BUREAU

Student pharmacists
will learn from talented
faculty members at
a state-of-the-art
complex to prepare
for the challenges
and opportunities they
will face during their
careers and lifetimes.

-William H. Riffee, Ph.D.

Top: David Bean tosses the dirt at groundbreaking. Middle: David Bean and Dean Bill Riffee surrounded by Orlando-based UF pharmacy students. Bottom: David and Millie Bean got a preview of the Lake Nona plans as shown in artist's renderings.





## \$1.2 MILLION GIFT HELPS BRING UF PHARMACY CAMPUS TO NEW ORLANDO-BASED RESEARCH AND ACADEMIC CENTER

retired Orlando community pharmacist who donated \$1.2 million to establish a University of Florida College of Pharmacy campus in Orlando realized his dream in early October with the groundbreaking of the new UF Research and Academic Center in Lake Nona.

David L. Bean graduated from the UF College of Pharmacy in 1952, and made a pledge 50 years later to support his alma mater's efforts to teach pharmacy students in Orlando. In recognition of his gift, the pharmacy campus — located within the new Lake Nona facility — will be named the Helen and David Bean Campus of the University of Florida College of Pharmacy, Orlando.

In 2002, the UF College of Pharmacy established three Florida campuses — in Orlando, St. Petersburg and Jacksonville — to educate and train more student pharmacists in the state. The Orlando campus, currently housed at the UF IFAS Mid-Florida Research and Education Center in Apopka, supports more than 200 UF doctor of pharmacy students and more than 20 faculty and staff.

"At the UF Research and Academic Center, student pharmacists will learn from talented faculty members at a state-of-the-art complex to prepare for the challenges and opportunities they will face during their careers and lifetimes," said William H. Riffee, Ph.D., dean of the UF College of Pharmacy.

At the Orlando facility, the college is keeping its commitment to the state of Florida by furthering its three-prong mission of teaching, research and service. In addition to teaching pharmacy students in Orlando, the college also will advance its translational research in drug discovery and development, and its medication therapy management service to patients receiving Medicare prescription benefits, Riffee said.

The UF pharmacy programs in the UF Research and Academic Center will join an emerging biomedical research community in Lake Nona with institutions including

the Sanford-Burnham Medical Research Institute, Nemours Children's Hospital, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, and the University of Central Florida College of Medicine and Health Sciences.

The Research and Academic Center also will unite researchers from the UF colleges of Pharmacy, Medicine, and Liberal Arts and Sciences with colleagues at the Sanford-Burnham Medical Research Institute at Lake Nona. The collaborative efforts hope to identify, optimize and develop new therapies for the most devastating human diseases, including cancer, cardiovascular disease, brain disorders and aging.

The seed of Bean's philanthropy to support UF pharmacy education nearly 60 years later grew from humble beginnings and a \$10 commercial account.

"I worked for 14 years in Orlando pharmacies, saving my money for a day when I could buy my own pharmacy," Bean said. "In 1966, I bought the Altamonte Pharmacy for \$11,000, including the previous owner's commercial bank account."

After 11 years in Altamonte, Bean moved his business to the Longwood Professional Center at Palm Springs Drive and State Road 434. He operated under the new Palm Springs Pharmacy for 19 more years.

Bean said he relied on his faith in God, help from friends and the hard work of his late wife, Helen, who kept his accounts in order as he expanded his business to aid doctors' practices. He expanded his business through the development of compounding pharmacy, a technique in mixing chemical compounds to create liquids, ointments or capsules to fill prescriptions tailored to patient needs.

Through the course of his 30 years in business, the Beans had acquired a five-acre parcel in Osceola County from a customer in payment of prescription bills. After his wife died in 2000, Bean initiated steps to donate the land located near Osceola Parkway and International Drive South to the University of Florida.

In 2007, the sale of this parcel brought a \$1.2 million gift to the UF College of Pharmacy to begin searching for a new campus home for its Orlando students and faculty.

Bean, who plans to attend the groundbreaking along with his wife, Millie, expressed his honor in having the UF College of Pharmacy Orlando campus at Lake Nona bear the names of Helen and David Bean.

"My education from the University of Florida gave me a great opportunity to pursue a business I loved," Bean said. "There comes a time to give back to the university, which has been so influential in my life."

## Moving 'Forward Together'

with UF's new Senior V.P. for Health Affairs

by Karen Dooley

In his role as UF's senior vice president for health affairs and president of the UF&Shands Health System since July 2009, Dr. David S. Guzick has made great strides in integrating patient care and academics at UF.

Guzick's plan to develop a shared vision for UF's Health Science Center and Shands HealthCare has led to a \$580 million, five-year vision for the future. His plan emphasizes close collaboration among the health system and the six health sciences colleges (pharmacy, medicine, nursing, veterinary medicine, dentistry and public health and health professions) to ensure highest-quality and safest patient care. It also calls for renewed engagement with the community and expansion of the research and educational missions.



"Now is the perfect time for the University of Florida to move forward and build on its place as one of the country's leading academic health centers," Guzick said. "To do that, we must establish an integrated system that brings together the colleges that comprise the HSC with Shands HealthCare under a unified vision. The synergies of an integrated academic health center can only be fully realized if we work together."

The plan, titled "Forward Together," was unveiled in May and outlines shared values excellence, trust, accountability,

innovation, teamwork, integrity and diversity — and a series of oneand five-year goals. It grew out of a nine-month process spearheaded by a 25-member cabinet of university and hospital leaders who met monthly, including College of Pharmacy Dean William H. Riffee, Ph.D.

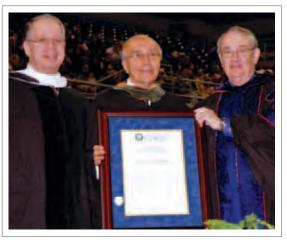
Guzick, who also is chairman of the board for the Shands at UF Teaching Hospital and Clinics Inc., is a reproductive endocrinologist and internationally recognized expert on women's health epidemiology and on the development and management of endometriosis, infertility and polycystic ovary syndrome. Among his many honors, he was elected to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies of Science in 2008.

"An accomplished researcher, physician and administrator, Dr. Guzick possesses the set of skills necessary to guide our Health Science Center and Shands HealthCare into the future," said UF President Bernie Machen. "He's thoughtful, deliberate and forward-thinking.

For detailed information on the UF Health Science Center and Shands HealthCare strategic plan, please visit http://forwardtogether. health.ufl.edu.

## Outstanding Awards

At the college's 2010 spring commencement ceremony, these four leaders were recognized for their outstanding achievements in pharmacy.



Paul A. Robell, Laurie DuBow and William Riffee

#### Lawrence DuBow | UF Distinguished Achievement Award

Lawrence "Laurie" DuBow, a UF College of Pharmacy National Advisory Board member, received a special honor as the recipient of the University of Florida Distinguished Achievement Award. Paul A. Robell, M.A., UF vice president for development and alumni affairs, presented the award to DuBow in recognition of his many contributions to the university, the College of Pharmacy, the pharmacy profession, and to his community.

A 1953 graduate of the University of Illinois College of Pharmacy, DuBow was actively engaged for more than forty years in the wholesale pharmaceutical sales and marketing industry. Today he serves as Chairman of HMS Sales and Marketing and a member of the Healthcare and Bioscience Council of Northeast Florida. As a devoted "friend" and supporter of UF pharmacy for more than 20 years, he also serves on the college's National Advisory board.

DuBow is involved with many community non-profit agencies, and has served: the Super Bowl XXXIX Host Committee; Habijax; Board of Trustees of WJCT; Secretary/Treasurer of the Jacksonville Jaguars Foundation, and a partner in the Jacksonville Jaguars, Ltd. He is a founding member of the Nonprofit Center of Northeast Florida and a former chairman of the Community Foundation.

Through the DuBow Family Foundation, he supports graduate education at the UF College of Pharmacy, and engages in charity and philanthropy in his community.

## & Recognition Spring Commencement



#### James Powers | Outstanding Pharmacy Alumnus Service Award

The Outstanding Pharmacy Alumnus Service Award is presented each year to an alumnus who has made significant contributions to the pharmacy profession. James Powers, class of 1953, was honored this year. He began his pharmacy education at UF after completing his service in the U.S. Marine Corps, He was a member of Kappa Psi Pharmaceutical Fraternity, Rho Chi Pharmaceutical Honor Society and Gamma Sigma Epsilon Chemical Fraternity.

Powers later served as a state narcotic agent with the Florida State Board of Health, and other programs in the Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services. He also served as a member of the Accreditation Council on Pharmaceutical Education and as a member of the Florida Board of Pharmacy.

In 1969, Powers was appointed as the Executive Secretary of the Florida Pharmacy Association and served as the Executive Vice President for twenty-one years. He was also the editor of the Florida Pharmacy Journal. Some

achievements during his tenure included the passage of laws such as the 'Generic Drug Law.' He was also instrumental in establishing the first Political Action Committee for the association and the Recovering Pharmacists Network of Florida.

#### Jeffrey Schmidt | Outstanding Pharmacy Service Award

The Outstanding Pharmacy Service Award is presented each year to a non-alumnus who has made significant contributions to the UF College of Pharmacy and to the profession. Jeffrey Schmidt, chosen this year, earned his bachelor of science in pharmacy degree from Ohio Northern University's Raabe College of Pharmacy.



Schmidt participated in the southern expansion of Hannaford Brothers grocery chain by opening and managing a Hannaford Brothers pharmacy in Charlotte, North Carolina. There he served as pharmacist scheduler and corporate trainer.

In 2000, Schmidt began his career with Target Corporation as a pharmacy manager and was soon promoted to a pharmacy supervisor

responsible for the operation of 40 Target pharmacies located in the Tampa and Miami markets. Later he became Manager of New Business Development at Target headquarters where he developed the corporation's pharmacy acquisition strategy. In 2006, he secured \$150,000 Leadership Grant from Target Corporation that provided leadership enrichment opportunities for UF student pharmacists over three years. The Target grant also provided more than 40 leadership-based scholarships.

#### Karen L. Rascati | Outstanding Pharmacy Alumnus Award & Commencement Speaker

Karen L. Rascati, R.Ph., Ph.D., the 2010 Commencement Speaker, was also chosen as this year's Outstanding Pharmacy

Alumnus. This award recognizes an alumnus whose lifetime contributions have been extraordinary with lasting benefits to the profession. Rascati is the Eckerd/Turley Centennial Endowed Professor of Pharmacy Administration and a faculty member of the Center for Pharmacoeconomic Studies at the University of Texas College of Pharmacy. She received her pharmacy degree from UF and returned to earn her Ph.D. in Pharmacy Administration, with a concentration in health care policy and economics.



Rascati has been elected to numerous offices within the American Pharmacists Association Science Section and was recognized as a 1999 APhA Fellow. She also has served on various committees within the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy. She is a charter member of ISPOR, where she has served as a board member, education committee chair, and member of the Vision 2010 task force committee.

Rascati has conducted more than 35 funded research projects and has served on various grant review panels. A reviewer for many research journals she has also authored or co-authored more than 90 publications and presentations. Her textbook, Essentials of Pharmacoeconomics was published in 2008, and was translated into Portuguese.



## Teacher of the Year

Michael J. Meldrum, Ph.D., an associate professor of pharmacodynamics, was honored as 2010 Teacher of the Year at the UF College of Pharmacy May commencement ceremony. His goal is to ensure his students understand concepts presented as a basis to gain further knowledge, rather than memorizing facts, Meldrum said. Also a 2006 award recipient, he has been nominated six times, reflecting the consistent respect and admiration he receives from his students for his dedication to excellence in teaching. He is chairman of the college's Curriculum Committee and serving for the second time as a faculty Senator. Meldrum has taught a summer Auditory Pharmacology class to Audiologists since 2001, and provides lectures in pharmacy and graduate student courses.



The UF call center contacts patients who have three or more chronic diseases and take eight or more medications that exceed \$3,000 in total costs annually.



## On Call: MTM Call Center Helps Patients Manage their Prescriptions

by Monica Vigo

Imagine sitting in your den, chatting with your pharmacist over a cup of coffee. For one uninterrupted hour it's just you, your prescription medications and your pharmacist — answering your questions.

In a partnership with national health plan company WellCare Health Plans Inc. the UF College of Pharmacy is receiving \$2.5 million to establish a medication therapy management call center. The call center satisfies a government requirement for healthplan providers of the Medicare prescription drug benefit to provide once a year comprehensive

medication review with quarterly follow ups, called Medication Therapy Management.

The importance of the MTM center is to see if patients follow their medication plans and to identify any non-prescribed drugs the patient could take that may affect other medications, said David Angaran, M.S. a clinical professor at the college and director of the center.

A pharmacist would have a difficult time having a 30-minute uninterrupted conversation with even one patient a day, Angaran said. Utilizing new MTM patient management software developed by Gold Standard/Elsevier the call center can better reach thousands of patients to discover details that the patients' health-care providers may not know.

"When you go to a pharmacy you get this sense that everyone's rushing. You're standing, and you have no privacy," Angaran said. "Our belief is that the patients open up more because they are in the comfort of their homes."

Of WellCare's 800,000 members, the UF call center contacts patients who have three or more chronic diseases and take eight or more medications that exceed \$3,000 in total costs annually. WellCare provides the center with records of the patients' medications and diseases.

Qualified patients are sent a letter informing them that they are automatically included for the service but may opt-out. An appointment call time is scheduled when the patient can have their medications in front of them. Before placing the call, the team reviews the patient's pharmacy records to identify their prescriptions, potential drug interactions, compliance, and cost issues to assist in the medication review.

After spending 30-60 minutes with each patient and developing a medication action plan, the call center team sends a copy of the plan to the patient and a list of potential drug related issues with possible solutions and references to their physician.

Besides patient care, the call center brings academic and research opportunities to the college.

Teresa Roane, Heather Hardin and Anna Hall, all Pharm.D., and clinical assistant professors in UF's College of Pharmacy, supervise the 12 student phar-



Director David Angaran (front), trainer Michele Lawson (left) and clinical assistant professors Teresa Roane (center) and Heather Hardin (right) supervise student pharmacists and gather research data in the call center.

> macists and gather data to publish research findings about the effectiveness of the center's efforts.

> "The students work really well with the technology," Hardin said. "Because the center is so new, this is a learning process for all of us and they are instrumental in the development of the MTM protocols."

> Michele Lawson, an MTM trainer, teaches the students how to be empathetic pharmacy-care consultants, encourages the call center student interns to put their patient-skills to work with this advice:

> "You can hear a smile through the phone, so always smile," she said. "When you're on the phone you should feel like you're holding their hand."

## Abraham Hartzema is a Sentinel for Safe Drugs

As new drugs emerge into the marketplace and become widely used, patients rely on the government to ensure their safety. Abraham Hartzema, Ph.D., a professor in Pharmaceutical Outcomes and Policy at the UF College of Pharmacy in fall 2008, began a one-year sabbatical at the Food and Drug

Administration in Rockville, MD. He is continuing to lend his expertise toward a national effort to more closely monitor patient safety.

Congress mandated the FDA to have a new "active" system in place, protecting 10 million patients by July 2010. Now in effect, the new Sentinel System takes a big step forward over the previous voluntary reporting systems that agencies relied on. By 2012, 100 million patients will benefit from the new active drug safety surveillance. The Initiative is designed to follow new drugs approved for marketing when

little safety information is available and works to provide the missing information.

Hartzema, the Perry A. Foote Eminent Scholar, now serves as one of three principal investigators and consultant to the Observational Medical Outcomes Partners Project. A two-year project funded by PhRMA for \$24 million,

created the new public-private partnership between the government, academia and the industry.

"When fully implemented, the Sentinel System will provide the FDA the capacity to recognize safety signals earlier in the drug's lifecycle," Hartzema said.

The FDA 2007 Amendments Act called for adoption of surveillance and monitoring using outside data sources. If a safety issue arises, the FDA using its regulatory mandate may examine medical records, and require the drug company to conduct additional safety studies.

The systems in place are only as good as the willingness of a patient or drug provider to make the effort of reporting issues with the drug, which is part of the reason why it takes so long to recognize adverse affects in drugs, said Richard Segal, Ph.D., a professor and chair of pharmaceutical outcomes and policy in

the UF College of Pharmacy.

"Hartzema's work with the FDA and the Sentinel Initiative will improve these existing models by expanding on information already provided for some drugs and taking advantage of the software already being used by the FDA, Segal said."



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

5600 Fishers Lane Rockville, MD 20857

## FY 2009-10 Annual Report in Brief

#### **Publications & Invited Presentations**

Department	Refereed	Non-refereed	Books	Abstracts	In Press	Presentations
Medicinal Chemistry	19	1	2	23	1	6
Pharmaceutical Outcomes & Policy	29	26	1	25	12	23
Pharmaceutics	19	0	2	2	10	29
Pharmacodynamics	25	7	3	27	10	5
Pharmacotherapy & Translational Research	54	20	17	26	15	92
TOTAL	146	54	25	103	48	155























#### RHONDA COOPER-DEHOFF, PHARM.D.

Elected Fellow in the American College of Cardiology, March 2010

#### **JASON FRAZIER, PH.D.**

2010 Jack Wessell Excellence Award for Assistant **Professors** 

#### **JULIE A. JOHNSON, PHARM.D.**

Therapeutic Frontiers Award Lecture, American College of Clinical Pharmacy, Oct. 2009

Fellow, American Heart Association; Functional Genomics and Translational Biology Council, Nov. 2009

Julius Koch Memorial Lecturer, University of Pittsburgh, College of Pharmacy, March 2010

Louis C. Littlefield Research Excellence Day Plenary Speaker, University of Texas at Austin, April 2010

#### MICHAEL MELDRUM, PH.D.

2009-10 UF College of Pharmacy Teacher of the Year

#### **FOLAKEMI ODEDINA, PH.D.**

Inaugural award: American Society of Health-Systems Pharmacy/Association of Black Health-System Pharmacists Leadership Award for Health Disparities, Jan. 2010

#### KAREN WHALEN, PHARM.D.

2009 National Community Pharmacists Association Pharmacy Leadership Award

#### **ALMUT WINTERSTEIN, PH.D.**

University of Florida Research Foundation Research Professor Award 2010-12

Funding by Department			
Medicinal Chemistry	\$1,949,	202 18.47%	
Pharmaceutical Outcomes & Policy	\$1,189,	754 11.28%	
Pharmaceutics	\$1,249,	516 11.84%	
Pharmacodynamics	\$1,422,	553 13.48%	
Pharmacotherapy & Translational Research	\$4,739,	645 44.92%	
COLLEGE TOTAL	\$10,550,	670 100%	
Funding by Category			
Federal Agencies	49	\$7,816,933	
Florida State Agencies	5	\$342,432	
Corporations and Companies	33	\$2,178,365	
Foundations & Societies	11	\$285,842	
Other	5	\$7,460	
TOTAL	103	\$10,631,032	
Federal Agencies		,	
AHCA	1	\$8,200	
AHRQ	1	\$200,488	
Food & Drug Administration	2	\$847,841	
National Center for Disease Control &	2	\$72,173	
Prevention		,	
NIH	42	\$6,688,231	
U.S. Dept. of Veteran Affairs	1	\$20,908	
TOTAL	49	\$7,816,933	
FL State Agencies			
Dept. of Citrus	1	\$120,000	
Dept. of Health	4	\$222,432	
TOTAL	5	\$342,432	
Other		<b>40 12, 102</b>	
Miscellaneous Donors	1	\$200	
Multiple Sponsors	4	\$7,260	
TOTAL	5	\$7,460	
Dec. ( B. d. %			
Patent Activity	Apps. Filed		
Department/ Center	Filed 12	Issued 3	
Medicinal Chemistry Pharmaceutics			
	0	0	
Pharmacodynamics Pharmaceutical Outcomes & Policy	0	0	
Pharmacotherapy & Translational Research	3	0	
TOTAL	ა 15	4	
IUIAL	15	4	

### **Corporate Awards**

AstraZeneca	1	\$55,625
Boeringer Ingelheim Intl GMBH	1	\$71,617
Cephalon	1	\$56,625
Compelware Corporation	7	\$193,583
Glaxo Smith Kline, Inc.	2	\$29,600
Golin-Harris Int'l., Inc.	1	\$5,000
Hoffmann La Roche, Inc	1	\$337,740
Johns Hopkins University	2	\$105,732
Johnson & Johnson	1	\$53,209
Miscellaneous Donors	1	\$1,900
Ortho McNeil Janssen Sci Affiars	1	\$371,700
OsmoPharm USA	1	\$4,980
Pfizer, Inc.	1	\$100,000
Research Triangle Institute	4	\$53,600
Sanofi Aventis	1	\$514,419
Steigerwald Arzneimittelwerk	1	\$26,989
TKL Research	4	\$89,834
Trius Therapeutics	1	\$81,337
Watson Laboratories	1	\$24,875
TOTAL	33	\$2,178,365

## Awards from Foundations & Societies

TOTAL	11	\$285,842
Shands Teaching Hospital	1	\$59,454
Nemours Children's Clinic	4	\$22,048
Multiple Sponsors	1	\$360
Johns Hopkins Univeristy	1	\$115,565
Epilepsy Foundation of America	1	\$3,000
Colorado State University	1	\$22,479
Am. Foundation for Pharmaceutical Edu.	1	\$6,000
Alpha One Foundation	1	\$56,936

## faces of change:

### How is UF Preparing Student Pharmacists?

University of Florida student pharmacists describe unique ways they are learning and practicing communication skills. By educating patients in their local community, raising awareness nationally, and honing their skills, these students believe they can be the faces of change in pharmacy practice.



### Lisa Horkan, Jacksonville

"The college is preparing me for the future by making me aware of the different opportunities and obligations I have as a future pharmacist to be active in local, state and national organizations. We not only need to be advocates for our profession in the workplace but also in the political arena."

### Joshua Pullo, Orlando

"The College of Pharmacy has offered me different positions in leadership to drive change – especially in my role as president of student council. The small campus setting has also allowed me opportunities to expand and become excited about growing as a campus. Being a part of the college has allowed me to see change in action by going to different conferences like APhA. One of the great things about UF is that they have student funding for these opportunities."





## Class Giving CHALLENGE

After four years of paying tuition to the college, students are usually ready to take a break from

writing checks. However, the class of 2010 made a special commitment to support students following in their footsteps. The students made pledges to give back to the College of Pharmacy, and at April's graduation ceremony they presented a check to Dean Riffee for \$37,535. Students were given options in their pledge amount and the initial pledge payment is deferred for one year. Every donation helps and it was proven by the total dollar amount raised. Several students opted to donate \$5,000 spread over five years. The dollars raised all go into the Academy for Excellence, which is used to support students when other funds cannot be used. The Academy for Excellence helps fund student organizations travel to events such as FPA and FSHP,

and ceremonial events. The 4PD Giving Challenge began in 2006 and was growing each year, but this year was a breakthrough. In 2009, just over \$8,000 had been pledged compared to this year's total of more than \$37,000. We want to thank all of the students who contributed. Additionally, we would like to recognize the Class Representatives who helped encouraged their peers to give back to the college: Nicolette Mathey, Grazia Nuccitelli, Nathan Unger, Shannon Zandy, Starr Bedy, Kristin McNeil and Samantha Lewis. And, thank you again to the (former) students who made pledges, we appreciate your continued support of the college!

## View from the Hill ASHP Summer Internship

Each summer, a wave of college students seeking congressional internships descends on



the nation's capitol, but one University of Florida student went there to learn about pharmacy legislation.

The American Society of Health-Systems Pharmacists chooses two interns each year to gain valuable experience in association activities and governmental affairs at the ASHP

headquarters in Bethesda, Md. UF student pharmacist Jesni Mathew, 3PD, one of only two pharmacy students nationally, was awarded a

2010 graduate David Leonard from the St. Petersburg campus presents a check to Dean Riffee at graduation. The check represents the total dollars pledged to the college by the graduating class.



#### Erica Fernandez, Gainesville

"The college has really prepared me for being a leader in pharmacy. I came up with an idea to go to high schools about prescription drug abuse and present as a peer to them feeling they would be more in touch with what we say. The deans were very supportive. It showed us that pharmacist-led initiatives can be very beneficial to the public. It also showed us we as pharmacists though our entire career should look at ways to go about improving public health and not just with patient safety but by going out into the community"

## Sarah Jackson, St. Petersburg

"Our communications courses gave us the skills to council and engage patients to have them learn to take control of their own health care. I think that helps lead change in pharmacy and will help me lead change by being a patient advocate and helping patients to take control of their own health care."



competitive ten-week training program in national association management.

"It was certainly worthwhile to step out of my clinical practice education and training to learn from an organization whose work ultimately directs the progression of the pharmacy profession as a whole," Mathew said.

Mathew's 10-week summer internship focused on the ASHP Pharmacy Technician Initiative. She worked to advocate ASHP requirements for accreditation, training, certification and registration of pharmacy technicians nationwide. All while tweeting and blogging about her experience.

"The fact that I was just a student did not mean I was less responsible for the projects I was assigned to — I was held accountable just like any other staff member," Mathew said. "That's really what ultimately made the internship so valuable."

After completing an internship at Shands Health Care in Gainesville, Mathew became interested in health-systems pharmacy and said she hoped to focus on a specific area of practice to investigate for future career opportunities through the ASHP internship.

"But it had the opposite effect," she said. "I was exposed to several areas of pharmacy practice, which allowed me to gain a broader sense of what I can do as a pharmacist."

She knew ASHP served as a 'collective voice' for health-system pharmacists, moreover, she learned how ASHP does its work, and why it's important to future pharmacists, she said.

In addition to Mathew's advocacy work on the PTI initiative and with affiliate affairs for ASHP, she also learned about professional communication and etiquette such as how to write inter-office memos and business e-mails. Mathew said this helped her to strengthen communication skills that will be beneficial during her clinical rotations next year.

"It was an experience that I doubt I would have gotten elsewhere in my pharmacy training," she said. "I am more motivated than ever before to stay involved with a professional organization throughout my career."



## Student Honors & Awards



Nerissa Alday, received a Student Leadership Award from the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists. The award recognizes students who have an interest in pharmacy practice in health-systems and have demonstrated leadership ability. ASHP offers up to twelve awards nationally each year to student members who represent the best attributes and accomplishments. The award includes a commemorative plaque, an ASHP drug information reference library, and a \$2,500 cash award provided by the ASHP Research and Education Foundation through the Walter Jones Memorial Pharmacy Student Financial Aid Fund.

Kristina Chen Yin was one of six students selected nationally for the Zada M. Cooper Scholarship from the Kappa Epsilon Foundation. She follows in the steps of our faculty member, Karen Whalen and joins 16 UF College of Pharmacy students, who in the past have been recognized for this award dating back to 1988.





Starr Bedy (left) and Harmony Schneider placed among the top 10 finalists among 102 college teams in American Society of Health-System Pharmacists' National Clinical Skills Competition. Students demonstrated their skills in areas such as assessing patient information, identifying drug therapy problems and recommending a pharmacist's care plan. The competition took place in December 2009 at the ASHP 44th Midyear Clinical meeting in Las Vegas.

UF APhA-ASP, the UF Academy of Student Pharmacists, student chapter of the American Pharmacists Association was awarded the Operation Diabetes award for Region 3, last March at the APhA Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C.

Megan Kloet, APhA-ASP chapter president, gave special thanks to the APhA-ASP faculty advisors, Tom Munyer, Sven Normann, Lisa Clayville, Karen Whalen, and Carol Motycka, for their support and dedication to the student chapter.

In addition to Operation Diabetes, the UF ASP student organization also supports Operation Immunization, Heartburn Awareness Challenge, Tobacco Awareness, Geriatrics Awareness, Alcohol Awareness, and APhA-ASP's newest nationally recognized patient care project, Operation Heart.

> Megan Kloet, Katie Wharfield, Nicole Maltese, Nicole Kitts and Abbey Plummer show off the UF award at the APhA Gator Reception in Washington, D.C.





## Kids with Diabetes get a Prescription for FUN

There's no trick — kids with diabetes were in for a treat mid-October as the Jacksonville campus of the UF College of Pharmacy teamed up with the American Diabetes Association to host the eighth annual October Bash.

UF members of the American Pharmacy Association's Academy of Student Pharmacists volunteered to help kids with diabetes enjoy the Halloween holiday fun. Each year, more than 15,000 American children are affected with type 1 diabetes, while the incidence of type 2 diabetes continues to rise with the incidence of childhood obesity.

"Halloween is a difficult time for parents of children with diabetes. Our hope is to try to take the focus away from candy while making the holiday still enjoyable for the children," said Carol Motycka, Pharm.D., assistant dean and Jacksonville campus director with the UF College of Pharmacy.

The free event each year helps ensure a happy and safe Halloween celebration for children and teens with diabetes and their families. This year's activities included a Halloween costume contest, roller skating, carnival and arcade games with the UF College of Pharmacy students.

Michael Eljera, AKA "Mario," a second-year pharmacy student at the Jacksonville campus, helped organize the event.



## 2010 Student Scholarships

#### Oscar Araujo Alumni Scholarship

Financial need, first professional year: Julie Anne Billedo, Douglas Brown, Katherine Perez-Moreta, Jennifer Steber, Bryan Allen, Brenda Breslin-Assarello, Wei Li

#### **Biotechnology Education Scholarship**

Supports students interested in Biotechnology; taken PHA5172 in prior year or currently; GPA 3.0 or higher; essay; demonstrated financial need:

Kerry-Ann Chamberlain, Sana Rokadia, Jenna Algozinne, Laura DeMonarco, Erica Shannon, Justin Wasko, Isaak Smith, Rosemary Akachukwu, Linh Phan, Katherine Bass, Kristen Tasca, Stephen Smith, Kelly **Anderson, Andrea Floras** 

#### Russ & Carol Blaser Memorial

Married with children, GPA 3.4 or higher, most financial need: Kelly Wiesen, Jennifer Martinez

#### Valerie Calkin Griffith Scholarship

Supports pharmacy student: Eleanor Lazarovitz

#### **Dolph Cone-Sandy Prickett Scholarship**

Supports scholarships to pharmacy students who graduated from a Florida public educational institution. Dhoha Zerki

#### CVS/pharmacy Scholarship

3PD/4PD, good academic standing and a career interest in community pharmacy practice: Natacha Khawly, Shirley Elisburn, Tara Williamson, Amanda Marciano

#### **Laura and Philip Dean Scholarship**

Good academic standing; married student: Allison Jamison

#### **DeSantis Scholarship**

Two students in final two years, good academic standing and financial need: Lana Kravarusic Nerissa Alday

#### **Elizabeth Eaton Award**

Recognizes excellence in searching, evaluating and applying evidence in clinical decision making and quality improvement. Andrew Tan

#### **Institute for Pharmacy Entrepreneurs Scholarship**

Awarded to a 3PD or 4PD who has an interest in ownership: Haesuk Heagney, Misty Johnson

#### Jack and Betty Jones Scholarship

Pharmacy students active in Christian Pharmacy Fellowship, ASP/APhA or ASHP, GPA > 3.0, financial need; with preference for non-traditional aged student: **Kandis Williams** 

#### **Kazarian Family Scholarship**

Good academic standing: financial need: Jonathan Lewis

#### Robert Littler Scholarship

Used to support scholarship awards to students in the College of Pharmacy so long as they maintain the requisite GPA to be determined by the college: Meghan Patel, Hieu Pham, Phuoc Bui, Ryan Milton, Lauren Rios, Ali Rouhani, Katty Wallis

#### MedCo Scholarship

4PD in good academic standing: Kerry-Ann Chamberlain, Sana Rokadia, Jenna Algozinne, Laura DeMonarco, Erica Shannon, Justin Wasko, Isaak Smith, Rosemary Akachukwu, Linh Phan, Katherine Bass, Kristen Tasca, Stephen Smith, Kelly Anderson, Andrea Floras

#### Al and Belle Meyerson Scholarship

Broward County resident, academic performance, financial need: Bigi Balacheryil

#### **Victor Micolucci Scholarship**

Financial need, academic standing and lack of parental financial support: Kristen Chen Yin, Robert Bushey

#### William T. and Jackie C. Reid **Scholarship in Pharmacy**

Financial need and academic excellence: Jessica Bovio

#### Jeanne Scheibler Scholarship

Supports scholarships for needy students in the College of Pharmacy; to be used for tuition, books, room, and board for students in need of financial assistance and who demonstrate the academic ability and determination to earn a Pharmacy degree.\$3,000: Michelle Barta; \$2,000: Safiye Nuhi; \$1,500: Kristina Chen Yin, Danielle Perini, Megha Patel, Robert Bushey; \$1,000: Douglas Brown, Julie Anne Billedo, Jennifer Steber, Barbara Swift, Teresa Vo, Milena Wong, Liem Phan

#### **Target Leadership Scholarship**

2PD/3PD/4PD; Applicant must be in good academic standing and have experience or an interest in a career in retail pharmacy practice; Demonstrated leadership

qualities; Students who are active in professional and community organizations. \$2,000 each: Alexia Leal, Nicole Williams, Jenna Rhoades, Liem Phan, Natacha Khawly, Danielle Honein; Executive Leadership Award for \$5,000: Brandon Huang

#### Francene Trainor Memorial Fund

Reward outstanding student leader with professional development funds to attend a meeting - patient counseling related: Michelle Roberts

#### **Walgreens Company Scholarship**

Essay and academic performance in pharmacy administration coursework: Natalie Wilson, Wei Lei, **Nicole Williams** 

#### **Wal-Mart Scholarship**

Student, 3 or 4PD with high scholastic standing, financial need, strong leadership qualities, desire to enter community pharmacy practice and has experience in community pharmacy. Applicant must submit a letter describing his/her experience in a community pharmacy setting: Natalie Wilson, Wei Lei, Nicole Williams

#### **Yachbes Family Scholarship**

3 or 4PD student with high scholastic standing, financial need, strong leadership qualities; desire to enter community pharmacy practice, experience in community pharmacy: Ngoc Luu

## **FPA** Foundation Scholarships 2009

#### **Akerman Senterfitt Law Department**

Rebecca Rosenwasser \$500

#### **1-800-PETMEDS**

Derrick Benton \$500 Danielle Pierini \$500 Jacqueline Tower \$500

#### **Recovering Pharmacists of Florida** Sponsored by HealthCare Consultants

Badanh Trace \$1,000

#### Walgreens

Robert Bushey \$1,500



#### **KE Woman Pharmacist of the Year**

Judith M. Riffee, R.Ph., a development coordinator in the UF Office of Interdisciplinary Education, was honored by Kappa Epsilon as its Woman Pharmacist of the Year. KE is a national fraternity that promotes the profession of pharmacy, especially women in pharmacy. Candidates for this award are chosen and voted on by active KE members.

Riffee received the honor for her dedication as a faculty advisor to UF Health Science Center students who travelled last spring to Ayuda Nicaragua on a health outreach trip. Riffee taught pharmacy students about international health issues and how to counsel patients, said KE member Lauren Ritenbaugh, a UF student pharmacist who nominated her mentor.

"Inspiring us all to become great pharmacists, Mrs. Riffee is the epitome of the superb role model," Ritenbaugh said.

## **DEAN'S CIRCLE**

This report reflects donations made July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010.

The Dean's Circle recognizes alumni and friends like you who support the college with an annual gift of \$500 or more to the Academy for Excellence. This fund provides the college the flexibility to provide leadership opportunities for students and faculty and to develop new educational initiatives. Your continued support allows us to compete for top rankings and strive to become the No. 1 college of pharmacy.

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- \*can be pledged over one year

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Donations are tax deductible as allowed by law.

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## AmerisourceBergen Supports UF Pharmacy Education to Encourage Entrepreneurship

The University of Florida College of Pharmacy received a five-year commitment from AmerisourceBergen for \$100,000 to establish the Community Pharmacy Business and Entrepreneurial Endowment to support pharmacy ownership and business and entrepreneurial practices in pharmacy. As part of the program, the college is developing a summer internship for students to gain experience and knowledge from independent pharmacy owners in the community. Besides in-store work experience, the pharmacist will mentor the student in local health-care networks, so that the student understands the impact an independent pharmacist has in their community.

Joseph J. Brecko, V.P. Distribution Center Manager at AmerisourceBergen, presented Bill Riffee, dean of the college, with a check in September at the college's fall National Advisory Board meeting.

Brecko, a member of the advisory board, has worked in the Florida, New Jersey and California corporate markets for 47 years. His company, committed to national support of community pharmacy, encourages students to consider pharmacy ownership and entrepreneurship. Dave Yost, CEO and president of AmerisourceBergen, agrees.

"Community-based pharmacists are critical members of the evolving U.S. health care system and the most accessible professional of the patient's healthcare team," Yost said. "We are pleased to continue this tradition of supportive health care."

AmerisourceBergen and its network program for community pharmacy, Good Neighbor Pharmacy, have supported university pharmacy programs across the country, funding several educational programs and scholarships for pharmacy students.

## University of Florida Research & Academic Center at Lake Nona

The University of Florida Research and Academic Center at Lake Nona is designed to promote collaboration among researchers at UF and the adjacent Sanford-Burnham Institute for Medical Research. Together, these two leading national institutions are working to make fundamental medical research in cancer, diabetes and other diseases available to patients in clinical settings.

UF is moving forward with plans for a 100,000-squarefoot building at a construction cost of more than \$40 million, including \$26 million in appropriations from the Florida Legislature. The university is seeking additional private funding to complete the project, which is scheduled for completion by summer 2012.

#### A Medical Research Community in Florida

Lake Nona is a multi-faceted, 7,000-acre master planned community in the city of Orlando. Its centerpiece is a 600-acre health-and-life-science cluster known as Lake Nona

**NAMING OPPORTUNITIES Support UF Pharmacy Research & Education at Lake Nona** BUILDING **GIFT UF BUILDING** \$10,000,000 **PHARMACY ACADEMIC WING** Conference Room \$50,000 Skills Lab \$125,000 Offices (6) \$25K each \$150,000 Small Classrooms (6) \$50K each \$300,000 Large Classrooms (4) \$100K each \$400,000 **CLINICAL RESEARCH — FLOOR 1 Clinical Science Programs** (Institute on Aging, MTM Call Center) \$2,500,000 PHARMACOMETRICS — FLOOR 2 Conference Room \$50,000 Offices (5) \$25K each \$125,000 Research Laboratory \$1,000,000 OTHER RESEARCH — FLOORS 3 & 4 Conference Room (2) \$50k each \$100,000 Offices (10) \$25K each \$250,000 Research Laboratory (2) \$1M each \$2,000,000 **SHARED AREAS** Atrium \$2,000,000 Auditorium \$1,500,000

Medical City. UF's Academic and Research Center will give the university a strong presence in the growing medical complex at Lake Nona that also includes the University of Central Florida's College of Medicine and Burnett School of Biomedical Sciences, the Nemours Children's Hospital, the Orlando Veterans Affairs Medical Center and the M.D. Anderson Center Research Institute. More than \$1.5 billion in biomedical-related construction is complete, under way or funded — on a parcel of less than one square mile.

#### Center in Pharmacometrics and Systems Pharmacology

Pharmacometrics is an emerging science that seeks to quantify drug, disease and trial information to aid in the most efficient drug design process and regulatory decisions. UF College of Pharmacy Professors Hartmut Derendorf, Ph.D. and Günther Hochhaus, Ph.D., will help establish the Center for Pharmacometrics and Systems Pharmacology at UF's Research and Academic Center at Lake Nona. The center will include a laboratory for processing biological samples and state-of-the art data analysis systems. Graduate research students in UF's pharmaceutics program at the center will



receive training and benefit from industry collaboration in the drug discovery and development process.

The UF Academic and Research Center at Lake Nona facility also will include academic, office, conference, support and research space to enable UF and Sanford-Burnham scientists to work synergistically on diabetes, aging, genetics, cancer and other areas, including these programs.

- The UF Institute of Therapeutic Innovation, which will unite researchers from the colleges of Medicine, Pharmacy and Liberal Arts and Sciences and colleagues at the Sanford-Burnham Institute to identify, optimize and develop new therapies for the most devastating human diseases, including cancer, cardiovascular disease and brain disorders
- A clinical research unit from UF's Institute on Aging
- The Orlando Campus of the College of Pharmacy's first-professional degree program, which will house 200 students seeking the Doctor of Pharmacy degree

#### **Economic Impact in Florida**

As a whole, the Lake Nona medical complex — a collection of talent, research and investment — is expected to generate \$5.2 billion in economic activity by 2017. A recent economic impact study also projected that by that year the Lake Nona Medical City will have created 16,200 jobs worth \$1.5 billion in wages and will be producing \$245.5 million in annual tax revenue.

"Within less than two decades, the institutions at Medical City, coupled with the existing photonics and simulation businesses and research capacity in central Florida, should give Florida the business dynamo that it has always yearned for — a scientific research and commercial complex that can begin to play in the same league as areas like the Route 128 corridor around Boston and Research Triangle in North Carolina," noted Florida Trend magazine in its October 2009 issue.

At the Lake Nona facility, the college is keeping its commitment to the state of Florida by furthering its three-prong mission of teaching, research and service.



In addition to teaching pharmacy students, the college will also advance its translational research in drug discovery and development, and its Medication Therapy Management service to patients receiving Medicare prescription benefits.

"At the UF Research and Academic Center, student pharmacists will learn from talented faculty at a state-of-the-art complex to prepare for the challenges and opportunities they will face during their careers and lifetimes," said William H. Riffee, Ph.D., dean of the UF College of Pharmacy.

The University of Florida Research and Academic Center at Lake Nona will help transform research and patient care. Researchers and scientists at the center will develop measures to

address some of the greatest health issues of our time. Students will learn from talented faculty members at a state-of-the-art complex so that they, too, will be prepared for the challenges and opportunities they will face during their careers and lifetimes.

With the right resources today, the college can expand its impact to affect more lives in more places, with a greater depth of solutions, while educating and preparing our students for tomorrow. Partnership with former students, industry and friends is vital for the college to continue training future scientists to solve tomorrow's problems.

Private philanthropy will ultimately provide the margin of excellence to support UF's faculty and the promise our students hold. The University and the College of Pharmacy have been committed to its threefold mission of teaching, research and service. The University of Florida Academic and Research Center at Lake Nona is among UF's boldest endeavors to accomplish those aspirations in order to better serve the people of Florida and, indeed, the world. Your financial support for the University of Florida Academic Research Center at Lake Nona will help ensure that researchers have the tools and resources they need to help this and future generations live healthier lives.

Contact Kelly Markey 352.273.6605 or markey@cop.ufl.edu

## Dan Devine Constructed His Own Path to Create the Dean's Endowment

Entrepreneur and University of Florida alumnus, Daniel J. Devine, CEO of Compass Knowledge Group, a provider of distance learning services in Orlando, Fla. constructed a career path from engineering to education. Dan has created endowments totaling \$1.3 million in support of the UF Colleges of Pharmacy and Public Health and Health Professions.

Nearly \$1 million of this support was used to create the William Riffee Dean's Endowment to support academic programs, research and technology in the UF College of Pharmacy.

Dan received a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from the University of Florida in 1985, and returned 10 years later with a vision of a partnership that would aid the university in becoming a leader in distance education. Working with the colleges of Pharmacy and Public Health and Health Professions, Dan developed marketing and student retention plans for the colleges' distance learning programs.

The College of Pharmacy's Working Professional Pharm.D. (WPPD) program has grown from 20 students in 1994 to more than 600 students nationally today, and has enabled more than 1,500 working pharmacists living in cities across the United States to advance their bachelor's degree to a UF doctor of pharmacy degree.

As an alumnus, Devine sees the importance of giving back to UF, and found his passion in the development of distance learning services in partnership with the college under the leadership of Dean William Riffee, Ph.D. He wanted his gift to recognize

the visionary leadership and difficult work Riffee initiated and had built on for more than 10 years.

"It's remarkable to see the educational opportunities that developed in the College of Pharmacy in the time he has been dean, and I am proud to have been associated with the college during these extraordinary times," Devine said.

After serving on the UF College of Pharmacy National Advisory Board for more than 10 years, in 2008, the college honored him with its Outstanding Pharmacy Service Award.

A winner of the Florida Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award this year, Devine was recognized as a company leader who balances the roles of entrepreneur, client relationship builder, role-model, community — and family man, with commitment and compassion.



Daniel Devine, 2010 Florida Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year

After graduating from UF, Devine worked as an engineer for Harris Corporation for seven years. He was among a handful of employees selected each year from Harris' workforce of 30,000 to participate in the WINGS Executive Development Program. The first year, he focused on management/leadership classes. The second year, he was sent to Washington, D.C. to work with lobbyists, to Texas to work in the field, and to more cities for intensive specialized training in all aspects of the company.

The eldest of five children, Devine grew up in College Park, Fla., where he helped his parents in business ventures. The experiences in his family's business helped him develop an entrepreneurial interest that lasted through his college years, Devine said.

Following his father's lead, he created a successful organization himself. By applying the high standards and focused determination he had always relied on, Devine built more than a business, he has helped strengthen the college through endowment, and has promoted the UF educational reach across the nation.



## Master Educator 'Raises the Bar' on SOAP Notes

by April Frawley Birdwell

They couldn't write notes. It was a problem Ann Snyder, Pharm.D., clinical assistant professor of pharmacy, noticed in almost all her students. Upon admission to the UF College of Medicine Master Educator Fellowship Program two years ago, she saw a much-needed educational opportunity.

The notes Snyder is talking about aren't the kind students take in a lecture hall. Rather, many health sciences students not just hers — struggled in writing a Subjective, Objective, Assessment, Plan, known as a "SOAP" note. Found in patient charts and records, health professionals worldwide write the one-page briefs to communicate to each other about patient care and concerns. It's a universal language for health-care providers, she said.

"Everyone struggles with it," said Snyder, coordinator of the College of Pharmacy's Working Professionals Pharm.D. Clinical Practice Assessment program. "Effective note writing is really important because it leads to better communication among the health-care team and improves patient care."

Geared toward helping clinicians become better teachers, the College of Medicine's education fellowship encourages faculty to identify and choose a project relevant to their students or curriculum. Snyder, the only pharmacy

educator in the program, took on SOAP-note writing as her project. She first surveyed faculty and students to assess their needs. Next, she developed a rubric chart of criteria and standards, used as a teaching strategy for learning assessment and feedback. Working with pharmacy faculty at UF and other universities, Snyder wanted to develop student pharmacist progress in note-writing throughout their college curriculum. Her colleagues at Midwestern University -Glendale in Arizona and the University of Washington in Seattle welcomed the opportunity for their students to participate and benefit from the exercise.

Her objective was to help students understand what is pertinent and what is not based on medications and medical conditions when writing the patient notes, she said.

Inspiring projects like these is one of the goals of the College of Medicine's Master Educator Fellowship program. Started in 2001, the program aims to improve education by enhancing clinicians' teaching skills and to help faculty advance in their own careers, says Kyle Rarey, Ph.D., a College of Medicine professor who co-pioneered the program.

As part of the program, faculty members meet twice a month for 18 months and work on individual research projects.

During their training as teachers, clinicians keep their focus on learning to provide the best care to patients, says Felipe Urdaneta, M.D., a clinical associate professor of anesthesiology and director of the MEF program.

Fellows learn how to use new technology as tools in their teaching and also have sessions with UF leaders to hear about impending changes in educational policy. But perhaps most importantly, fellows get to learn from each other and establish a network across disciplines, Urdaneta says.

Although program participants primarily come from the College of Medicine, four faculty members from other colleges have participated, including Snyder.

"Part of our educational mission is to promote interdisciplinary team learning," Rarey said.

A graduate of the fellowship's fifth class last May, Snyder feels that the program has made her a better teacher and, in turn, a better clinical educator.

"What the value really was for me — is knowing that I'm not alone," Snyder said. "It helped me to see how other residency programs work and how others make decisions."

But that is not the end of the story for this Master Educator. This fall, Snyder accepted a very special invitation to join nine of her MEF cohorts as the founding class of OnMED, a two-year online master's program in medical education. The collaborative program builds on the knowledge and skills they learned as previous classmates.

## Botanicals Expert

Members of the Botanicals Expert Committee met last year at the United States Pharmacopeia headquarters in Washington, D.C. Veronika Butterweck, Ph.D., an associate professor of natural products at the UF College of Pharmacy was one of them. Butterweck, a co-director for the UF Center of Food-Drug Interaction Research and Education is one of only nine experts — and the only woman — to serve on the committee, which reappoints new members every five years. The Botanicals Expert Committee is a part of the United Stated Pharmacopeia and is made up of volunteers who have been elected by USP's council of experts. There are 19 other USP expert committees. The organization sets the public standard for all prescription and over-the-counter medicines and health care products sold in America. Its standards are used by more than 130 countries around the world. According to its mission statement, USP seeks to improve the quality and safety of medicines and foods sold in the United States.



## **Double** Recognition in Drug Development

by Linda Homewood

The process of bringing one new drug to market can take a decade and hundreds of millions of dollars. Hartmut Derendorf, a distinguished professor in the UF College of Pharmacy, is finding ways to tighten expenses and shorten timelines while balancing patient variability, drug safety and effectiveness against all possible risks.

His work was recognized by two national pharmacy organizations this year.

In July he received the 2010 Volwiler Research Achievement Award from the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy at its annual meeting in Seattle.

"Dr. Derendorf is an exceptional leader and teacher. He is not only known for his incredible contributions to pharmaceutical education, but for his leadership and mentorship to advance research that is vital to the academic community," said Lucinda L. Maine, Ph.D., R.Ph., AACP executive vice president and CEO, when she presented the award.

In September. he was honored again when he received the American College of Clinical Pharmacology 2010 Distinguished Investigator Award. This prestigious annual award recognizes superior scientific expertise and accomplishments by a senior investigator, in a distinct area of research in basic or clinical pharmacology for which the individual is internationally known. He was recognized at the ACCP 39th Annual Meeting in Baltimore for his outstanding research on the pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of corticosteroids, analgesics, antibiotics and also drug interactions.

Derendorf, the CVS Pharmacy Endowed Professor and chairman of the college's pharmaceutics department, has developed a series of laboratory analyses and mathematical models of drug concentrations to predict which drugs show the best promise for patients, and at which dose.

"This can mean two to three years of savings compared with the traditional trial-and-error approach and expense of clinical trials," Derendorf said.





The basis of drug development is in PK/PD modeling, PK, short for Pharmacokinetics, examines what happens to the drug—how the body metabolizes it. PD, or pharmacodynamics, describes the effects, good or bad, the drug has on the body.

"The Handbook of Pharmacokinetic-Pharmacodynamic Modeling," authored by Derendorf and his colleague Günther Hochhaus and published in 1995, was the first textbook overview of this process. Today, his PK/PD methodology integrates preclinical and clinical science to streamline drug development and optimize dosing strategies for new medicines.

Using microdialysis, a patented drug monitoring method, he can measure drug concentrations at the treatment site rather than in the bloodstream.

Derendorf received his doctorate in pharmacy, summa cum laude, from the University of Münster, Germany. His journey in academic research comes full circle from 1981, when he first joined UF as the postdoctoral fellow of Edward R. Garrett. Likewise, in 1980, his mentor received the AACP's Volwiler award.

Derendorf believes that costs of new drug development are too high for any one country, and should be an international effort. In 1997, he established the Symposium on New Developments in Clinical Pharmacy and Clinical Pharmacology. The collaborative meeting of postdoctoral and graduate students, and international colleagues, is co-hosted by a European university biennially.

"It is rewarding to see so many of our former students being successful in their careers in academia, the pharmaceutical industry, and the regulatory agencies around the world," Derendorf said. "They all are great ambassadors of the Gator spirit."

This year, the Pharmaceutics dept is hosting two scientific meetings in Graz, Austria. The 2011 Global Gator meeting and the 8th Retrometabolism-based Drug Design & Targeting Conference are both planned for June 2-4, 2011. Visit the pharmaceutics research department on the college website www.cop.ufl.edu for details on presenting or attending either meeting.



## How Low Should You Go?

Surprising Findings on Blood Pressure with Diabetes & Heart Disease

by Linda Homewood

For patients with diabetes and heart disease, less isn't always more — at least when it comes to blood pressure.

New data show an increased risk of heart attack, stroke or death for patients having blood pressure deemed too high — or too low, according to Rhonda Cooper-DeHoff, Pharm.D., an associate professor of pharmacy and medicine at UF. She reported her findings in March at the American College of Cardiology's 59th annual scientific session in Atlanta. She recommends raising the systolic bar above 120 for blood pressure in patients with diabetes and coronary artery disease, saying that levels between 130 and 140 appear to be the most healthful.

Based on hypertension treatment guidelines, health-care practitioners have assumed that with regard to blood pressure, "the lower, the better," Cooper-DeHoff said. But, her International Verapamil SR-Trandolapril study, known as INVEST, suggests that the range considered normal for healthy Americans may actually be risky for those with a combined diagnosis of diabetes and coronary artery disease.

"Our data suggest that in patients with both diabetes and coronary artery disease, there is a blood pressure threshold below which cardiovascular risk increases," Cooper-DeHoff said.

As many as two out of three adults with diabetes have high blood pressure. Normal blood pressure as defined by the American Heart Association is less than 120 systolic and less than 80 diastolic. Cooper-DeHoff's findings show that for diabetics with coronary artery disease, systolic

pressure greater than 140 poses a nearly 50 percent increase in cardiovascular risk, but below 130 did not appear to offer any

additional benefit.

Cooper-DeHoff's study, which was funded by Abbott Laboratories with support from the National Institutes of Health, reveals for the first time that this group of patients also had a similar increase in risk when their blood pressure was controlled to lower than 115 systolic — the range recommended as normal by the American Heart Association.

Stephan Brietzke, M.D., a doctor of endocrinology who did not participate in the research, was intrigued by the findings, saying that they parallel recent studies looking at blood sugar control, which suggest a U-shaped curve with higher cardiovascular risks at both "too high" and "too low" extremes.

Brietzke, an associate professor of clinical medicine at the University of Missouri-Columbia since 2002, led a multidisciplinary team that developed Veterans Health Administration and Department of Defense collaborative guidelines for the treatment of type 2 diabetes. He sees this as an important study for doctors treating patients with diabetes and cardiovascular disease.

"Identifying thresholds of when to initiate treatment, and when to say, "good enough," is extremely important not only to optimize patient outcomes, but also to help reduce unnecessary costs of care," Brietzke said.

The AHA reports that heart disease or stroke is the top cause of death for people with diabetes, affecting more than 60 percent of patients. High blood pressure, common in diabetes, doubles the risk of cardiovascular disease.

The INVEST study is the first to evaluate the blood pressure-lowering effects of diabetic patients diagnosed with coronary artery disease.



## Making Medicine Personal

by Linda Homewood

Humans are about 99.9 percent genetically identical. It's that remaining 0.1 percent that might explain differences in our disease risk or response to medications. There is a national effort to use genetic data to more effectively pinpoint what medications and treatments are best for individual patients, and a University of Florida College of Pharmacy researcher has received \$10.6 million to be a part of it.

Julie A. Johnson, Pharm.D., chair of pharmacotherapy and translational research in the college, is one of 14 researchers who received a five-year award as part of the National Institute of Health's Pharmacogenomics Research Network.

Looking to the future of personalized medicine, the NIH's National Institute of General Medical Sciences has invested more than \$160 million in these genetics investigators to study responses to medicines for cancer, heart disease, asthma and nicotine addiction, among other areas.

"Through these studies, we are moving closer to the goal of using genetic information to help prescribe the safest, most effective medicine for each patient," said NIH Director Francis S. Collins, M.D., Ph.D.

Johnson the V. Ravi Chandran Professor in pharmaceutical sciences, and director of the UF Center for Pharmacogenomics, said the large award makes it possible to continue her ongoing work to discover the genes that result in different responses to blood pressure medications.

About 75 million people in the United States and about 1 billion in the world have high blood pressure, making it the most common chronic disease in the world. Another 75 million people have borderline high blood pressure, so they are at a very high risk for developing high blood pressure during the next 10 years.

Many people lose patience with having to change blood pressure prescriptions until they find the best one, Johnson said. She believes that matching the right drug early in the diagnosis, based on a person's genetic information, will increase the number of people who maintain their medication regimen.

"Our goal is to find the best medicine for a person from the beginning," said Johnson, who is also a member of the UF Genetics Institute. "Evidence shows that the sooner blood pressure is controlled, the less risk there is for other diseases such as heart attack, stroke and kidney failure."

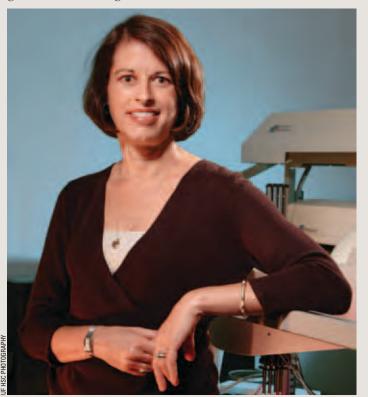
Johnson is looking at long-term implications of blood pressure drugs by using the genetic markers coupled with a specific drug that leads to lower risk of heart attack and stroke, as well as adverse affects of some medications. For example, in

a small portion of the population, certain blood pressure drugs can increase the risk of developing diabetes. By finding the genetic markers, doctors will be able to avoid those drugs and prescribe substitutes.

Johnson's work in cardiovascular drug pharmacogenomics has been funded by the National Institutes of Health or the American Heart Association since 1990. She noted that the NIGMS researchers network is a critical resource.

"One person can't do it all," Johnson said. "This award will benefit a large collaborative effort of investigators from UF and from other institutions, whose combined expertise and backgrounds make this research possible."

The first two-and-a half years of the five-year funding will help support clinical trials at three universities: Emory University in Atlanta, Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., and UF at four UF Family Medicine sites in Gainesville. The remaining time will be devoted to laboratory analysis and statistical work to process the great volume of data generated.



## A Network of Equal Partnerships to Solve Inequality of Risks

by Helen Goh

The global burden of prostate cancer in men of African descent is the focus of a landmark collaborative conference organized by Folakemi Odedina, Ph.D., a professor in pharmaceutical outcomes and policy, and University of Florida Health Science Center researchers. Leaders from the College of Medicine, the College of Pharmacy, Prostate Net and the 100 Black Men of Jacksonville, Inc. joined together in August to host the first "The Science of Global Prostate Cancer Disparities in Black Men" conference in Jacksonville, Fla.



Prostate cancer is the most significant cancer to disproportionately affect black men in the United States and Jamaica. In the United States, the average annual prostate cancer incidence rate was 59 percent higher and the mortality rate was 2.4 times higher for black men than white men between 2001 and 2005, organizers say.

"We must find a way to end the disparity," Odedina said. "Today, being a black male is one of the three primary, non-

modifiable risk factors confirmed for prostate cancer. We, as scientists and researchers, owe it to the community to find answers and therefore solutions."

The conference, made possible by a grant awarded by the National Cancer Institute, is expected to become a biennial event. The inaugural theme, "Bridging Gaps through Research, Education, and Outreach Worldwide," will feature delegates from North America, South America, Europe, Africa and the Caribbean, who will share their latest findings in the cause, prevention, intervention

and survival of prostate cancer.

Director of community outreach at the UF Prostate Disease Center, Odedina is an expert in prostate cancer and tireless in efforts to promote prevention and early detection behaviors among black men. She also is committed to the idea of equal partnership between communities and academic institutions to eliminate prostate cancer disparities.

"The problem of health inequality for prostate cancer is a situation that no physician should be satisfied with," said Johannes W. Vieweg, M.D., FACS, chair of the UF department of urology. "In Florida, we have established a Prostate Disease Center with a vision of building a collaborative network of programs that leverage the tremendous advances of biomedical research for the improvement of prostate cancer care, research and education."

Levi H. McIntosh Jr., Ed.D, vice president of operations for 100 Black Men of Jacksonville, Inc., saw the conference as an opportunity for exchange - the scientific community will share its research and findings, and the general community will share its collective experiences, thoughts and feelings.

"Both sides have enormous information to offer, and I am confident that together, we can fight this disease and the disparity as one," McIntosh said.

Odedina and her team continue their fight to find solutions. She is wrapping up a new study that breaks down the prostate cancer risk factors among black men born in the United States and those born in African nations or the Caribbean who now live in the United States. She presented early findings on Oct 1 at the Third American Association for Cancer Research Conference on the Science of Cancer Health Disparities in Racial/Ethnic Minorities and the Medically Underserved.





Pharma-Sea in Medicinal Chemistry

Compound Discovered in Florida Keys Shows Early Promise as Colon Cancer Treatment

by Linda Homewood

A chemical compound made from a type of bacteria discovered in the Florida Keys has shown effectiveness in fighting colon cancer in preclinical experiments.

The compound — known as largazole because it was first found near Key Largo — inhibits colon cancer cell growth by attacking a class of enzymes involved in the packaging and structure of DNA, said Hendrik Luesch, Ph.D., an associate professor of medicinal chemistry in the UF College of Pharmacy.

More study is needed, but scientists hope that the discovery will lead to new treatments for the roughly 50,000 people struck with colorectal cancer each year in the United States.

Luesch and his research team are enthusiastic about overcoming one big challenge in developing natural marine products into drug therapies. They have been able to synthetically produce the active chemical compound extracted from the bacteria in their lab.

"We have solved what scientists call the 'supply problem' for largazole because it has a relatively simple structure," Luesch said. "This has made it easy to reproduce in the lab."

The Luesch lab published early findings on largazole's mode of action in 2008. Through the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act stimulus funding from the National Cancer Institute, he has since completed his initial preclinical studies that demonstrated largazole's effectiveness in inhibiting the growth of more than one type of colon cancer cell.

Known as cyanobacteria, the microbes have evolved to fend off predators or cope with harsh conditions in a marine environment, employing toxins to aid their own survival. The toxins are the

compounds chemists such as Luesch wish to isolate and understand in a quest to create drugs that similarly fend off invading cancers in the body.

Since the discovery, Luesch determined the compound inhibits enzymes known as histone deacetylases, or HDACs, which are linked to many diseases and are increasingly viewed as promising for cancer therapy.

Jiyong Hong, Ph.D., an assistant professor of chemistry at Duke University, teamed with the UF researchers to chemically reproduce the compound for further preclinical testing, which indicates it is a potent inhibitor of cancer cells that has the right properties to reach its intended target without the toxic side effects of many cancer drugs.

"Knowing HDAC is the target that makes largazole effective means we can predict good drug properties because there are already two anticancer products on the market that work this way," said Luesch, who is a member of the UF Shands Cancer Center.

Three important aspects make this marine compound more promising than other natural products as an effective cancer-fighting drug, Luesch said — availability of supply, knowing its mode of action, and the fact that its cellular target is already a proven anticancer target known to result in the necessary selectivity for cancer cells over normal cells.

Luesch presented his findings in September at the Marine Drug Discovery Symposium in Pohang, South Korea, and in October at the Marine Natural Products Symposium in Phuket, Thailand. The research, first published online in August, is being featured on the cover of November's Journal of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics.

#### NATIONAL RECOGNITION

## 2010 ASHP Harvey A.K. Whitney Lecture Award



Charles D Hepler, Ph.D., a professor, author, and researcher who helped develop the idea of pharmaceutical care, was awarded the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists 2010 Harvey A.K. Whitney Lecture Award last June.

A distinguished professor emeritus in pharmaceutical outcomes and policy in the UF College of Pharmacy. Authoring more than 40 professional articles and numerous presentations at state, national, and international pharmacy meetings, Hepler's work, laid a foundation for change

in the pharmaceutical approach to patient care. His research includes automated bedside dispensing and medication errors, job satisfaction of hospital pharmacists, and the effect of clinical pharmacy on patient perceptions of health care quality.

As a professor at the colleges of pharmacy at the University of Iowa, Virginia Commonwealth University, and the University of Florida, where he retired in 2004, Hepler mentored hundreds of pharmacy students and researchers, who expanded on his work.

Hepler also has been actively involved in several pharmacy organizations, including service on the ASHP Commission on Goals, the American Association of College of Pharmacy's Commission on Implementing Change in Pharmaceutical Education, and an expert member of the International Pharmaceutical Federation's Board of Pharmacy Practice.

After earning a bachelor of science from the University of Connecticut School of Pharmacy, he went on to receive a Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy from the University of Iowa. He is the recipient of several honors and awards, including the American Pharmacists Association Remington Medal and the ASHP Research and Education Foundation's Award for his contributions to pharmaceutical literature.

Harvey A. K. Whitney, ASHP's first president, was an editor, author, educator, practitioner, and leader in hospital pharmacy. The Harvey A. K. Whitney Lecture Award, established in 1950 by the Southeastern Michigan Society of Hospital Pharmacists, has been administered by ASHP since 1963. Nominations for the award are made by past recipients and ASHP members. The winner is selected by a majority vote of past honorees.

## Outstanding Leader in Distance Education

As the University of Florida Forensic Science master's program reached its 10th year, its director was recognized for his leadership in advancing distance learning through online technology in higher

Ian Tebbett, Ph.D., a UF professor of toxicology in the UF College of Pharmacy, in May received an award for Outstanding Leadership by an Individual in the Field of Distance Learning from the U.S. Distance Learning Association.

The USDLA 2010 International Distance Learning Awards, presented at a national conference in St. Louis, honored Tebbett among four educators in the higher education category who were chosen for their outstanding leadership internationally.

"The online forensic science program, established in fall 2000 with two courses and 20 students, has now grown into five master's degrees with more than 900 enrollments, making the program the largest of its kind in the world," said UF College of Pharmacy Dean William Riffee, Ph.D.

The USDLA, a nonprofit association founded in 1987, describes distance learning as lifelong learning that utilizes technologies to help students acquire knowledge and skills through mediated instruction.

"Through distance learning, education and training we can provide access to the world's best award-winning opportunities for school children, connect higher education students globally and transform the lives and careers of working adults," said Reggie Smith III, USDLA president.

In 2006, Tebbett and Riffee traveled to Washington, D.C., to accept the highest national honor offered from the American Distance Education Consortium. ADEC, whose membership is made up from 65 state universities and land-grant colleges, also presented the college an



Award of Excellence in Distance Education for the forensic program.

Tebbett, who founded the college's online master's program, is proud that through distance education he has been able to teach students from every state, and from 39 other countries.

"It goes to show The Gator Nation is truly everywhere," Tebbett said.



## Antibacterial Agent vs. Pregnancy

by April Frawley Birdwell

A chemical found in everyday products from antibacterial soaps and lotions to socks may disrupt an enzyme that plays an important role in pregnancy, University of Florida researchers say.

Thought to be harmless, triclosan gives many soaps and lotions their antibacterial oomph and is found in hundreds of popular products. But a team of UF researchers led by Margaret O. James, Ph.D., a professor in the UF College of Pharmacy, has discovered that the chemical hinders an enzyme linked to the metabolism of estrogen. The researchers' findings are reported in the November print issue of the journal Environment International.

In pregnancy, this enzyme, called estrogen sulfotransferase, helps metabolize estrogen and move it through the placenta into the developing fetus. There, the estrogen plays a crucial role in brain development and the regulation of genes.

The researchers suspect that if enough of the triclosan gets through to the placenta to affect the enzyme, it may cause problems in pregnancy, said James, who also serves as chairwoman of medicinal chemistry in the UF College of Pharmacy.

"We know for sure it is a very potent inhibitor," James said. "What we don't know, is the kinds of levels you would have to be exposed to to see a negative effect."

In pregnancy, the placenta basically serves as a developing baby's in-womb survival kit. Almost everything the fetus gets from its mother — namely food and oxygen — comes through the placenta. It also creates important hormones, such as progesterone and estrogen.

Aside from the role it plays in the fetus, estrogen also affects how much oxygen the baby gets from the mother, said Charles Wood, Ph.D., a professor and chairman of physiology and functional genomics in the UF College of Medicine and a co-author of the study. All of the oxygen a baby gets from its mother flows through the mother's uterine artery. Without enough estrogen, this artery can constrict, decreasing blood flow.

"If you don't make enough estrogen you can, we think, starve the baby of enough oxygen," Wood said.

Estrogen is also involved in signaling the uterus to contract during labor. But maintaining the right levels of the hormone during pregnancy is a delicate balance, Wood says. Too much estrogen could send the mother's body into premature labor. Too little could hinder the flow of oxygen. Both instances could affect how the baby's brain develops.

This is one of the reasons scientists are concerned about the pregnancy-related effects of chemicals such as triclosan.

In April 2010, the Food and Drug Administration decided to take a closer look at triclosan after several studies found links to problems with hormone regulation and other possible negative health effects. Other studies have shown that the chemical, which cannot be broken down by bacteria, stays in the environment long after it is used.

"More studies are needed before researchers can conclude what effects triclosan really has on human health," James said. "At this point we don't know if the levels people are exposed to are high enough to cause an adverse effect."



Dear Pharmacy Alumni,

Whenever I write to you our about the activities of the college, I try to take into account the individual experiences each of you may have

had based on your degree. Whether you graduated with a bachelor's, pharm.D., Ph.D., or master's degree, you are part of a renowned alumni association that reflects more than 86 vears of tradition and excellence.

With the growth of our non-traditional opportunities in pharmacy education — the Working Professional Pharm.D. program and our online master's programs — we are growing the pharmacy Gator Nation to reach more people in more places. The constant thread that links each degree and each alumnus is the quality of knowledge and the people who share that knowledge. The UF College of Pharmacy is blessed to have talented and dedicated faculty, who collectively have trained and mentored more than 9,000 alumni to reach beyond their potential to become an even better pharmacist or scientist than they may have envisioned.

As you read the Gatorx magazine, I hope you think about the professor who asked you the hard questions and made you reach farther. You might be surprised at how often I hear the faculty talk about how proud they are of their former students. I hope that you, too, feel a sense of pride and connection to your alma mater that helped you develop into a caring and competent health-care provider.

I wish you and your family, and all of our many friends of the college, a wonderful holiday season. Please remember to keep in touch with your "pharmacy family" in the coming New Year. If you check our upcoming Events Calendar, you'll see we have lots of adventures ahead!

Best wishes,

Kelly Markey, Senior Director of Development & Alumni Affairs

## The Face of Pharmacy

#### UF Alumnus featured in national news

Last January, UF College of Pharmacy alumnus Charley John, Pharm.D. ('02) became a national "Face of Pharmacy" for practicing pharmacists, when he was featured in a lengthy article in The Washington Post. Sandra G. Boodman, in her Special, which appeared in the newspaper on January 12, 2010, documented a typical day in the life of a pharmacist. Her feature, "Pharmacists dispense pills, counsel patients, screen for illness, give vaccines," began like this:

"When Charley John tells people he's a pharmacist, he knows what many of them think: that he spends his workdays sequestered behind a counter doling out pills, dropping them into little plastic vials and handing them to customers.

That may have been an accurate job description for a retail druggist circa 1978 the year John was born — but it bears little resemblance to the multi-tasking the job requires these days. Pharmacists, particularly those who, like John, work for large national chains, are moving into areas that have long been the exclusive province of doctors and nurses: providing immunizations for diseases including H1N1 influenza, screening for chronic health conditions such as diabetes, counseling patients about the increasing panoply of medications they are prescribed and, in a sour economy with



dwindling access to health insurance and primary care, offering basic medical advice. Health-care reform legislation would probably increase pharmacists' involvement in patient care by expanding reimbursement for certain kinds of medication counseling..."

John is the pharmacy manager for Walgreens in Alexandria, VA. After graduation from UF, he began his career with Walgreens in Florida and was transferred first to Cincinnati, and now has been in Alexandria for three years. Being in the Washington, D.C. area has given him more access to the law and policy aspects of pharmacy, John said.

Pharmacists are realizing the impact to healthcare they can offer to their patients.

"Our versatile expertise is allowing us to come to the forefront of healthcare," John said. "We're now an integral part in initiating and maintaining healthy living in the patients of our communities."

John engages with his patients at the pharmacy, always ready to offer consultation, or help them to find an over-the-counter product. His pharmacy is very active in giving H1N1 and seasonal flu vaccines. Diabetes is one patient treatment area of interest to John in which he has gained experience. Pharmacy professors John Gums, Leslie Hendeles, and Paul Doering, were among the faculty who made an impression on him at UF, he said.

## In Memoriam

Oscar Araujo, Ph.D., beloved professor emeritus and friend of the UF College of Pharmacy, passed away Feb. 20, 2010. He was a great teacher and man, whose legacy will continue through the many lives he touched with his knowledge, humor and kindness.

Araujo was born June 2, 1927 in Porto Alegre, Brazil and spent his childhood in Rio de Janeiro. He came to the United States in 1946 to attend Purdue University, where he obtained a Ph.D. in 1957. He taught for five years at Ohio Northern University before accepting a position at the UF College of Pharmacy in 1962. He retired after 38 years of service and was named Professor Emeritus of Pharmacy Practice and Dermatology.

With a love of teaching, Araujo had a special relationship with his students, learning all of their names and keeping in touch with many of them after graduation as they developed careers in pharmacy. He was selected College of Pharmacy Teacher of the Year three times during his career and was the recipient of the College Distinguished Pharmacy Service Award in 2000. He was a member of the Florida Pharmacy Association and the Alachua County Association of Pharmacists.

His family has established the Oscar Araujo Alumni Scholarship Fund at the college. Donations can be made online at www.uff.ufl.edu/OnlineGiving, or by check, please put 'OSCAR ARAUJO' in the memo line, make it out to the 'UF foundation', and mail to University of Florida College of Pharmacy, PO Box 103570, Gainesville, FL 32610.



#### In remembrance of friends...

James C. Berelsman ('63) John W. Brandon ('54) Ralph N. Brown ('51) Aurelian H. Cooledge, Jr. ('39) Ellen J. Curtis Robert L. Curtis Donald E. Davis ('61) Felix F. Donatelli '51) Pearl M. Dufresne Joseph Dunayer ('54) Daniel J. Fleischer ('86) Goette O. Fussell, Jr. ('50) Ruth M. Gray ('67) Cora L. Green-Scott Bette R. Jones ('58) Mark R. Knowles Peter J. Kovi ('73) Archie N. Lin ('50)

David L. Luikart, Sr. ('48) Hilda B. Massey William S. Mayhall ('57) Glenn M. McCall ('53) Patrick S. Nanna ('90) Natalie A. Norwood ('92) Foster A. Olroyd ('57) Pete Pardo (McKesson) Christine S. Randall Lydia G. Ross ('01) Calvert M. Scott ('85) Marcus E. Spector ('64) Lorenzo T. Stewart ('62) Elsie F. Voss Clara B. Williams H. L. Worsham ('54) Arthur G. Zupko ('42)



## 24th Annual Alumni Reunion

The 24th Annual Alumni Reunion weekend events, Oct 15-16, started off Friday afternoon in a very special way as friends and family gathered at the college to honor and remember Oscar Araujo. A beloved professor at the College of Pharmacy for 38 years, he remained close to many of his students. The memorial was hosted by UF College of Pharmacy professors, Paul Doering and Larry Lopez, who were former students, friends and colleagues of Araujo over the years. They presented a photo slide show with fond memories from many others.

The reunion weekend continued Friday evening with the Dean's Welcome Reception. While the college welcomed all alumni and friends, a special welcome was extended to graduates from class-years ending in a five or a zero.

Alumni President JoAnn Nuccio ('78) raised the challenge for the Oscar Araujo Scholarship Fund by offering custom-made Gator skirts to all donations of \$1,000 to the fund. At reunion alone, \$8,000 was raised in honor of the scholarship.

"Anyone can join the Gator Pharmacy Skirt Club and show their pride for the Gators, while supporting Oscar's legacy in pharmacy education," Nuccio said.

Topping the fun-filled weekend was the reunion barbecue before the game. Professors were "pie'd," and the dean was "dosed" with water balloons – all for a good cause. Professors Paul Doering, Michael Meldrum, Cary Mobley and Larry Lopez were in the running for Kappa Epsilon's "Pie in the Face of a Professor," but Lopez was the lucky winner. This year's fundraiser proceeds benefits the Susan G. Koman Breast Cancer Fund.

Dean Riffee, winner of KE's pie last year, was dosed this year with water balloons to benefit the International Health Outreach trip to Nicaragua.































## 2011 **Events Calendar**

#### **■ Career Days**

January 20...Gainesville January 21...St. Petersburg February 4...Orlando February 11...Jacksonville

#### ■ Graduate Research Showcase

February 17 - Gainesville

#### ■ Multicultural Dinner

February 19 - Gainesville

#### ■ Professional Coating Ceremony

March 19 - Gainesville

#### ■ APhA Dean's Night Out

March 26 (tentative) - Seattle

#### ■ Outreach Event

April 7 (tentative) – Philadelphia

#### ■ Orange & Blue game

April 9 - Gainesville

#### ■ Dean's Advisory Board

April 14-15 - St. Petersburg, FL

#### ■ GlobalGator Meeting / **Retrometabolism Conference**

June 2-4 - Graz, Austria

#### **■ FPA Gator Reception**

June 22 - 26 (TBA) - Naples, FL

#### ■ AACP

July 9-13 (TBA) - San Antonio, TX

#### **■ FSHP Gator Reception**

August 4-7 (TBA) — Orlando



P.O. Box 103570 Gainesville, FL 32610

