

GATOR_x

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA COLLEGE OF PHARMACY | FALL 2011

Hospital Safety

Native Bostonian,
UF Alumnus
Creates an
Endowed Chair in
Pharmaceutical
Outcomes and Policy



BOSTON
INNER
HARBOR



JESSE JONES/UF HSC NEWS

GATORx Magazine

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

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Building on Our Strengths

Dear Alumni & Friends,

Each fall, we look forward to sharing our college's news, accomplishments and goals through the *Gatorx* alumni magazine. We hope to give you a broad overview as you read through your copy, and we look forward to hearing back from you. As you review this year's edition, you will see a wide range of our faculty and student accomplishments. You'll also see ways that many of our alumni and friends are working to support academics, research and the profession. I am continually amazed at the involvement of our students, faculty and alums in our profession. Our students win awards, our faculty compete strongly for research awards, and our alumni find themselves at all levels of leadership within our profession.

As I review the past year, our college mission resonates clearly: *"Promoting the health and welfare of the citizens of Florida and the Nation..."*

This issue highlights a few of our graduates from 1956 to 2011, who in keeping with our mission have proven that they have the scientific background and cultural competency necessary to assume leadership roles in the profession and the community.

Found on our website under 'The College,' you can see our college mission objectives. The stories in this issue exemplify these seven objectives:

- **Professional Education**, across the country and worldwide – page 4
- **Graduate & Postgraduate Education**, areas of research and support – pages 10 & 16
- **Research**, from new developments to new findings – pages 19-21
- **Faculty Development**, supporting a professorship – page 18
- **Service**, professional and student endeavors – pages 7 & 22
- **Leadership to the Profession** – pages 2 & 7
- **Retraining of Practitioners**, pharmacy technicians – page 11

These areas are the pillars to our college mission to *"prepare our graduates to take independent professional responsibility for the outcome of drug therapy in patients."* They are the strengths that we have continually built upon for more than 85 years. And, as evidenced in this most recent year, they will carry us forward for many years to come.

Your support and dedication to the UF College of Pharmacy has been the foundation for these pillars as we approach the final year of the university's Florida Tomorrow campaign. Our numbers are strong and our goal is in reach. Thanks to each of you who have helped us — and continue to help us — build on our strengths.

No person could be as blessed as I have been in leading this incredible college. Thanks again to all of you upon whom our college has been built over the years.

William Riffe, Ph.D.
Dean, UF College of Pharmacy

GATORx

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Celebrating, remembering, giving and sharing good times

ON THE COVER: Bob and Barbara Crisafi's \$1 million gift to the college created an endowed chair to investigate technology in reducing hospital medication errors.
(Photo by Maria Farias/UF HSC News)



Pharmacy Dean William Riffee presents a UF award medallion to Bob Crisafi while Professor Richard Segal applauds at the inaugural Celebrating Distinction ceremony.

SAFETY IN NUMBERS

Preventing Medical Errors in Hospitals

By Melanie Stawicki Azam

What kind and how much medication a patient receives can be a matter of life or death.

That's why Bob Crisafi, who received his doctorate in pharmacy from the University of Florida in 1956, has spent his career focused on patient safety and the role pharmacists can play in reducing medical error rates in hospitals.

He dedicated his career to developing better ways of packaging and dispensing medication in hospitals, and he founded 12 successful companies over the years that have designed innovative systems to improve drug distribution.

"For the past 40 years, my passion has been to play a role in lowering the drug error rate in our nation's hospitals," said Crisafi. "I want my university, the University of Florida, to carry on my vision."

Through the sale of their Boston home deeded over to UF, Bob Crisafi and his wife, Barbara, donated \$1 million to the college to create a chair in the department of pharmaceutical outcomes and policy to look at how medication is administered in a hospital and to create systems that will prevent medication errors.

The gift established an endowed chair at the College of Pharmacy that will work in conjunction with Shands HealthCare to generate new studies and processes to further reduce drug errors at hospitals. The goal is to improve patient safety not just at Shands but also at hospitals throughout the U.S.

"Bob's passion is safety," said Alan K. Knudsen, director of pharmacy services at Shands at UF. "I think his passion lines up perfectly with the university's and Shands' core missions."

Richard Segal, Ph.D, a professor in the college's department of pharmaceutical outcomes and policy, holds the new chair and will use funds generated by Crisafi's gift to examine how new technology can be used to reduce medication errors.

"We'll do rigorous research to thoroughly conduct an evaluation of the benefits in terms of reducing medication errors and improving patient outcomes," Segal said.

Medication errors began to increase in hospitals in the early 1950s and '60s, Crisafi said. Physicians would typically write a prescription order and the nurse would interpret the order, measure out the dosage from the floor's drug closet and administer the drug to the patient.

"The nurses were really doing the pharmacists' work," he said.

Arguing that a better process was needed, Crisafi pioneered unit dosing, which involves a pharmacist interpreting the prescription and dispensing the drug in a repackaged, personalized dose for the nurse to administer to the patient.

Crisafi is also an advocate of electronic bedside point-of-care improvements, such as medication barcoding, which can track drug administration. Before giving a patient the medication, the nurse scans the patient's wristband and the barcode on the medication to ensure they match correctly.



Studies conducted in the past 10 years have confirmed that medication errors in hospitals today are still common. One such study reported that one-fourth of the adverse effects of medication administered in the hospital were preventable, resulting from errors.

Researchers today like Segal are taking a serious look at health-care technologies as a new strategy for preventing medication errors.

Bar-code verification, commonly used in other industries and electronic physician prescription entry have been shown to reduce errors by more than 50 percent, Segal said.

For Segal, working and collaborating as part of a larger health science hospital setting at UF&Shands presents abundant opportunities to investigate and verify the effectiveness and best-use practices of bar-code technology to improve patient safety at the bedside.

Crisafi hopes his gift will ultimately lead to hospitals adopting new procedures that will dramatically reduce medication errors, which are estimated to kill thousands of people annually.

"By continuing this research... I hope more hospitals will change and less people will die," he said.

UF's Online Learning Programs Degrees Despite Distance

By Shayna Brouker and Maria Farias

Adrien Zap, plopped down on the bed, sighed and opened her laptop. Just the day before, she was shuttling supplies to veterinarians scrambling to soothe traumatized pets left behind by the hundreds of people that died or fled from Sendai, Japan, hit hardest by a tsunami last March. She settled in a hotel room in Tokyo, trying her best to review notes and complete assignments between aftershocks that continued to shake the hotel.

As part of a disaster relief response team for an organization called World Vets, she spent seven exhausting days reuniting pets with their owners and helping local veterinarians find scarce food and supplies for injured and abandoned animals.

But now, it was time to study. After all, Zap, a Connecticut resident, had a final exam to take on March 30, more than 7,000 miles away in Gainesville, Fla. This was the last step to completing her University of Florida online master's of science degree from the College of Pharmacy in forensic toxicology.

It wasn't the first time she had to cram on the fly, literally; Zap applied to the program while conducting undergraduate research in the Galapagos Islands in fall of 2009. She spent summer 2010 in Ecuador, completed assignments in a hotel in Nicaragua, where she was working in a lab, and she took a final exam in a hotel room in the Dominican Republic.

"It's weird, I haven't stopped to think that I've been traveling most of the time I've been in school. My passport has definitely got some miles on it," she mused. "The flexibility is the best part of the program. I also found the subject matter relevant to my current work as well as my future studies in veterinary medicine."

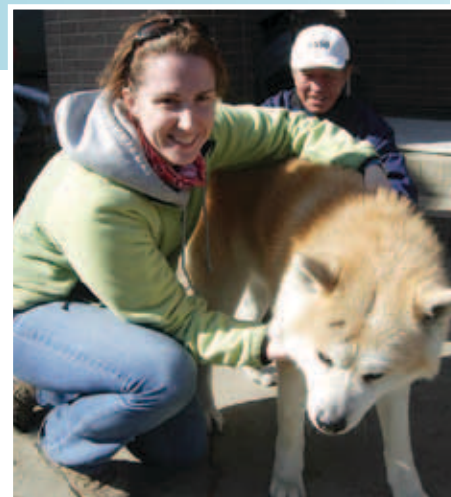
The University of Florida College of Pharmacy's award-winning Online Forensic Science Master's Program made it possible for Zap, offering UF pharmacy master's degrees in areas such as drug chemistry, DNA and serology, and forensic science, and the forensic toxicology degree from the UF College of Veterinary Medicine.

Now entering its 11th year, the world's largest and most prestigious forensic science program has graduated more than 600 working scholars like Zap, who, in addition to working as a vet technician for the past 13 years and placating pets from Haiti to Japan, wanted to further her education.

The program is a pioneer in 21st century post-graduate education, fusing the latest learning technology with the community of the Web and, of course, top-notch instruction. This May, Program Director Ian Tebbett, Ph.D., received the highest honor from the American Distance Education Consortium — the Irving Award for outstanding leadership.

In 2006, ADEC, an association of state and land-grant universities and colleges recognized the UF forensic program with its Award of Excellence in Distance Education. Tebbett also received the 2010 Outstanding Leadership Award from the U.S. Distance Learning Association.

Tebbett, a professor in the UF College of Pharmacy, founded the program in the fall of 2000 with four students and two tracks. Then the Florida Department of Law caught wind of the program and wanted to train its employees in forensics. The program grew into six degree tracks with between 700 and 1,000 students from every state and 35 countries.



Adrien Zap hugs Shane, an Akita dog who miraculously found his master after the tsunami in Sendai. A pillar in his community, Shane's master heard the tsunami siren and rushed to warn his neighbors, letting Shane free in the yard, Zap said. He tried to get back to his house for Shane, but the rapidly approaching tsunami forced him to the local school on higher ground. He lost hope of ever seeing his dog again. Six hours later, someone saw a dog outside — it was Shane! He had never been to the school before, but somehow Shane's instincts led him there.



They include military investigators serving overseas, crime scene investigators and even teachers who want to incorporate forensics in the classroom to make science more interesting.

"If someone can log on to a state university website in the middle of a natural disaster on the other side of the world in Japan, we can reach anyone in the world," Tebbett said.



Tebbett

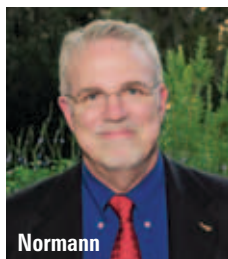
"We are very pleased that we can be a part of an effort like that as well as with the military. And the discussions that come out of that are so interesting, from students all over the world, from different walks of life and professions. This is the way of the future."

The idea for online master's education grew from earlier success in the UF

College of Pharmacy's Working Professional Doctor of Pharmacy Degree program, known as the WPPD. Launched nationally in 1994, the WPPD program gave registered pharmacists with a bachelor's degree an opportunity to study the UF pharmacy curriculum. Meeting with clinical facilitators in their regional cities, they became UF pharmacy students, enhancing their knowledge, experience and credentials to earn the Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.) degree.

More than 1,600 pharmacists across the United States, Canada, and the Caribbean have earned the UF Pharm.D. degree through the WPPD program.

"I think that pharmacists in particular, like all health care professionals, are keenly aware of the need to continue learning. The drugs we learned in pharmacy school aren't the ones we use today," said Sven Normann, Pharm.D., an associate dean for distance, continuing and executive education and founder and director of the WPPD. "But the realities of the world are that to adapt changes and acquire new knowledge and skills, pharmacists are not able to quit their jobs and obligations to families. We offer



Normann

those folks the opportunity to achieve lifelong professional dreams."

Though the need of pharmacists seeking the Pharm.D.

credentials will diminish, the need for training in managing patient medication is now growing, Normann said. To meet the emerging national demand, the UF College of Pharmacy developed an online Master of Science in Pharmacy — Medication Therapy Management. The inaugural program started in May with 12 students across the United States.

In another area related to drug development policies and regulation, the online master's of science in pharmacy degree in the department of pharmaceutical outcomes and policy was developed in 2006. With 215 students — and growing, David Brushwood, R.Ph., J.D., founder and director, developed areas of specializations in drug regulatory sciences related to policy, patient safety, clinical research, and pharmacoeconomics.

Like the other distance programs, this one also caters to working professionals with obligations to full-time jobs and families. They can't interrupt their lives but want or need to pursue higher education, so an online degree program is their best option.

Each program in the College of Pharmacy differs slightly in its purpose and requirements, but the basic design is the same: Students take one course at a time

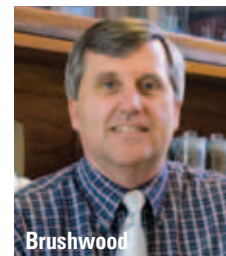
and have anywhere from two to seven years to complete the requirements. They come to Gainesville just one to three times a year to attend seminars and exams, often scheduled the same weekend for convenience.

Lectures are pre-recorded online and live discussions are hosted through a system called Elluminate. And students can take breaks in their coursework if necessary.

"What we're trying to do is meet students' needs," said Brushwood, "Flexibility is the key to success. We have to make it possible for them to learn in their own way."

That said, the college has standards that must be upheld, he noted. An online degree is no different in difficulty from one earned through a resident program. It maintains the same standards required by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education.

In fact, the WPPD, which had grown popular among German pharmacists eager to learn Americans' clinical side to patient care, was



Brushwood

put on hold when the ACPE decreed accredited pharmacists had to practice in the United States. The interest among German pharmacists, who typically serve more in a chemist role, though, led the college to develop another new master's in clinical pharmacy that is being taught to European pharmacists this fall in Germany. The clinical pharmacy MS curriculum will be delivered via distance technology with the aid of faculty facilitators in Germany.

"Some people sign up and at first think they will just sit back, listen to the speakers and get some credit," Normann said. "It's not that easy, but it's doable. And a degree from UF — one of the top 10 pharmacy schools in the country — is something to be proud of."

To debunk another misconception of distance learning, the Internet environment enhances, rather than dilutes the engaging air of a traditional classroom, say instructors.

The online setting takes the traditional classroom online with a virtual learning platform called Sakai, which is used to administer exams, keep track of grades and host online discussion forums. Elluminate is the highly interactive, live online learning system where courses are held. Like Skype or video chat, students can ask a question and talk with the professor. If students face a problem, instructors reply via e-mail within days.

"People are far more comfortable with the technology of today, like e-mail, text, Skype, and smartphones, than they are raising their hand in a classroom," Tebbett remarked. "My favorite quote from a student is, 'There

is far more interaction online than in any other brick-and-mortar classroom setting.'"

For graduates, the accomplishment of earning a degree online is no less significant than if they had sat in a classroom. For most, it's enough to merit a trip to Gainesville just to walk across that stage.

Fourteen students from the online MS in pharmaceutical outcomes and policy and two from the online forensic science program attended a graduation ceremony for both online and residential graduates in April.

One student, Sadaf Taiyeb, a mother of two and married for eight years, earned her master's of science in pharmacy with

a concentration patient safety and risk management in December 2010. But she waited to walk until the graduation ceremony in April so her family could fly from Dubai to be there.

They almost didn't make it due to a family illness. But her main role model, her father, said despite that he wouldn't miss her walk. It was that important to him and their family, and she had worked extremely hard the past two years to earn her degree.

"When our row was asked to stand up and walk, I was like, 'Am I really doing this?' Walking across the stage makes you forget all the stress you went through," she recalled. "Now I have the satisfaction that I earned it."

Her next step? Taiyeb plans to apply for jobs as a patient safety representative at pharmaceutical companies and hospitals.

"I know for sure this is going to open up doors for me," she said.



Sadaf Taiyeb, M.S.

MARIA FARIAS

Outstanding

Robert Crisafi, Ph.D.

Commencement Speaker

Outstanding Pharmacy Alumnus Award

Commencement Speaker Robert Crisafi addressed the graduating Class of 2011 in May and also received the college's Outstanding Pharmacy Alumnus Award, which recognizes an alumnus whose lifetime contributions have been truly extraordinary with lasting benefits to the profession.



Crisafi earned his B.S. in Pharmacy from the New England College of Pharmacy, presently Northeastern University College of Pharmacy, and his Ph.D. in Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Chemistry from the University of Florida where he was a Fellow of the American Foundation for Pharmaceutical Education.

As a professor of pharmacy at the New England College of Pharmacy from 1956-61, he developed an innovative course that encompassed the principles of industrial pharmacy and exposed undergraduate students to basic research publications in scientific journals.

Crisafi created the framework for the first pharmaceutical-manufacturing laboratory at the college. In 1960, he developed and patented an innovative technology for sterilizing ophthalmic solutions, which made it possible for pharmacists to compound ophthalmic prescriptions and cold sterilize these solutions using a disposable bacterial filtration system.

Throughout the 1960s and early 1970s, Crisafi played a major role in a national study to reduce the medication error rate in hospitals. He made a major contribution to the initiative through his research and development of a new dosage form for liquid pharmaceuticals. His company, Lyne Laboratories became the first U.S. company to introduce liquid pharmaceutical products in unit-dose cups to the marketplace. Administered directly to patients at the bedside, today, liquid unit-dose pharmaceuticals in cups are a standard practice in all hospitals.

In 1976, Crisafi founded the Regional Service Center, which offered an innovative outsourcing pharmaceutical prepackaging service to hospitals in the Greater Boston area. From this pilot program, the RSC expanded regionally, and then nationally.

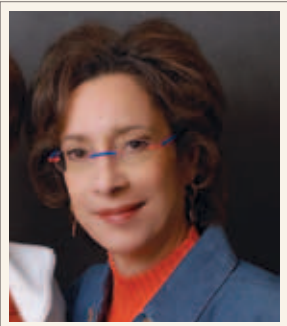
In 1994, the RSC developed processes to print bar codes directly on the package of unit-dosed drugs — a standard practice today required on medication packaging. Crisafi was also successful in getting the FDA to recognize and accept the USP's one-year beyond-use dating standard for an outsourcing business. He is the founder of several successful health-care companies, among which are Crisafi Pharmacy, Lyne Laboratories, Regional Service Center, Pharmedlab, Advanced Home Healthcare, and Careway Wellness Center.

Leaders in Pharmacy Education

JoAnn Nuccio, B.S.P.

Outstanding Pharmacy Alumnus Service Award

JoAnn Nuccio received the Outstanding Pharmacy Alumnus Service award for her many contributions to the advancement of pharmacy. She received her Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy degree in 1978 from the University of Florida College of Pharmacy.



Her career began in community pharmacy with Eckerd Drug Stores where she completed 20 years of service and earned numerous awards for outstanding customer service and team leadership. As part of the Eckerd Speaker's Bureau, she participated in community presentations in a program called "Ask Your Pharmacist," designed to promote community pharmacists as valuable and accessible health care providers. On a national level, she represented pharmacists on a panel of health-care experts during an annual televised Children's Miracle Network Telethon.

In the Eckerd corporate office, Nuccio was the first pharmacist appointed to the department of Training & Development. She became certified by the Accreditation Council on Pharmaceutical Education (ACPE) to develop continuing education courses for Eckerd pharmacists. She also authored training materials for technicians and service manuals for other associates.

Known for her enthusiasm for all things Gator, Nuccio has served as president of the College of Pharmacy Alumni Association since 2008. She also volunteers in student programs, working as a preceptor for second-year student pharmacists and on the Global Health Outreach Program accompanying students to Costa Rica.

Nuccio serves UF and her profession as a member of the college's Dean's Circle, and National Advisory Board, and as a member of the Hillsborough County Regional Council for UF's Fund for Tomorrow campaign. She is a member of the Florida Pharmaceutical Association, the American Pharmaceutical Association, and the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists.

She is teaching in the college's Pharmacy Technician Training Program at the Bayfront Medical Center in St. Petersburg, Fla. She has earned her Consultant Pharmacist license, and currently is pursuing a career as a clinical pharmacist with Omnicare, a national long-term care provider.

Reginald Frye, Ph.D.

Teacher of the Year

Reginald Frye, Ph.D., an associate professor and graduate coordinator for Pharmacotherapy and Translational Research, was honored as the 2011 Teacher of the Year. Frye received his Bachelor of Science in biology from Oglethorpe University, his Pharm.D. from Mercer University School of Pharmacy, and his Ph.D. in Clinical Pharmaceutical Sciences from the University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy. After completing graduate work, he remained on faculty at the University of Pittsburgh from 1995 until 2003 when he joined the faculty at the UF College of Pharmacy.



Frye coordinates and teaches the Drug Therapy Monitoring and Pharmacogenomics course to third-year pharmacy students. He also teaches the drug dosing in renal disease and drug interaction lectures in Pharmacotherapy II. His research focus is on understanding mechanisms that contribute to variability in drug metabolism. His research further investigates genetic and non-genetic (e.g., age, disease states, herb-drug and drug-drug interactions) factors contributing to individual differences in drug metabolism. His current research focuses on the effects of herbal supplements, such as green tea, on drug metabolism in human volunteers. He has received funding for his research from the Pharmaceutical Industry and the National Institutes of Health.

Alan K. Knudsen, M.S., R.Ph. | *Outstanding Pharmacy Service Award*

Alan Knudsen received the Outstanding Pharmacy Service Award and was recognized as a non-alumnus who has made significant contributions to the UF College of Pharmacy and to the pharmacy profession.

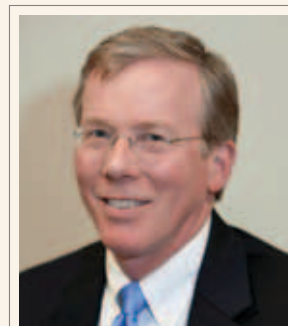
In 1980 received a B.S. Pharmacy at the University of Utah. He continued his education and earned an M.S. in pharmacy administration in 1982 from the University of Maryland Graduate School in Baltimore, while also completing a residency at University of Maryland Hospital.

After completing his master's program, Knudsen accepted a senior pharmacist position with Shands Hospital at the University of Florida. Since 1996, Knudsen has served as director of pharmacy services at Shands Hospital, and as an assistant dean of hospital programs at the UF College of Pharmacy.

A member of the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists and the Florida Society of Health-System Pharmacists, Knudsen also served for six years as a member of the Oncology Council for the Board of Pharmaceutical Specialties.

During his service to Shands, Knudsen facilitated the creation of an outpatient medication access program for low income patients who live in the North Central Florida area. In 1996, Knudsen's collaboration with the McKesson Corporation resulted in the creation and installation of their first MedCarousel, a product designed to improve the safety of medication use in hospitals. He is currently collaborating with UF & Shands faculty to create a new and innovative model for providing pharmacy student clerkship education.

Knudsen's research interests includes, utilization of technology and information systems to decrease labor cost, improve customer service, and improve the safety of medication use systems in hospital and outpatient pharmacy settings.



FY 2010-11 Annual Report in Brief

SCHOLARSHIP

Publications & Invited Presentations

Department	Refereed	Non-refereed	Books	Abstracts	In Press	Presentations
Medicinal Chemistry	19	2	2	13	3	19
Pharmaceutical Outcomes & Policy	25	22	2	30	9	27
Pharmaceutics	32	1	2	6	3	21
Pharmacodynamics	19	1	2	26	6	5
Pharmacotherapy & Translational Research	58	15	16	38	24	84
TOTAL	153	41	24	113	45	156

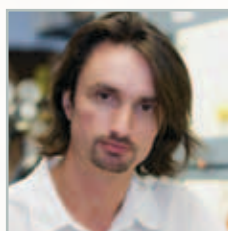
FACULTY HONORS



Frye



Johnson



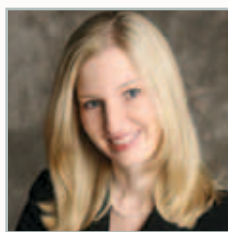
Luesch



Pelouquin



Vogel-Anderson



Whalen



Winterstein

REGINALD FRYE

- 2011 Teacher of the Year, College of Pharmacy

JULIE A. JOHNSON

- Gutkey Memorial Lecture and Dean's Convocation, University of Colorado School of Pharmacy, September 2010
- Russell Miller Award for Contribution to the Literature, American College of Clinical Pharmacy, October 2010
- Distinguished Investigator Award, American College of Clinical Pharmacy Cardiology Practice and Research Network, October 2010
- Keynote Speaker, Ohio State University College of Pharmacy Research Day, May 2011

HENDRIK LUESCH

- 2011-14 University of Florida Research Foundation (UFRF) Professorship

CHARLES PELOQUIN

- American College of Clinical Pharmacy (ACCP) Fellow, elected 2010

KATHERINE VOGEL-ANDERSON

- Kappa Epsilon Pharmacist of the Year, 2011

KAREN WHALEN

- Faculty Recognition Award, University of Florida College of Pharmacy, 2011
- McKesson Florida Leadership Award, 2010

ALMUT WINTERSTEIN

- Nominee by the Joint Commission of Pharmacy Practitioners for the PCORI Methodology Committee for US GAO 2010

Funding by Department

Medicinal Chemistry	\$2,685,604	25.0%
Pharmaceutical Outcomes & Policy	\$394,685	4.0%
Pharmaceutics	\$1,327,201	12.5%
Pharmacodynamics	\$1,343,491	12.5%
Pharmacotherapy & Translational Research	\$4,870,846	46.0%
COLLEGE TOTAL	\$10,621,827	100.0%

Funding by Category

Federal Agencies	51	\$9,086,788
Florida State Agencies	7	\$683,868
Corporations and Companies	28	\$680,756
Foundations & Societies	8	\$156,360
Other	5	\$14,055
TOTAL	99	\$10,621,827

Federal Agencies

AHCA	1	\$323,025
AHRQ	1	\$192,015
Food & Drug Administration	2	\$1,000,000
National Center for Disease Control & Prevention	1	\$22,500
NIH	45	\$7,530,511
U.S. Dept. of Veteran Affairs	1	\$18,737
TOTAL	51	\$9,086,788

FL State Agencies

Dept. of Health	7	\$683,868
TOTAL	7	\$683,868

Other

Miscellaneous Donors	1	\$300
Multiple Sponsors	4	\$13,755
TOTAL	5	\$14,055

Patent Activity

Department/ Center	Apps. Filed	Patents Issued
Medicinal Chemistry	13	1
Pharmaceutical Outcomes & Policy	0	0
Pharmaceutics	1	0
Pharmacodynamics	1	0
Pharmacotherapy & Translational Research	3	0
TOTAL	18	1

Corporate Awards

Alnara Pharmaceuticals	1	305
Boeringer ingelheim intl GMBH	1	100,000
Clinical Research GMBH	1	34,655
Glaxo Smith Kline, inc.	3	122,174
Golin-Harris int'l, inc.	1	5,000
Jacobus Pharmaceuticals	1	73,371
JMJ Technologies	1	12,500
Media Pharma GMB & CO KG	4	70,296
Novus International	1	13,513
Phytolab GMBH & CO KG	1	48,735
Research triangle institute	1	2,197
Steigerwald Arzneimittelwerk	1	14,988
TKL Research	11	183,022
TOTAL	28	680,756

Awards from Foundations & Societies

American Assoc. Colleges of Pharmacy	1	8,820
American Cancer Society	1	11,493
American Foundation for Pharmaceutical Education	2	12,000
American Heart Assoc.	1	22,180
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation	1	1,500
UF Foundation	1	93,260
University of Colorado	1	7,107
TOTAL	8	156,360

Advancing Florida's Drug Development, Regulatory Science Efforts *By Linda Homewood*

A leading scientist in clinical pharmacology at the Food and Drug Administration has taken a new academic role at the University of Florida College of Pharmacy to improve drug development and create tools and approaches to make sure new products are safe, effective and within FDA-regulated standards.



Lawrence J. Lesko, Ph.D., served as director of the Office of Clinical Pharmacology at the FDA's Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, but now he is leading the college's new pharmacometrics and systems pharmacology initiative in the interdisciplinary Institute of Therapeutic Innovation at the UF Research and Academic Center under construction in Orlando.

Lesko, who assumed his new duties in July, has influenced the profession and spurred scientific growth in clinical pharmacology, drug development and regulatory decision-making for the past 16 years.

"Pharmacometrics is an emerging science now at the forefront of the pharmaceutical industry and at the FDA," said William H. Riffe, dean of the UF College of Pharmacy. "Dr. Lesko's knowledge and experience will position us to build a strong graduate degree program while also cultivating new collaboration of academia with the FDA, other governmental agencies and the pharmaceutical industry."

With his appointment as a professor of pharmaceuticals in the UF College of Pharmacy, Lesko looks forward to establishing UF's presence at Lake Nona Medical City, which he hopes will raise Florida into the national arena as a leader in drug development and regulatory science — the development of new tools, standards and approaches to assess the safety and performance of FDA-regulated products.

"What is exciting to me is defining a vision, setting up a strategic plan and implementing the tactics and actions that will lead to an entirely new academic model for advancing drug development and excellence in translational and regulatory science," Lesko said.

A recent economic impact study by UF's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences projects that over the next six years, Lake Nona Medical City will create more than 16,000 jobs that will generate more than \$200 million in annual tax revenue for the state.

Hartmut Derendorf, Ph.D., a distinguished professor and chairman of pharmaceuticals at the UF College of Pharmacy, said he is eager to work with Lesko and build a world-class graduate training program at UF's Orlando research facility.

With the plans to add several faculty researchers and a dozen graduate students and postdoctoral fellows, the program will provide a vital pipeline in training the next generation of scientists skilled in drug-modeling simulation and translational science, Derendorf said.

"Dr. Lesko is one of the most visionary experts in the field of drug development and personalized medicine in the world," Derendorf added. "At the FDA, he has had a tremendous impact on how new medicines are investigated, developed, and approved. We are excited that he is leading our efforts to further strengthen Florida's biotech presence."

UF Research and Academic

With construction well under way and plans to open next summer, the UF Research and Academic Center at Lake Nona will encompass three main areas.

At the UF Institute of Therapeutic Innovation, Faculty members in various disciplines will work at the interface between traditional NIH-supported science, advanced pharmaceutical and regulatory science and entrepreneurial public-private partnerships. The institute will fill the important role of moving fundamental discoveries along the clinical path to marketed therapeutic interventions with evaluation in clinical trials in target populations.

Within the Institute, a new Center for Pharmacometrics and Systems Pharmacology will conduct research on advancing regulatory design and work collaboratively with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration under a Memorandum of Understanding to develop standards for regulatory decision-making.

By using computer modeling and simulation, including physiological based pharmacokinetics (PK) and pharmacodynamics (PD), to study the absorption, distribution and clearance of drugs from the body, pharmacometrics renders the drug development process more informative and possibly more cost-effective. Professors Hartmut Derendorf, Ph.D. and Günther Hochhaus, Ph.D., who published the first textbook overview of this process, will help establish the center.

A clinical research unit from UF's Institute on Aging will reside at the Lake Nona campus with a focus on chronic diseases that affect the elderly population in the United States. With a \$64 million grant from the National Institutes of Health, Marco Pahor, M.D., and his colleagues at the UF Institute on Aging are seeking to determine the role exercise and a healthy lifestyle play in the mobility of older Americans. In addition, drug development clinical studies will look at the efficacy and safety of medicines in the 60+ age group which has been, until now, a neglected population in many clinical trials.

The UF Medication Therapy Management Call Center will also expand to Lake Nona. This call center works with numerous health plans to provide comprehensive patient



Center at Lake Nona

medication review with quarterly follow-ups in an effort to see if patients are following their medication plans and to identify any non-prescribed drugs the patient could be taking that may react dangerously or cause them to be ineffective.

UF's College of Pharmacy Orlando campus, with more than 200 Pharm.D. students and nearly a dozen faculty and staff, will relocate to Lake Nona before fall 2012. Some students conduct research and go on to graduate school for pharmaceutical research, pharmacometrics, or specialized clinical practice. The stimulating biomedical environment at Lake Nona will provide the platform to develop a new type of graduate and post-doctoral fellow program in pharmacometrics in which graduate candidates will not only understand basic pharmaceutical science, but also the scientific and clinical applications needed to approach and solve real world problems in drug development and disease. In this program, students will spend up to two years working on problem-oriented projects on-site at the FDA or at a pharmaceutical company resulting in a diversified "chapter-based" thesis.

The program will have three tracks in pharmacometrics as described in the FDA's 2020 Vision for Pharmacometrics: 1) a computer track focusing on new methodologies in modeling and simulation, 2) a disease track emphasizing the application of pharmacometrics to develop and use drug-disease models, and 3) a clinical track for designing and implementing novel trial designs to demonstrate efficacy and safety of a medicine. When fully realized, UF intends to be the critically needed pipeline for training of physicians, pharmaceutical doctoral and fellow candidates, biostatisticians, engineers and others in the tools of pharmacometrics and systems pharmacology.

UF is seeking founding partners to become involved in the Lake Nona Center for Pharmacometrics and Systems Pharmacology partners have a unique opportunity to participate in the Leadership Council that will provide input and guidance into the design of the program to assure that it meets the needs of the pharmaceutical industry. For more information, contact Kelly Markey, Senior Director of Development, UF College of Pharmacy, markey@cop.ufl.edu.

BACK ON THE JOB? UF Pharmacy Technician Training *By Linda Homewood*

Pharmacy technician jobs, once seen as entry-level positions for younger workers, are now a way for older workers to remain in the job market. As economic uncertainty and unstable job markets linger, many workers, not ready or able to retire, now see these jobs as second careers.

The University of Florida College of Pharmacy has developed a 14-week training course offered in two formats, either in-class or online. A first for any U.S. academic institution, UF's course prepares students to take a national certifying exam now required for all pharmacy technicians. The course has been approved by the Florida Board of Pharmacy.

The program's first class was taught at the UF campus in Gainesville by Judy Riffie, R.Ph., a program development coordinator in the Division of Continuing Education at UF College of Pharmacy.

Expecting a class of young adults, Riffie instead found her students to be 40- to 60-year-olds, well educated and anxious to get back into the job market — but in a meaningful way.

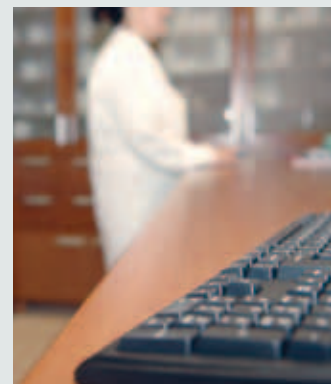
"Their education and work experience ranges from librarians and engineers to health care and finance. The common thread seems to be a downturned economy which is greatly affecting job retention and taking many people out of the workplace for which they were originally trained," Riffie said.

This year, beginning in February, online courses, and additional live classes, were added in Orlando and Tampa, with plans to add more Florida cities this summer. Subjects covered in the course include pharmacology, pharmacy law, inventory management, prescription writing, pharmaceutical calculations and sterile compounding.

An accredited training program like UF's is now the only way to meet the State Board of Pharmacy's education requirement for technicians to become registered in the state. A national licensing exam is not required in Florida, but UF faculty encourage all student technicians to take the exam for which they have been prepared.

The program is an answer to a growing need for knowledge, skill and safety in the pharmacy workforce. Legislation in Florida in 2009 first mandated pharmacy technicians to be registered through examination by the State Board of Pharmacy. Educational standards at that time allowed technicians to prepare either by completing an approved training program, or demonstrating 1,500 hours of work experience under a licensed pharmacist. The work experience is no longer accepted with the changes that took effect this year on January 1.

Interested applicants can apply online at www.cop.ufl.edu, or contact an enrollment specialist, at 888-415-5833.





Symposia attendees gather before the closing "Gator Fest" banquet

The 8th International Symposia Meets in Austria

The University of Florida & Karl Franzens University of Graz
Promote Academic Exchange in Drug Development & Design

In June, the UF College of Pharmacy Department of Pharmaceutics co-hosted two highly prestigious scientific meetings in Austria at the University of Graz Department of Pharmacognosy. A cooperative agreement was initiated in June between the University of Florida and the University of Graz to enhance an academic and research exchange between the two institutions. Each full-day meeting was organized for international researchers whose investigations and research are focused within two areas in pharmaceutics:

- Retrometabolism Based Drug Design
- Clinical Pharmacy and Clinical Pharmacology

Held biennially since 1997, the symposia allow scientists, educators and students in these research disciplines to meet and share their work. Each meeting held scientific presentations by leading researchers with specializations in drug design and clinical pharmacology. Graduate students attended the meeting and presented posters for peer review.

The 8th Retrometabolism Based Drug Design and Targeting Conference – held June 2, was established by Nicholas Bodor, Ph.D., D.Sc., an emeritus active graduate research professor at the UF College of Pharmacy. This year's meeting was co-chaired and sponsored by Tsuneji Nagai, Ph.D., the Nagai Foundation Tokyo. Senju Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd., Osaka, Japan and Merck Serono S. A., Geneva, Switzerland also helped sponsor the meeting. Drs. Amy and Peter Buchwald planned a scientific program with researchers from around the world presenting new findings in drug discovery and drug development. Yuichi Sugiyama, Ph.D. a professor of molecular pharmacokinetics

at the University of Tokyo, one of the most prominent pharmaceutical scientists in the world was among the distinguished presenters.

New Developments in Clinical Pharmacy and Clinical Pharmacology – held June 4, was established by Hartmut Derendorf, Ph.D., a distinguished professor of pharmaceutics at the UF College of Pharmacy. Maintaining friendships and colleague interactions that were developed at the college's pharmaceutics department, members are dubbed the "Global Gators."

"Everyone who has visited the department, taken classes, taught, or lectured is welcome to become a Global Gator," Derendorf said.

Derendorf recognized the meeting patron, Mag. Franz Voves, Governor of the Province of Styria for his support and thanked the following companies for their support, which contributed to the meeting's success: Boehringer Ingelheim Pharma GmbH & Co. KG; Drug & Biotechnology Development, LLC; JMJ Technologies; MEDA Pharma; Merck Serono; Pfizer; PKPDyne Inc.

One day of touring and relaxation between meetings was planned by Austrian hosts, Rudolf Bauer, Ph.D., and Karin Ardjomand-Woelkart, Ph.D. from the University of Graz. Guests enjoyed a bus ride through



[top] Karl Crailsheim, Rudolf Bauer, Hartmut Derendorf, Bill Riffie at the University of Graz; [bottom] Hartmut Derendorf, Princess Sophia Liechtenstein and Rudolf Bauer



Emil Pop

Global Gator Award

Emil Pop, Ph.D., an adjunct faculty at UF College of Pharmacy, received the Global Gator Award as an individual who best represents the University of Florida Gator Spirit internationally in the field of drug development. Hartmut Derendorf, Ph.D., presented Pop with the award in June at the 8th Symposium in Graz, Austria. The UF award, an engraved plaque, acknowledges Pop's contribution to the college's graduate program in pharmaceuticals and his inspiring international career.

"Emil Pop is an outstanding and very creative medicinal chemist," Derendorf said. "His excellent scientific work has been recognized by many awards."

A Fellow, of the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists, and the American Institute of Chemists, Pop began his research career in 1962 as an academic chemist in Romania. In 1982 he came to the UF College of Pharmacy as a postdoctoral research associate. In 1996 he founded Alchem Laboratories in Alachua, Fla where he now serves as president and CEO.

the beautiful Styrian countryside with stops at the Zotter Chocolate Company and Gölles vinegar and spirits manufacturer. The day's highlight included a visit at the medieval castle Riegersburg where Princess Sophia Liechtenstein, who studied pharmacy in Graz, hosted the group for lunch and a tour through the castle and its witch museum.

The traditional Gator Fest banquet was held at the close of the symposia at the Old University. The traditional Austrian banquet dinner was prepared by Chef Wolfgang Edler, a two-time medal winner at the culinary world championships.

UF Professor Emeritus Receives Hungarian Recognition of Merit & Science



Budapest: Nicholas Bodor thanks the prime minister. (from left) Speaker of the House Laszlo Kover, Prime Minister Viktor Orbán, and Hungarian President Pal Schmitt.

Hungarian Republic: The Commander's Cross



Nicholas Bodor, Ph.D., D.Sc., Graduate Research Professor Emeritus (active) at the UF College of Pharmacy, received high honors from the Hungarian government in Budapest. Bodor received the Commander's Cross of the Order of Merit of the Hungarian Republic, a prestigious state award of civil merit. He received the cross at an official ceremony in the Hungarian parliament on the eve of the August 20th national celebration of Hungary's canonized first king, St. Stephen. Bodor also received the complementary pin, the Knight's Cross of the Order of Merit and an ornate diploma summarizing his accomplishments. Previously, in 2004, he received

the Gold Cross of Merit of the Hungarian Republic.

photo: Nicholas Bodor, in formal Hungarian dress, proudly wears the Commander's Cross around his neck. The Gold Cross of Merit and Knight's Cross are pinned to his jacket.

Hungarian Chemical Society: Fabinyi Prize

Earlier this year, Bodor received scientific recognition when he was awarded the 2010 Fabinyi Prize from the Hungarian Chemical Society. Established in 2007 at the society's 100th anniversary, the award is named after the HCS founder, Dr. Rudolf Fabinyi. Bodor is the third recipient of the award, which is given to scientists living outside of Hungary whose outstanding scientific accomplishment have contributed to the reputation of the HCS (The first recipient was the Hungarian Nobel Laureate George Olah, who lives in California). At its annual meeting last May, Prof. Peter Matyus, president of the HCS presented Bodor with a large engraved medal and diploma. Following the award presentation, Bodor delivered a plenary lecture to 800 participants in honor of the United Nation's designation of 2011 as The International Year of Chemistry.

Legacy Leaders

We would like to recognize and extend our appreciation to those alumni and friends who have created permanent funds to support our faculty and students. These endowments will generate revenue for future generations of students and provide resources for the college to continue its tradition of teaching, mentoring and discovery.

Chairs and Professorships

Gifts of \$3.5 million+

- Debbie & Sylvia DeSantis Professorship in Natural Products

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- Dr. Robert and Barbara Crisafi Chair in Pharmaceutical Outcomes and Policy
- William H. Riffie, Ph.D. Dean's Endowment (Dan and Jackie Devine)

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Gifts of \$1million+

- Dr. Allen Spiegel Graduate Student Education Endowment in Pharmaceutical Research
- Lawrence DuBow Family Graduate Student Education Endowment

Gifts of \$40,000-\$300,000

- Ken Finger Memorial Fellowship
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For Endowed Scholarships, see page 17.

DEAN'S CIRCLE

*This report reflects donations made
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The Dean's Circle recognizes alumni and friends who support the college with an annual gift of \$500 or more. Private donations provide the college flexibility to offer leadership opportunities for students and faculty to develop new educational initiatives, and ensures the college's ceremonial traditions continue despite the economy or state allocation.

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Healthcare Innovation Fellowship

Supporting Graduate Education at UF College of Pharmacy

By Melanie Stawicki Azam



Mary Kay Owens

An estimated \$240 billion a year is wasted on unnecessary health care services, due to U.S. patients getting fragmented care, according to Mary Kay Owens, president of Tallahassee-based Southeastern Consultants, Inc.

But Owens, who is also a clinical associate professor at the UF College of Pharmacy, in the department of pharmaceutical outcomes and policy, hopes to change that.

"A lack of coordination of care is driving a lot of the unnecessary costs in the health-care system," she said. "We have spent a lot of time studying how to identify uncoordinated care and we are now trying to offer solutions on how providers and plans can use data to create solutions that better coordinate care."

Owens provided a gift to the College of Pharmacy to establish The Fellowship for Healthcare Innovation. It supports two graduate students in the college's department of pharmaceutical outcomes and policy, including at least one student working in conjunction with the Center for Medicaid.

The students focus on analytical research involving coordinated care models that promote patient-centered, quality-driven health care solutions.

Owens said she funded the fellowship because it seemed to her students were rarely doing this type of research, although it was important, she said. Facing health care reform and tight budgets, policy makers are looking more than ever at getting the greatest results for every dollar they spend on health care.

After graduating in 1989 from Auburn University with her pharmacy degree, Owens worked for several years as a pharmacist in various healthcare settings. She became frustrated with trying to care for her patients because, she said, "you, as the provider, only see a snapshot in time" and have no access to their past medical and drug history.

Later, she went to work for Florida Medicaid and began looking at claims data and auditing claims. As director of the Medicaid Drug Utilization Review program, she identified the need for more complete patient medical and drug histories. The solution she applies now uses sophisticated analytical methods to retrieve longitudinal claims data, mine it and design patient-specific intervention strategies.

The need for this type of analytical research is what pushed Owens in 1993 to found Southeastern Consultants, Inc., a national

pharmaceutical and health care consulting and data analytics firm. Its clients include benefit managers, government agencies, the medical and pharmaceutical industry and academic institutions.

Owens also found that public programs, like Medicaid, accounted for more than half of the \$240 billion in annual wasted health care money. She serves as a consultant to the Florida Center for Medicaid and the Uninsured, a health policy analysis and research institute affiliated with the UF College of Public Health and Health Professions.

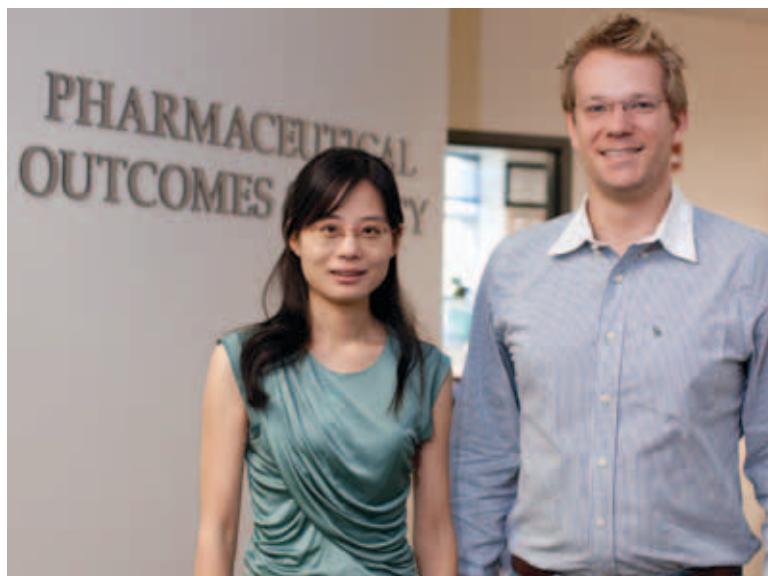
Pharmacy doctorate students Stephan Linden and Qinli Ma both received the Healthcare Innovation fellowship this spring and are doing research related to Medicaid.

Linden is researching the safety of drugs prescribed for youths with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder that are Medicaid recipients, while Ma is studying the effect of continuity of care on the hospitalization rate of sickle cell disease patients enrolled in Florida Medicaid.

"This fellowship means a lot to me," said Ma, adding that it helps her pay her tuition as an international student and living expenses, which allows her more time to devote to her research.

Ultimately, Owens hopes the fellowships will produce meaningful data that could be used by policy makers and other health care decision makers to implement more effective and efficient coordinated care programs. She also hopes this type of analytical research will encourage graduate students to look at health care policy and practice a bit differently so that they can design technology-based solutions to improve care and efficiency.

"I would hope that it would change the way they think fundamentally," said Owens. "It's not just managing a disease or condition—but coordinating care across the entire health-care system."



Doctorate students Qinli Ma and Stephan Linden

schol•ar•ship [skol-er-ship]



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Meghan Patel, Evgenia Smith

Elizabeth Eaton Scholarship/Award
Sara Chmura, Nancy Gilis

Eckerd Pharmacy Scholarship
Sinjai Juijatrang, Jordan Almazan, Bigi Valacheryil, Milind Patel, Juan Hincapie Castillo, Patricia Berrios, Kimberly Alvarez, Courtney Colletti, R. Ross Collins, Janis Dolemba, Christopher Gnezcco, Patti Haywood, Andrew Hwang, Cynthia Laney, Jonathan Lewis, Chestine Libema, Adina Mears

Field Memorial Scholarship
Meghan Arwood, Alan Byard, Scott Cohen, Rob McAleer

Lydia Foote Service Award
Christy Austin

Perry Foote Award for Distinguished Scholarship, Service and Leadership
Nerissa Alday

Valerie Calkin Griffith Scholarship
Andre Felder

Monteen Johnson Gold Merit Award
Christopher Austin

Jack and Betty Jones Scholarship
Janis Dolemba

Kazarian Family Scholarship
Kristina Chen Yin

Jerry Elaine Klimetz Scholarship
Danny Gonzalez

Leigh Medal for Outstanding Leadership
Brandon Huang, June Vasquez

Charlotte Liberty Scholarship
Paul Novotny, Mai-Thao Nguyen, Uyen Nguyen, Veldana Nuhi, Liem Phan, Jenna Rhoades, Andrea Ruiz, Gunther Sequeria, Alyssa Schiller, Kareema Smith, Karin Thatcher, Kayla Tibbetts, Long Tran, Andrea Weinberg, Jackson Vasquez, Tong Yu, Arezoo Zavarehzadegan

Lilly Medal for Scholastic and Professional Achievement Leadership and Ethical Conduct
Nicole Kitts

Robert Littler Scholarship
Ryan Milton, Phouc Bui

Medco Scholarship
Shirely Elisbrun, Allison James, Teresa Vo, Safiye Nuhi, Kaleia Letizia

AI and Belle Meyerson Scholarship
Tiffany Oliphant

Victor Micolucci Scholarship
Esteban Fernandez

NACDS Fdn Pharm Partners
Christopher Schell, Jeremy Hyink

Publix Supermarkets
Marina Badzinski, Allison Baker, Ou Chen, Katie Hall, Pham Hieu, Renee Hunter, Abbey LeBlanc, My Nguyen, Paul Novotny, Danielle Underwood

D.W. Ramsaur Distinguished Scholar Award
Megan Hames

Reid Scholarship
Daniel Zambrane

Jeanne Scheibler Scholarship
Teresa Vo, Adina Mears, Thy Huynh, Jonathan Lewis, William Parker, Wen Zhuang, Latchmi Singh

Francene Trainor Memorial Fund
1st PL: Kristin Halstead, 2nd PL: Safiye Nuhi, 3rd PL: Amaneh Moulavi

Walgreens Company Scholarship
Brandon Hudson

Wal-Mart
Sharita Gosa, Sophia Kontaridis, Safiye Nuhi, Veldana Nuhi, Jennifer Steber, Nicole Williams

Yachbes Family Scholarship
Long Tran

2011 FPA Foundation Scholarships

The FPA Foundation has awarded \$2,000 in scholarships to these UF College of Pharmacy students:

Medco Health Solutions
Jeremy Lund

James A. Mincy Scholarship
Danielle Pierini

Volusia/Flagler Pharmacy Association
Kaila Letizin



New Professorship Honors Distinguished Service Professor

Paul Doering, M.S., a distinguished service professor in pharmacotherapy and translational research at the UF College of Pharmacy, may have retired this year — but his excellence in teaching lives on.

In honor of Paul's 35 years of service to the college and his unwavering dedication to mentoring and educating generations of pharmacy students, the college is creating the "Paul Doering Excellence in Teaching Professorship" to recognize a faculty member whose dedication to student learning is exemplary.

UF Pharmacy alumna Pat Kipp ('78) said she considers it a privilege to lead the effort with her gift of \$30,000, and encourages other alumni to join her in establishing the professorship this fall.

"Paul always asked me 'what type of pharmacist do you want to be?' and that made me work a bit harder," said Kipp. "Because of Paul I have always challenged myself and as a result have had a successful career."

A five-time recipient of the Teacher of the Year award, Doering plans to continue his work with students and pharmacists through lectures and seminars. He is working with the Department of Pharmacy Services at UF&Shands on a special project to help pharmacy students make the transition from the classroom to the clinic less difficult.

Doering first came to Gainesville from Miami in the fall of 1967 with plans of majoring in architecture. His brother, who was studying pharmacy, influenced his decision to apply to the UF College of Pharmacy and begin his studies in 1969. During his senior year, Doering became interested in clinical pharmacy — the idea of pharmacists being involved in the planning, implementation, and monitoring of patient drug therapy. In the following years, Doering worked as a researcher in the College of Medicine studying adverse drug reactions.

A member of the UF Academy of Distinguished Teaching Scholars, Doering was hired in January 1976 at the age of 27, as an assistant professor in the college. In 1995, Doering was promoted to a Distinguished Service Professor — the first and only faculty member to be so recognized in the college's history.

Over the years, Doering has received numerous honors and awards by his students and alumni at UF. In addition to his Teacher of the Year honors, he also has been voted by the graduating class to receive the Faculty Recognition Award three times. He was awarded one of several Florida Blue Key Distinguished Faculty Awards given to an outstanding faculty member, campus wide, by Florida Blue Key Honor Society at UF.

Doering served as Distinguished Alumni Professor, named by the UF Alumni Association as an outstanding professor for the entire university.

In addition to teaching, Doering has been a frequent speaker on the subject of drug prevention in middle, high school, and college classrooms. He also speaks to senior citizen groups on the safety and effectiveness of medicines.

Marine Natural Products Research

A NEW WAVE



By John Pastor

Over the past year, medicinal chemistry researchers at the UF College of Pharmacy have published several findings on largazole, a marine cyanobacteria they discovered in the Florida Keys. Now, Hendrik Luesch, Ph.D., an associate professor of medicinal chemistry has reported surprising new findings on apratoxin, a marine compound he discovered far from Florida, in the middle of the Pacific in Guam.

Luesch first reported largazole's effectiveness against colon cancer last fall, and another publication followed early spring that showed its additional medical potential for bone regeneration.

Luesch reported this August in ACS Medicinal Chemistry Letters, how his lab synthesized a generally lethal byproduct of apratoxin, which he discovered in 2001 as a graduate student. The re-engineered compound, made more specifically toxic to cancer cells, inhibited tumor growth without the overall poisonous effect of the natural product. Even at relatively high doses, the agent proved effective and safe.

"Sometimes nature needs a helping human hand to further optimize these products of evolution to treat human diseases," said Hendrik Luesch, Ph.D., an associate professor of medicinal chemistry at UF's College of Pharmacy. "Based on what we learned about apratoxins' mechanism of action, we knew this compound class had great potential for use in anticancer therapies; however, the natural product itself is too toxic to become a therapeutic."

The researchers' modified compound acts as a single agent to reduce levels of two types of proteins that are targeted by cancer research labs around the world — growth factors, and enzymes called tyrosine kinases, which act as receptors for the growth factors.

The new apratoxin S4 compound strips colon cancer cells of their ability to both secrete and use naturally occurring factors that fuel growth — something that Luesch, postdoctoral chemist Qi-Yin Chen, Ph.D., and assistant scientist Yanxia Liu, Ph.D., say is a powerful "one-two punch" against mushrooming populations of cancer cells.

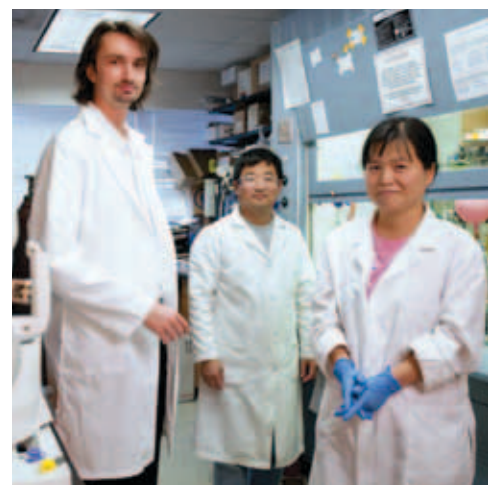
Apratoxin is produced by cyanobacteria, microbes that have evolved toxins to fend off predators and cope with harsh conditions in a marine

environment. Like plants, cyanobacteria convert sunlight into energy through a process known as photosynthesis. But where plants exclusively use a green pigment called chlorophyll to capture light to make food, cyanobacteria also use a bluish pigment called phycocyanin.

In addition, cyanobacteria have the unique ability to use respiration as well as photosynthesis to acquire energy, making these organisms tiny chemical factories capable of producing many as-yet unidentified molecules that may be useful for health applications.

"Marine cyanobacteria produce a huge diversity of compounds," said Luesch, who is also a member of the UF Shands Cancer Center. "About half of anticancer drugs are based on natural products. All but a couple of them are derived from terrestrial organisms, yet more than 70 percent of the Earth is covered by oceans, which presumably contain a number of therapeutic molecules with potentially novel biological activities. When we studied the biological effects of apratoxin, we predicted it would be particularly useful against colon cancer if we could engineer it to be more selective."

Chen synthesized the apratoxins, while Liu carried out the biology and pharmacology experiments. More lab work is required before a drug based on apratoxin can be tested in patients with colon cancer, but Luesch believes apratoxin S4 is the first candidate to show the needed tumor selectivity, antitumor effects and potency to be effective. The UF Research Opportunity Fund and the Bankhead-Coley Cancer Research Program supported the study.





SPEAKER PHOTOS BY MARIA FARIAS

Folakemi Odedina, Ph.D.
UF Professor & DirectorStephen B. Pokorny, Ph.D.,
Alachua County Health Dept.Stephanie Pollard, MPH
Community Advisory BoardAdrian Harper,
Spirit of Faith Christian Center

Empowering Community Health in the Battle Against Prostate Cancer

Prostate cancer affects 1 in 4 men in Florida, as opposed to 1 in 6 nationally, and has significant risk factors for Black men, said Folakemi Odedina, Ph.D., a professor of pharmaceutical outcomes and policy.

Odedina, who is the director of community outreach at the University of Florida Prostate Disease Center is raising community health awareness through a new mini-grant program.

"Funded projects must demonstrate a potential for measureable outcomes," said Shannon Pressey, M.S., a UF research programs coordinator in the college.

In September, four Alachua County non-profit community organizations were selected to receive a total of \$6,500 from the UF College of Pharmacy department of Pharmaceutical Outcomes & Policy. The one-year, start-up grants, offered awards up to \$2,000 to non-profit community-based and faith-based organizations in Alachua County. The grants will support local efforts through community intervention and informed screening programs.

The following agencies received awards to fund community health initiatives for prostate health:

Alachua County Department of Health received a \$2,000 grant to implement local outreach through barber shops in the Black communities to increase awareness about prostate cancer and implement a free voucher screening program through the University of Florida.

Greater Gainesville Black Nurses Association received a \$1,500 grant to promote early detection for men 40 years or older, followed by an assessment with program results.

AR Camps Ministries, Inc. received a \$1,500 grant to educate participants about environmental and nutritional factors associated with prostate cancer, recognize warning signs, and increase life expectancy through mental awareness and physical exercise.

Spirit of Faith Christian Center received a \$1,500 grant to host a 2012 men's health seminar with educational materials and free screenings for prostate cancer.

Also in September, the University of Florida Prostate Disease Center and Greater Bethel AME Church, worked together to organize a men's health expo at Greater Bethel in Gainesville, Fla.

The 2011 Men's Health & Manpower Expo offered free prostate cancer screenings and provided other impor-



UF faculty and staff, UF Prostate Health and Outreach Program Community Advisory Board members and leaders from community organizations attended the mini-grant award presentation at the College of Pharmacy.

tant health education workshops and health screenings for high blood pressure, cholesterol and HIV/AIDS, and employment opportunities.

The Rev. Karl V. Smith, pastor of Greater Bethel and co-chair of the UF Prostate Health and Outreach Program Community Advisory Board, hosted the expo.

"Not only are we educating men in our community about their health, we are trying to help them find jobs so they can provide for their families," Smith said.

Coinciding with the expo, the Alachua County Prostate Cancer Advocacy Program Basic Retooling Training Program held a workshop to train residents in the community to become prostate cancer educators.

Odedina said the main purpose of the Expo was to get black men between the ages of 40-70 screened for prostate cancer. Free prostate screening vouchers were given to men to visit the UF Urology Clinic on campus.

"We want the men to be educated about prostate cancer," said Odedina. "We have to fight prostate cancer very hard here in Alachua County."

Smith, the pastor at Greater Bethel, has been involved with the event for several years and believes churches can help with issues such as this affecting the community by taking a holistic approach to the communities they serve.

"My involvement started with a genuine interest in the health of black men and the negative impact prostate cancer is having on black men," said Smith.

Pharmacy Researcher Earns Triple Honors for Publications

By Allyson Fox

For more than a decade, Rhonda Cooper-DeHoff, Pharm.D., M.S., an associate professor in the colleges of Pharmacy and Medicine, collected data, studying blood pressure in patients with heart disease. More recently she has focused on the subgroup with diabetes, and investigated CV outcomes according to achieved blood pressure.

The resulting article, “Tight Blood Pressure Control and Cardiovascular Outcomes Among Hypertensive Patients with Diabetes and Coronary Artery Disease,” was published July 7, 2010 in *The Journal of the American Medical Association*.

This fall, Cooper-DeHoff’s article received the Best Paper Award from The American College of Clinical Pharmacy Cardiology Practice and Research Network. More than a year after publication, she was surprised to learn that her article had been selected and that she would be recognized in October at the ACCP annual meeting in Pittsburgh.

“I was honored,” Cooper-DeHoff said. “It’s very humbling and nice that they recognize our work.”

The study found that lower blood pressure may not be better for patients with heart disease and diabetes. A patient with these conditions may need one less drug or a lower dose of medicine to stay healthy, Cooper-DeHoff said.

Currently, the national treatment guidelines suggest to lower blood pressure as much as possible in patients with diabetes and Dr. Cooper-DeHoff’s data would suggest this may not be the best in diabetics with coronary artery disease.

New blood pressure guidelines are currently being developed, and Cooper-DeHoff hopes her research data will be incorporated into the body of evidence used to formulate new recommendations.

Her findings, as well as data collected from other groups, suggest ideal systolic blood pressure should be between 130 and 140 for

patients with heart disease and diabetes. The systolic blood pressure currently considered normal, 120, may put patients with heart disease and diabetes at higher risk for death, Cooper-DeHoff said.

And the ACCP isn’t the only organization to recognize Cooper-DeHoff’s research. She also has received the 2011 Literature Award from The American Society of Health-System Pharmacists Foundation for the article. She will be recognized December 5 at the ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting in New Orleans.

In addition to recognition from national pharmacy organizations, the American Heart Association selected another of her papers characterizing adverse metabolic effects of antihypertensive drugs according to abdominal waist circumference, which was published in *Hypertension*, as its top paper in 2010 in the population science category.

This award came as a surprise to Cooper-DeHoff. The choice of recipient was based on the number of times people accessed and downloaded the paper.

Julie A. Johnson, Pharm.D., a distinguished professor in the college’s department of pharmacotherapy and translational research, who studies the genetic response to drugs that are used to treat hypertension was impressed by her colleague’s triple recognition.

“To be recognized by two peer pharmacy organizations is quite an accomplishment,” Johnson said. “And, to be named a top paper outside the pharmacy discipline only adds to the significance of her work.”



JESSE JONES

Rhonda Cooper-DeHoff



Giving Service, Gaining Experience...

UF's Top Graduate Teaching Assistant

Approaches to education evolve, and so do graduate teaching assistants. This spring, as colleges across campus recognized their best — the University of Florida chose one to receive its highest honor.

Stephan Linden, a senior graduate teaching assistant in the UF College of Pharmacy's department of Pharmaceutical Outcomes and Policy, was awarded the University of Florida Graduate Student Teaching Award.

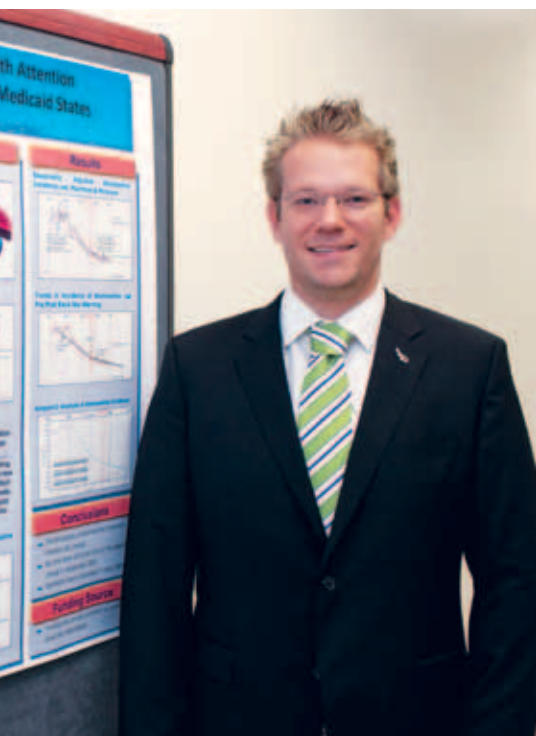
A native of Germany, Linden also received recognition in April from the UF College of Pharmacy after he was chosen as Teaching Assistant of the Year by the Class of 2011 student pharmacists. He taught two required courses in the Pharm.D. program called Evidence-based Pharmacy and Professional Communications in Pharmacy Practice — and used his own pharmacy school and community pharmacy experience to inspire his connection with the students, said Richard Segal, a professor and chair of pharmaceutical outcomes and policy in the UF College of Pharmacy.

"Stephan has matured into an outstanding instructor," Segal said. "He has essentially become both the right and left-hands of the course coordinators he has worked with in the Pharm.D. curriculum."

His efforts and leadership skills are dispersed to more than 300 students across the college's four distance learning campuses, and his outstanding organizational abilities are key to the success of the courses he teaches, Segal added.

"When I was in pharmacy school it was 'these are the pages you have to read, do it — then here are some more,'" Linden said. "But to understand material you have to focus on comprehension, critical thinking and communication. Discussing the material with your peers and asking questions."

Although teaching was not his primary goal, he quickly realized he enjoyed interacting with the students and helping them understand key concepts, he said. He still wants to be involved in research after earning his Ph.D. degree, Linden said, but teaching will definitely be a part of his future now too.



Stephan Linden

Student Pharmacists Earn Triple Honors

In March, Gator pharmacy students traveled to the 2011 American Pharmacist Association Annual Meeting in Seattle just like hundreds of other U.S. student pharmacists — but the UF Academy of Student Pharmacists students returned home with three top awards.

The UF ASP students received the inaugural 2010 National Award for Generation Rx, an educational program that increases public awareness of prescription medication abuse and encourages health care providers, community leaders, parents, teens, and college students to actively work to prevent abuse.

The UF student pharmacists also received the 2010 National Professionalism Award and the 2010 Region 3 Operation Diabetes Award at the meeting.

The national APhA Academy of Student Pharmacists Chapter recognizes outstanding activities of APhA-ASP chapters across the nation, with its statement, "The awards acknowledge superior programming among chapters that envision the future of pharmacy by creating opportunities for student participation, leadership, professionalism, membership, patient care, and legislative advocacy among student pharmacists."



Gloria Coltea, ASP president (Gainesville campus) and Sharita Gause Gosa, ASP chapter executive liaison (Orlando campus) received the Chapter Professionalism award at the APhA national meeting in Seattle.

Achieving Honors

Pharmacy students can find summer internship opportunities through professional newsletters and national pharmacy organizations. As a major U.S. research-intensive institution, the UF College of Pharmacy is also well-positioned to offer a wide range of research opportunities in the pharmaceutical, biomedical, engineering, agricultural or life sciences to its student pharmacists.

"The availability of research experiences for Pharm.D. students is mandated in the college's accreditation standards, and is a required criteria for graduating students seeking academic honors," said William Millard, Ph.D., an executive associate dean at the college.

Hospital Pharmacy Internship: Johns Hopkins

By Ryan Haumschild, Class 2013, UF College of Pharmacy — Gainesville Campus

Third-year pharmacy student, Ryan Haumschild successfully competed for a coveted summer internship opportunity at The Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore. Selected through an application and interview process, he was one of 15 pharmacy students from schools throughout the country. Coming from a large academic medical center like UF&Shands, Haumschild said he was prepared for a variety of clinical settings. He encourages his UF classmates to seek competitive internships with his report from his experience:

"The pharmacy internship program at The Johns Hopkins Hospital was very structured with clinical pharmacy discussion forums every Monday and journal club every Wednesday. There were several opportunities to have lunch with the director of pharmacy, who had just won the American Society of Health System Pharmacy 2011 Harvey A. K. Whitney award. As pharmacy students, we shadowed the clinical pharmacists during rounds and saw pharmacists provide pharmacotherapy interventions to improve health outcomes. It was interesting learning about clinical pharmacists daily therapeutic practice areas such as critical care, internal medicine, psychiatry, emergency medicine, oncology, and cardiology.

Johns Hopkins has one of the largest residency programs in the nation, comprising 23 pharmacy residents. The department of pharmacy held a "Meet and Greet," to give student interns an opportunity to talk to pharmacy residents and find out how to become a competitive applicant for a residency program. This also gave us time to network with residents and set up on-call shadowing experiences.

My main area of interest is pharmacy administration. I had received my Master of Business Administration degree before starting pharmacy school. At Johns Hopkins, I wanted to combine my clinical education from UF with my background in business. The director of ambulatory care within the department of pharmacy was assigned to be my preceptor, based on my area of interest. He assigned projects that challenged me not only from a business perspective, but from a clinical one as well. My capstone project was setting up pharmacy services for a hepatitis C clinic. It was my responsibility to work with practitioners from the departments of medicine and pharmacy to learn about their treatment plans. After acquiring details about the clinic and how patient care would be delivered, I prepared a financial analysis that would determine profitability at various capture rates. Based upon my analysis and with the help of the department of pharmacy staff, Johns Hopkins decided to move forward with the pharmacy services initiative. This will include a clinical pharmacist to consult with patients and monitoring for drug interactions, while servicing the clinic with medications.

The Johns Hopkins internship experience left a lasting effect on me as a University of Florida student, as I feel I was able to make an impact on The Hospital to help improve their patient-centered care."



Haumschild (front, center) with pharmacy student interns from: University of Maryland, University of Southern California, University of California - San Francisco, University of Michigan, University of Colorado, University of Connecticut, University of Florida, Rutgers University, Belmont University, University of West Virginia, Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, Idaho State University, University of Notre Dame - Maryland.

Fostering Community Pharmacy Ownership

by Melanie Stawicki Azam



STUART LILICH

Priya Thoguluva

Priya Thoguluva, a University of Florida College of Pharmacy student, has thought about owning her own pharmacy one day, but she had no idea of what that would entail or if it was a realistic option for her.

But after a 10-week summer internship at Bay Street Pharmacy Inc. in Sebastian, Fla., which is owned by UF pharmacy graduate Theresa Tolle, Thoguluva says she knows now that ownership is possible and she would probably be pretty good at it.

"I learned owning a pharmacy is a real option for me, and I may be able to own my own business

early in my career," said the second-year student.

The UF College of Pharmacy received a gift from AmerisourceBergen, one of the largest wholesale drug companies in the world, for \$100,000 to help establish the Community Pharmacy Business and Entrepreneurial Endowment to encourage pharmacy ownership and business and entrepreneurial practices in pharmacy. The program includes a summer internship for students that allows them to gain business experience and knowledge from independent pharmacy owners in the community.

"It made sense to partner with the UF College of Pharmacy in promoting this program, based on our commitment to community pharmacy," said Joe Brecko, vice president and distribution center manager of AmerisourceBergen's Orlando division. "Community pharmacy is vital to our health care system."

Independent pharmacies provide important niche services to communities like personal service, home delivery and the compounding of medications, said Earlene Lipowski, Ph.D., a professor in the department of pharmaceutical outcomes and policy, who oversees the internship program.

Many independent pharmacy owners are retiring, and there has been a decline in the number of independent community pharmacies in Florida, she said. But that also means opportunities exist for young pharmacy graduates to buy these established pharmacies.

"If we can connect a young pharmacist to one that is phasing out, it's a win-win," said Lipowski.

Tolle, owner of the Sebastian pharmacy, is a 1988 UF pharmacy graduate. She said she welcomed the chance to mentor students and share her entrepreneurial experiences with them. She became part owner of her pharmacy in 1999, then full owner in 2005.

It's not easy competing against larger chain pharmacies, but she said she loves knowing her customers on a first-name basis and being a part of the community.

For Thoguluva, Tolle has become a valuable mentor and role model, even showing her how to juggle family and work.

"This internship has definitely had a big impact on me," Thoguluva said. "I now know that this is a realistic goal for me to pursue."

Class Giving CHALLENGE

Congratulations to the Jacksonville campus for taking the lead in this year's 4PD Challenge! Jacksonville Class Rep Shane Chordas presents the total Class of 2011 check to Executive Associate Dean Bill Millard and Alumni Association President JoAnn Nuccio. The check represents \$36,626 dollars pledged by the graduating student pharmacists from the UF Gainesville, Jacksonville, Orlando and St. Petersburg campuses.

Megan Kloet, Pharm.D., chose to give before graduation because she wanted to pay-it-forward to future students. "Through this support from our donors, I was able to become more involved in professional organizations," Kloet said, "and these experiences helped shape me into the pharmacist I am today."





Uyen Diep, Dhilona Valand, Min-Hua (Lisa) Xie, and Katrina Tuazon.

white Coats!

First-year Pharmacy Students Pledge Their Professionalism

More than 200 first-year pharmacy students put on their professional white coats for the first time last March during the college's Professional Coating Ceremony. The student pharmacists, from four UF campuses across the state, gathered at the Curtis M. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts to confirm their commitment to becoming professional practitioners of pharmacy. Their professors, and families proudly watched as Nicole Kitts, Pharm.D. candidate May 2011, led the students in a pledge of their dedication to pharmaceutical excellence. The student body, having completed their first academic year, all recited together a verbal Pledge of Professionalism.

JEFF KNEE/CAPTIVIMAGE

Best Paper in Pharmaceutics



ACCP CEO Stephen Keith, M.D. and Daniela Conrado

Daniela Conrado, a UF doctoral student in pharmaceutics working under the mentorship of Hartmut Derendorf, Ph.D., was awarded the Wayne A. Colburn Memorial Award in September at the American College of Clinical Pharmacology in Chicago.

Conrado was one of eight Student/Trainee Award winners recognized for outstanding research papers, each receiving a \$1,000 honorarium, and complimentary conference registration. She also received a plaque and \$500 honorarium for the memorial award as the best paper. Her poster was entitled: "Population Pharmacokinetics and Pharmacodynamics of Armodafinil: Effects on Electroencephalogram and Alertness of Sleep-deprived Adults," was chosen for the top award.

FIRST-IN-KIND:

Five UF Pharmacy 'Top Grads' are commissioned to improving public health. They are the first graduating class of the UF College of Pharmacy FDA/CDER Graduate Training Program. The classmates celebrated this spring at the college's graduate reception, before stepping into their new roles as trained clinician scientists at the FDA. And, though the program's future is uncertain due to federal budget cuts this year, 10 more students already enrolled, will be graduating May 2012.

In fall 2009, the UF College of Pharmacy, department of Pharmaceutical Outcomes and

Policy admitted the five students, Matthew Kirchoff, Jonas Santiago, Danielle Smith, James Trinidad, and Evan Wearne into its newly established master's program funded through a contract with the Food and Drug Administration's Center for Drug Evaluation and Research. The students were jointly selected by the department's graduate faculty and the FDA Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER), which assigned its new employees full-time to the UF campus to complete their graduate degree. As required, the students were also commissioned as officers in the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps. They followed military customs, wearing the U.S. Navy uniforms with a special Commissioned Corps insignia while attending class and during all program-related events. For the opportunity to earn a graduate degree, students agreed to work for CDER/FDA for two years, in return for each year of paid tuition.

"Our graduates have the clinical and research expertise necessary to scientifically assess drug safety and effectiveness," said Almut Winterstein, Ph.D., an associate professor in pharmaceutical outcomes and policy, and the director of the UF/FDA Collaboration Program.



MARIA FARIAS

First graduating class: Matthew Kirchoff, Jonas Santiago, James Trinidad, Evan Wearne, and Danielle Smith stand with Program Director Almut Winterstein, and Edwin Echegoyen and Capt. Greg Wood from CDER/FDA.



Dear Alumni & Friends,

As 2011 draws to a close and we come to the final year of our Florida Tomorrow campaign, I think about the people who have impacted the college and the profession with their compassion and wisdom.

A few of those are featured in this issue of the GATORx. Dr. Robert and Barbara Crisafi wanted to ensure that safer administration of medication in hospital settings was established to prevent medication errors. Joe Brecko and Amerisource Bergen helped to ensure students were exposed to community pharmacy ownership. And Mary Kay Owens decided it was time to give back and support graduate students in Pharmaceutical Outcomes and Policy.

These are just a few of the many individuals who continue to come forward and answer the question "if not me, then who? If not now, then when?" Despite the economy or problems of society, they chose to help facilitate solutions that improve education, the profession and foster discovery.

Our college is one of the the top-ranked colleges at the university and in the top 10 of all college's of pharmacy nationwide. This occurred because of dynamic leadership starting with Deans Leigh and Foote, continuing with Deans Finger and Schwartz, and today with Dean Riffée.

It occurred because a group of alumni in the 70s saw the decline of state dollars and started the Academy 100, which grew into today's Academy for Excellence. It occurred because the faculty continue to teach to the highest level while adapting to an ever-changing learning environment and an evolving profession. And, it will continue as long as we have alumni and friends who partner with us today to support the college's faculty and students, who will one day step forward and answer the question by saying, "me and now."

With appreciation,

Kelly Markey
Senior Director of Development
& Alumni Affairs

Outstanding Community Leadership



Theresa Tolle

Cardinal Health recognized Theresa Tolle for her outstanding commitment to community pharmacy and highly personalized patient care by donating \$11,000 to her alma mater — the University of Florida College of Pharmacy.

Tolle ('88), owner of Bay Street Pharmacy of Sebastian, Fla., in July received the 2011 Ken Wurster Community Leadership Award from Cardinal Health and designated the UF College of Pharmacy as the institution she wished to support. Selected from among more than 50 nominees for the award, Tolle has also received recognition and awards from the Florida Pharmacy Association for the past three years, and was named Sebastian's Woman of the Year in 2010.

The annual award, honoring a retail independent pharmacist who promotes the ideals of community pharmacy, was created in honor of independent pharmacist Ken Wurster ('72) of Tampa, Fla., who was also a UF alumnus. Wurster, who passed away in 2008, was remembered as a pharmacist who took responsibility for the wellness of his community.

Cardinal's donation honoring Tolle was contributed to the college's Paul Doering Excellence in Teaching Professorship fund, which supports a faculty member whose dedication to student learning is exemplary.

Dean's Circle Dinner

In September, we welcomed our new — and returning Dean's Circle members for an evening with Dean Riffée, faculty, students and alumni. The reception and dinner, held at Villa East in downtown Gainesville also gave guests an opportunity to hear about new programs. Dr. Karen Whalen gave a brief update on the college's newest international master's program. Student pharmacist, Gloria Coltea, ASP president, also shared her scholastic experiences and health-care outreach travels with other students.

We'd love to welcome you into our Dean's Circle with a gift of \$500 or more to the College to help support student and faculty professional development and special projects. For more information, please contact the Development & Alumni Affairs office at 352-273-6605.



Congratulations to **Elizabeth Zipper** on her promotion to Associate Director of Development. After three years as our Alumni Affairs Coordinator, Elizabeth has stepped in to further our fundraising efforts throughout the pharmacy Gator Nation.

She and her husband, Adam are UF graduates and have made Gainesville their home since 2004. In her new role, Elizabeth will focus on major gift fundraising and our Annual Fund.

We would also like to welcome **Ashley Frevert**, as our new Alumni Affairs Coordinator. She came to pharmacy from the University Alumni Association and jumped right in to manage our many fall events. She and her husband, Wes, moved to Gainesville two years ago for his orthopedic residency, and she looks forward to getting to know our pharmacy alumni and friends.

Legacies Remembered

This year we said goodbye to three alumni who left their mark on the college indefinitely. Each, in their own way, created positive change at the college, and their legacy is remembered. They saw the value of their degree and time spent at the college, and made sure that future generations would benefit from the same level of excellence. We mourn the passing of all our alumni and friends whose lives made a difference to those around them. We also wish to thank these men and their families for sharing their resources and wisdom to strengthen the profession and make the college one of which we all can be proud.

Raiford "Shorty" Brown '50 BSP



As a longtime supporter to the Academy for Excellence, Shorty believed in giving back to the college and the profession that helped him become successful and provide for his family. Born in Plant City, after high school he enlisted in the Navy, where he was trained as a pharmacist, and served in the Pacific during World War II. After his discharge in 1946, he enrolled at the University of Florida and received his pharmacy degree in 1950. He returned to work at Magnolia Pharmacy as a pharmacist, instead of a "soda jerk," Shorty said. He worked at community pharmacies in Lakeland before opening his own store, Brown's Prescription Center in 1954. The store became known as Brown-Newsome Prescription Center when he joined partnership with Joe Newsome. Shorty was an avid Gator fan — even as he was laid to rest in an Orange & Blue casket.

Allen Spiegel '57 Ph.D.

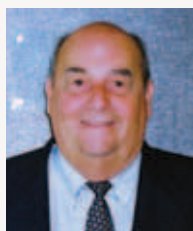


Allen earned his Ph.D. in pharmacy from UF in 1957 after completing his bachelor's and master's degrees at Columbia University. He worked for 43 years at Pfizer and retired as senior director of international patents. He participated on the college's National Advisory Board since 2000, and created the college's first graduate student endowment in 2005. Allen decided this endowment was the best way to fulfill his desire to support individual students in their endeavors. He put it simply:

"We need a good graduate research program, and in order to have one, we need more support. Hopefully this will provide the support necessary to aid those pursuing a Ph.D. in pharmacy."

Through his quiet strength and unwavering dedication to pharmacy research Allen's endeavors will be reflected in the future Spiegel Fellows who walk through our labs.

Ron Brenner '59 Ph.D.



Ron graduated from the college with a master's and Ph.D. in pharmaceutical chemistry after his pharmacy degree from the University of Cincinnati. A member of the college's National Advisory Board, he spearheaded the Ph.D. Reunion in the 90s along with his fellow classmate, Bob Crisafi. During his career, Ron was president and chairman of McNeil Laboratories, corporate vice president at Johnson and Johnson, CEO of Cytogen Corp, and a managing partner at Hillman Medical Ventures Inc. His unbreakable commitment to honesty will leave a lasting impression on many. Ron's experience spanned from basic lab research to senior corporate management, and finally to the next-generation biotechnologies through venture capital investment. He excelled at each step by creating fair and sustainable working relationships rather than seeking quick personal gains. As chairman of the Ph.D. Reunion, he created The Ronald J. Brenner, Ph.D. Graduate Student Fellowship and encouraged fellow classmates to do the same. Crediting his mother's advice, Ron said:

"I don't believe we are here to just enjoy ourselves. We're here to do something, to make a difference so that the world is a better place when we leave it. I guess if I had one goal in life that would be it."

Ron Brenner truly leaves this world a better place than he found it and the Pharmacy Gator Nation is better for it.



Victor F. Anderson ('73)
Bankston S. Armentrout ('53)
Vinson D. Bailey ('70)
Ronald J. Brenner ('59)
Richard H. Bromwell ('51)
Raiford M. Brown, Jr. ('50)
Joseph M. Campo ('55)
Richard W. Carr ('56)
John H. Clopton ('54)
William D. Davenport ('54)
Goette O. Fussell, Jr. ('50)
William E. Hale ('52)
Betty Lankford-McLaughlin ('53)
Curtis W. Lee ('61)
Miriam M. Leikert ('55)
Frank P. Maddalena ('54)
Edith W. Mason ('54)
Regina B. Misiaveg ('42)
Samuel L. Moye, Jr. ('50)
John W. Nelson, Sr. ('39)
Edwin H. Pounds ('48)
Charles A. Rosin ('55)
Talmadge S. Skinner ('76)
William J. Skor ('67)
Marcus E. Spector ('64)
Allen J. Spiegel ('57)
Robert A. Spitzer ('54)
Janet C. Stein ('77)
Lorenzo T. Stewart ('62)
Diane M. Traylor ('93)
John A. Vidal ('50)
Evelyn F. Ward ('55)

Grand Guard

This year's grand Guard event honored the class of 1961 and pharmacy had nine alumni join us for the weekend. During the breakfast, Lamar Massey's son and daughters presented him with a new class ring to replace the one lost many years ago. The lunch hosted by Dean Riffie and faculty, included a tour and discussion about pharmacy, then-and-now, and stories were shared about lives since graduation. After lunch, the Massey children continued the surprises and presented their Dad with the "Lamar and Hilda Massey Scholarship Endowment" in honor of their mother who was instrumental to Lamar throughout his career.

Myrle Henry was the Class chair, whose efforts were evident by the number of classmates who participated in the weekend event. Attending were:

- Harriette Barber
- Myrle Henry (wife Tommi)
- Lamar Massey
- Lynn Watson
- Robert Levitt (wife Phyllis)
- Donald Roberts (wife Mary Lou)
- William Swager (wife Nancy)
- Leonard Kohn
- Andrew Massaro



Doing the Chomp:
Andrew Massaro,
Don Roberts, Myrle
Henry, Harriette
Barber, Lenny Kohn,
William Swager,
Lamar Massey



UF family: C. Lamar Massey (BSP '61),
Rebecca Wiles (BSN '83 Nursing),
Lynn Watson (Liberal Arts and Sciences),
Ken Massey (Pharm.D. '84)



18th Annual Ken Finger Memorial Golf Tournament

Our annual golf tournament in honor of Dean Ken Finger (1968-78), was held in October in Celebration, Fla. Our golfers and sponsors helped raise nearly \$16,000 that will directly support our faculty and students in their activities over the academic year. Thanks go to our Gold & Silver sponsors: Embanet Compass, and KBR Building Group; McKesson Health Systems. And thank you to all our Bronze sponsors & loyal supporters who helped make the event a success!

1st Place – Team ProHealth Medical, Inc: Tom Berdan, Stephen Garner, Don Harris and Thad Hudgens

2nd Place – Team Reeder: Jennifer Williams, John Beckel, Christopher Reeder and Steve Reeder

3rd Place – Team CVS Caremark: Charly Caulkins, Dave Menor, Aaron Sanders and Jason Trump

25th Annual Alumni Reunion



PAUL DOERING PHOTOS: JEFF KNEE / CAPTURIMAGE



Honoring Paul Doering

We started the homecoming weekend on Nov. 4, with a retirement dinner to honor Paul Doering for his 35-year teaching legacy at the college. The evening included presentations from Ron Stewart, Bill McCormick, Mark Hobbs, Jose Puentes, and Tom Munyer—all of which span the decades of Paul's influence on the college. We also heard from Pat Kipp, who pledged \$30,000 for the Paul Doering "Excellence in Teaching" Professorship to support the college's faculty. Many alumni and friends shared their favorite Paul memory on video, which was captured for Paul and his family.



[1] Professor Doering fans; [2] The Doering family; [3] Speakers from left: Tom Munyer, Mark Hobbs, Bill McCormick, Paul Doering, Pat Kipp, Larry Lopez, Jose Puentes, Boll Millard, and Ron Stewart.; [4] Paul Doering introduces his grand-daughter, Taylor, to Michael Schneider and Carmen Prescott

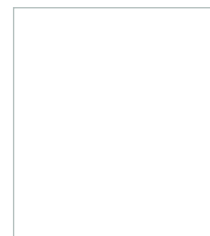


BBQ PHOTOS: ALYSSA PARKER

BBQ Reunion & Football

Although the weather was chilly, Nov. 5, alumni & friends celebrated the College of Pharmacy's 25th annual reunion. Before kick-off, friends met for a barbeque breakfast, raffle prizes, and a special appearance from Albert & Alberta. Everyone gathered cheering as Paul Doering took three pies in the face, raising money for student organizations. The celebration continued as we watched the Gators defeat Vanderbilt in the Swamp.





2012 Events Calendar

■ Career Days

January 26...Gainesville
January 27...Jacksonville
February 3...St. Petersburg
February 10...Orlando

■ Graduate Research Showcase

February 16 – Gainesville

■ Multicultural Dinner

February 19 – Gainesville

■ APHA Dean's Night Out

March 3 – New Orleans

■ Outreach Event

March (TBA)
Potential Sites – Maine, Atlanta

■ Orange & Blue game

April (TBA) – Gainesville

■ Dean's Advisory Board

April 12-13 – Orlando

■ Professional Coating Ceremony

April 14 – Gainesville

■ FPA Gator Reception

July 6 – Marco Island, FL

■ AACP

July 14-18 (TBA) – Kissimmee, FL

■ FSHP Gator Reception

August 3 – Orlando