TOP STORIES

UTCOP – Saudi Arabia Collaboration

During the third week of March a delegation from King Saud bin Abdulaziz University for the Health Sciences visited the College of Pharmacy’s Memphis campus to further discuss and finalize an agreement between the two educational units. Drs. Abdulmalik Alkatheri, Abdulkareem Albeairy, and Majed Aljerasi toured the Health Science Center campus, new college of pharmacy building, different research laboratories on campus, and met with various faculty members. The group has been in discussions with Drs. Gourley and Phelps and Mr. Tony Ferrara since the fall of 2009. King Saud bin Abdulaziz University for the Health Sciences will admit their first doctor of pharmacy class in the fall of 2012 and will license the first 6 semesters of the UTCOP curriculum over a four year period. This fall several BS educated pharmacists will integrate into the Class of 2014 as P2 doctor of pharmacy students. Following graduation from our program these students will enter into a non-accredited residency program.
MORE TOP STORIES

Chapter Wins Division Achievement and Awards

The UT APhA Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP) won the award for Chapter Achievement in Division A at the 2011 APhA Meeting in Seattle, WA. Divisions are determined by the total enrollment of the college. Division A consists of schools with an enrollment greater than 500 student pharmacists. This awards comes only one year after the chapter won APhA-ASP Chapter of the Year. The chapter is very active and has won two patient care awards in the last two years and has either won Chapter of the Year or Division eight out of the last ten years. ASP’s other achievements this year are the Regional Immunization Award and they achieved a five star rating for consistent years of outstanding service. The UT ASP chapter is one of only four chapters in the nation to receive this honor. Finally, student pharmacist Elizabeth Ackerman represented the college in the National Patient Counseling Competition. Pictured above are Hamilton Borden (P2), Elizabeth Ackerman (P3), Cole Larsen (P1), Whitney Elliott (P2) and Morgan Honeycutt (P3). Elizabeth Ackerman and Morgan Honeycutt are pictured right with APhA-ASP Advisor, Dr. Andrea Franks, Associate Professor of Clinical Pharmacy and Assistant Dean for Assessment and Education.

New Executive MBA Program Launched for Health-System Pharmacists

The University of Memphis Fogelman College of Business and Economics and University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy officials have formally announced the new EMBA at a press conference on March 2nd at the Fogelman Center on the University of Memphis campus. Key features of the new program include:

- A business school-pharmacy school partnership—The program will be offered by the University of Memphis Fogelman College of Business and Economics in partnership with the University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy.
MORE TOP STORIES

New Executive MBA – continued

• National in scope—The 40 semester-hour curriculum will be delivered through a combination of online and in-residence instruction (30 hours of on-line course work and 11 hours that will be delivered during three 1-week residential sessions.) The online nature of the program makes it possible for us to offer the program nationally. Students will travel to a central location for the three residential weeks (one of which will be conducted during the initial week of the program, one at the midway point, and one at the end).

• Focused on health-system pharmacy management—The curriculum will include a set of core courses common to all MBA programs offered by Fogelman College of Business and Economics (all of which are accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business, or AACSB); in addition, it will include coursework in health-system pharmacy management, health care economics, and pharmacy economics.

• Innovation project required—Instead of a thesis requirement, the program will require completion of a special project. Ideally, this project will be on a topic of current importance to the student’s employer. Each student will be assigned a project coach who, in each case, will be a nationally-recognized health-system pharmacy director.

• Post-residency or mid-career program—One of the requirements for admission to this program will be either completion of a PGY-1 pharmacy residency program or a minimum of three years’ experience in health-system pharmacy (preferably at some supervisory or managerial level).

• Emphasis on quality—the University of Memphis Fogelman College of Business and Economics enjoys a strong national reputation. It has considerable experience in the delivery of industry-specific, customer-driven executive MBA curricula. The University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy has a longstanding record of commitment to postgraduate pharmacy education, including residency training and graduate degree programs.

For More information, please visit our Executive MBA website: http://www.uthsc.edu/pharmacy/emba.php
The First Tennessee Endowed Chair of Excellence Symposium at the University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy hosts distinguished visiting professors to the University of Tennessee Health Science Center campus annually. The Symposia were initiated in 1994 with the first holder of the First Tennessee Chair of Excellence, William E. Evans, PharmD, as the principal speaker. Since that time, the program has been expanded to host other visiting speakers of international prominence. The Symposium has featured distinguished scientists and clinicians such as Nobel Laureate Gertrude Elion, DSc; Gerhard Levy, PharmD; Leslie Benet, MD; Robert Powell, MD; Neal L. Benowitz, PhD; Malcolm Rowland, PhD; Harvey V. Fineberg, MD, PhD and Alaistair J.J. Wood, MD.

Dr. Evans held the First Tennessee Chair of Excellence until 2006 when he was named Director and Chief Executive Officer of St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital and assumed the St. Jude Professorship. David Rogers, PharmD, PhD, a leading researcher in clinical pharmacy and medical mycology, was named to the First Tennessee Chair in 2006. Dr. Rogers is Associate Dean for Translational Research for the College of Pharmacy and Professor of Clinical Pharmacy. He holds joint appointments in the Departments of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Pediatrics, and Molecular Sciences.

With the upcoming occupation of the University of Tennessee Health Science Center’s new College of Pharmacy building, which includes state of the art laboratory space and research facilities, the faculty and administration hope to leverage these and other resources to expand the college’s research enterprise in coming years. With this in mind, the theme of “Growth Opportunities for Research in Pharmacy” was chosen for this year’s symposium. To address this topic, we were honored to have three distinguished speakers, all of whom are deans of research intensive, top tier colleges of pharmacy: Patricia Kroboth, PhD, Dean, University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy; Lynn Crismon, PharmD, Dean, University of Texas College of Pharmacy and Courtney Fletcher, PharmD, Dean, University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Pharmacy. The Symposium took place on April 28th in the OD Dining Hall Student Alumni Center on the UTHSC campus. Recorded streaming video of the symposium may be viewed at: http://tinyurl.com/FirstTN2011
ACCOLADES

FACULTY

Aubrey Waddell Receives APhA-APPM Award

The Academy of Pharmacy Practice and Management (APPM) Distinguished Achievement Award in Hospital and Institutional Practice is given to a practitioner who has significantly or continuously contributed to the provision of pharmaceutical care within hospital and institutional practice. This year, this award was presented to Dr. J. Aubrey Waddell. Dr. Waddell’s contributions to professional organizations, scholarly activities, teaching, mentoring, and community service are extensive and reflect his dedication to improving pharmacy practice and his patients’ lives. A colleague noted, in a nomination letter, “Students and residents thoroughly enjoy the learning experiences they have under Aubrey’s tutelage...several of our pharmacy staff choose to sit in on their discussions just to improve their knowledge of oncology drug therapy...Dr. Waddell is an outstanding pharmacist and clearly has distinguished himself as a remarkable contributor to the advancement of pharmacy practice.” Dr. Waddell is a Professor at UTCOP’s Knoxville campus, a board certified oncology pharmacist at Blount Memorial Hospital in Maryville, TN, and a Fellow of the American Pharmacists Association. The Stamps, AR native received a BSPharm Degree (1983) and PharmD degree (1996) from the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences. Additionally, he received his MA degree (1987) in business administration from Webster University and completed residencies at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in hospital pharmacy practice (1992) and hematology-oncology pharmacy practice (1996). He is a retired lieutenant colonel of the US Army and served on active duty as a pharmacy officer from 1984 to 2005. In addition to being an accomplished pharmacist, he is also a devoted family man. He and his wife of 25 years, Debbie, have two sons, Alex and Austin.

Wang and Hong Research Impacts CMS Policy

Drs. Junling Wang and Song Hong, Associate Professors of Pharmaceutical Sciences, published findings from their study “Disparity Implications of Medicare Eligibility Criteria for Medication Therapy Management Services” that may change patient eligibility in Medication Therapy Management (MTM) services within Medicare. MTM is a program sponsored under Medicare Part D that focuses on optimizing therapeutic outcomes and providing patient education in targeted beneficiaries. However, Drs. Wang and Hong’s study has shown that certain ethnic groups are not targeted properly by this program and may not be eligible to receive services. Additionally, their study found that disparity may exist for people with severe health problems. In general, this study coincides with other literature that suggests that minorities are less likely to seek medical care and less likely to utilize drug therapy. CMS is verifying the results of the study, and based on those results, they will consider changes in MTM eligibility thresholds.
Dickerson Receives Sprowls Lecture Award

Dr. Roland (Rolly) Dickerson, Professor of Clinical Pharmacy, was the recipient of the 2011 Dean Joseph B. Sprowls Distinguished Lecturer Award in recognition of his contributions to the profession of pharmacy by Temple University School of Pharmacy and Alumni Association. Dickerson is a 1979 graduate of Temple University where he received his BS degree in Pharmacy. His lecture entitled “Improving Patient Care, One Research Project at a Time” was presented to the faculty and students of Temple University School of Pharmacy in Philadelphia on April 4, 2011.

The Sprowls Lecture is presented annually under the auspices of the Temple University Pharmacy Alumni Association and the School of Pharmacy. The lecture award is presented to an individual who has achieved recognition within Pharmacy for significant contributions to the profession. The award memorializes and recognizes Dean Joseph B. Sprowls (1950-1967) and his many contributions to the School, the University, and the profession.

Pictured above from left to right are Charles Ruchalski, PharmD, Clinical Associate Professor of Pharmacy Practice and Chair of the Pharmacy Awards Committee; Dr. Dickerson and Jan Kitzen, PhD, President of the Temple University Alumni Association. Dr. Dickerson is also featured on the Temple University School of Pharmacy website at: http://www.temple.edu/pharmacy/news/2011SprowlsLecture.html

McKibbin Recognized as New Practitioner of the Year

Trevor McKibbin, PharmD, MS, BCPS, Assistant Professor of Clinical Pharmacy, was invited to the Hematology Oncology Pharmacy Association (HOPA) in Salt Lake City, Utah to accept the HOPA New Practitioner Award. The award recognizes a new practitioner with less than 7 years practice experience who has made significant contributions to developing or supporting the practice of oncology pharmacy.

Thoma Honored for Service

Laura A. Thoma, PharmD, Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences, was awarded the Parenteral Drug Association (PDA) Service Appreciation Award in the PDA Annual meeting in San Antonio, Texas. This award is presented annually for special acts, contributions, or services that have contributed to the success and strength of PDA. Dr. Thoma is a Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences for the College of Pharmacy where she teaches the parenterals course and laboratory course.
Dean Gourley Named Friend of ASP

The University of Tennessee chapter of the American Pharmacists Association-Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP) presented its "Friend of ASP" award to Dean Dick Gourley during the annual APhA-ASP Awards Banquet and Casino Night on April 15th, 2011. The award recognizes an individual whose long-term service and contributions to our chapter have been essential to our achievements. In presenting the award, Dr. Stephanie Phelps, UT APhA-ASP advisor, noted that, “Without question, Dr. Gourley’s contributions to our organization have been instrumental to the success our chapter has enjoyed over the past two decades. Dean Gourley has been a staunch advocate for the professional development of our student pharmacists and has consistently allocated resources that were critical to the operations of the chapter. He also took an important, but very unpopular position, to limit the number of new student organizations within the college.” Previous recipients of the award include John Autian, PhD; the Tennessee Pharmacist Association; the Memphis Area Pharmacists Society; Dr. Norbert and Jean Wojciechowski; Garland McCain, BSPharm; Bill Staggs, Sr., BSPharm; Tim Tucker, PharmD and Vicki Eddlemon, PharmD. Pictured above are Elizabeth Ackerman (P3 and UT APhA-ASP President), Dean Gourley, and Dr. Stephanie Phelps.

Bess Reappointed to NABP Advisory Committee

Todd Bess, PharmD, BCPS, Associate Professor and Assistant Dean for Middle Tennessee, was appointed to serve a second three year term starting June 1, 2011 on the Advisory Committee on Examinations for the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (NABP). The committee assists the NABP Executive Committee in the oversight of all of NABP examination programs – the North American Pharmacist Licensure Examination (NAPLEX), the Multistate Pharmacist Jurisprudence Examination (MPJE), the Foreign Pharmacy Graduate Equivalency Examination (FPGEE), the Pharmacy Curriculum Outcomes Assessment (PCOA), and the Pharmacy Assessment for Remediation Evaluation (PARE).

Phelps Given Helms Award

Stephanie J. Phelps, PharmD received The Richard A. Helms Award for Excellence in Pediatric Pharmacy Practice during the 20th Annual Meeting of the Pediatric Pharmacy Advocacy Group. The award, named after the College of Pharmacy’s Richard Helms, recognizes sustained and meritorious contributions to the practice of pediatric pharmacy. Prior to the late 1970’s pediatric pharmacy was not recognized until Helms and others began to offer specialized training in pediatrics. Since then Helms has trained over 100 residents and fellows.
Helms Award – continued

In 2006, the Pediatric Pharmacy Advocacy Group Board of Directors wanted to establish an award that recognized excellence in pediatric pharmacy practice.

For more than 25 years, Dr. Phelps has practiced at LeBonheur Children’s Hospital where she was Director of the Therapeutic Drug Monitoring Service. During her career she has participated in the education of 5 post-doctoral fellows and over 50 pediatric pharmacy residents. She is editor of the *The Teddy Bear Book: Pediatric Injectable Drugs* and is editor-in-chief of *the Journal of Pediatric Pharmacology and Therapeutics*. Dr. Phelps has published numerous manuscripts, book chapters, and reviews that focus on pediatric pharmacotherapy and epilepsy. Dr. Phelps has held elected offices in AACP and ASHP and has served on the Board of Directors of ASPEN and PPAG. She is currently chair of the Pharmacy Academy of the National Academies of Practice. She is a past recipient of the APhA-Academy of Student Pharmacist Outstanding Chapter Advisor Award, and of the 2009 Tennessee Society of Hospital Pharmacy’s Distinguished Service Award. She has received numerous teaching awards and was the first pharmacy faculty member elected to the UTHSC campus Academy of Distinguished Teachers. Pictured above is Dr. Stephanie Phelps (left) receiving the Helms award from Dr. Richard Helms (right), for whom the award is named.

Mahato Speaks at India Conference

Ram Mahato, PhD, Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences, traveled to India for the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER) conference. NIPER is the first national level institute in pharmaceutical sciences with a proclaimed objective of becoming a center of excellence for advanced studies and research in pharmaceutical sciences. On March 23rd in Hyderabad, India, Dr. Mahato discussed with faculty members the emerging trends in research and education of pharmaceutical sciences.

Publications


Presentations

**Foster, SL.** Pharmacy-based Immunization Delivery Certificate Program. American Pharmacists Association. March 25, 2011; Seattle, WA.

**Foster, SL.** Immunization Update. American Pharmacists Association. March 26, 2011; Seattle, WA.

**Brown LB, Rodis J.** Integrating MTM into the Curriculum. March 26, 2011. Seattle, WA.


**Dickerson, R.** Management of Intracellular Electrolyte Disorders in the Critically Ill Patient. April 13, 2011; Webinar.

**Brown, RO.** Evaluation and Treatment of Dysnatreias and Fluid Abnormalities during Critical Illness. April 13, 2011; Webinar.

Poster Presentation


Faculty Authors for *Pharmacotherapy: A Pathophysiologic Approach 8th Edition*

UT College of Pharmacy faculty, Drs. Bradley Boucher, Peter Chyka, Catherine Crill, Roland Dickerson, Colin Hovinga, Joanna Hudson, Vanessa Kumpf, Robert Parker, and Stephanie Phelps authored chapters in the newest edition of *Pharmacotherapy: A Pathophysiologic Approach 8th Edition*. The textbook is used during the entire year and a half of therapeutics courses for the College of Pharmacy. It is also used by many colleges of pharmacy throughout the US.
ACCOLADES

STUDENTS, GRADUATE STUDENTS AND RESIDENTS

On April 15th, our APhA-ASP Chapter held their annual Awards Banquet and Casino Night at the Memphis Botanical Gardens in conjunction with Pharmacy Weekend events for incoming student pharmacists. Outgoing chapter student leaders were honored and newly elected officers were installed. Dean Gourley was named “Friend of ASP” for his service and contributions to the chapter over the past 22 years.

Immediately following the banquet, tables were cleared and faculty served as dealers for black jack, craps and roulette. Current and incoming student pharmacists played for tickets to be drawn for donated door prizes including a Kindle, Kitchen Aid stand mixer, Nintendo Wii, Flip video camera, TV, grill, and GPS navigator to name a few. Pictured right, Dr. Jim Eoff, Executive Associate Dean for the Memphis campus, deals at a black jack table.

Blount Resident Poster Award
Blount Memorial Hospital residents, Drs. Stephanie Grimes and Alan Knauth, received the APhA-APRS Best Postgraduate Paper Award at the APhA Meeting in Seattle, WA. This award is open to graduate students, residents, fellows, and postdoctoral scholars who are the principal authors of papers presented under Basic Sciences; Clinical Sciences; APhA–APPM Clinical and Pharmacotherapeutic Practice; and Economic, Social, and Administrative Sciences (ESAS).


Correction
The Rho Chi and Phi Lambda Sigma 4th annual joint induction banquet was held on Saturday, March 12th at the Holiday Inn Select in downtown Memphis. The guest speaker was David Stevens, former CEO of Accredo Health, Inc. Dr. Jim Eoff gave the invocation followed by a few opening words from Dean Dick Gourley. In the April issue, we inadvertently omitted the following students who were inducted into Rho Chi honor society:

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<tr>
<th>Class of 2013</th>
<th>Graduate Student</th>
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<tr>
<td>Julie Phillips</td>
<td>Brandon Sipe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deepa Pillai</td>
<td>Leslie Smith</td>
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<td>Kirsten Roberts</td>
<td>Lindsey Wells</td>
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<td>Kathleen Sheehan</td>
<td>Kevin Witbrodt</td>
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<td>Frank Zhang</td>
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Third Annual TSSP Meeting in Nashville

The Tennessee Society of Student Pharmacists (TSSP) is the student society within the Tennessee Pharmacists Association (TPA). On Saturday, February 26, 2011, 125 student pharmacists from the five Tennessee pharmacy schools attended the Third Annual TSSP Meeting at the Belmont University School of Pharmacy in Nashville.

The Keynote Speaker was US Representative Phil Roe, MD (TN-1; Tricities Area), who gave a healthcare reform update from Washington.

Tennessee Representative David Shepard, PharmD, ('74) (TN-69; Dickson/Hickman Counties) shared his experience as a pharmacist in the state legislature. TPA Executive Director Baeteena Black, DPh, ('71) addressed current key issues in the profession. A workshop on Medication Therapy Management (MTM) hosted by Micah Cost, PharmD, ('08) and Kelly Neil, PharmD, gave students new insights about these services and a chance to work through an actual patient case. Students also heard from staff from the Nashville-based Renewal House, a recovery home and program for women with children and histories of substance-abuse.

Students also attended TPA’s Midyear Meeting at the Doubletree Hotel in downtown Nashville. A select group of students from the five schools hosted a health fair at the Legislative Plaza for state legislators and staffers. TPA’s Legislative Reception also gave students an opportunity to speak with their local legislators about current bills and the profession of pharmacy.

ACCOLADES

ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

The UT College of Pharmacy Alumni Magazine has undergone a facelift, and will be delivered to alumni this month. It has been over two years since the magazine has been circulated. Topics in the new issue will include progress on the new pharmacy building in Memphis, the Plough Foundation Grant, and Alumni Weekend Review.
Alumni Board & Dean’s Advisory Council Meeting

The Alumni Board and Dean’s Advisory Council recently met on April 14th and 15th in Memphis. The group enjoyed a reception and dinner at the Westin Hotel on Thursday evening, followed by the meeting on Friday. President Pamela Phillips welcomed attendees and called the meeting to order. Dr. Ken Brown, UTHSC Executive Vice Chancellor, shared a campus update and Dr. Dean Gourley’s College update was followed by small group discussions by Alumni Board and Dean’s Advisory Council members, respectively. Drs. Max Ray and David Solomon spoke about the new Executive MBA and dual MBA/PharmD degrees offered in collaboration with the University of Memphis Fogelman College of Business and Economics. Director of Development, Nell Blair presented the Development Report for the College and Dr. Jim Eoff provided an Admissions update. As of April 11th, a total of 162 students are enrolled in the incoming P1 class. Seventy percent are Tennessee residents and 60 percent are female. The GPA for students continues to increase as this year the cumulative GPA is 3.50 (2010: 3.45) and science GPA is 3.35 (2010: 3.34). PCAT scores remain stable at 70 (2010: 70.3). After a Student Report by Jake Smith, President of the Pharmacy Student Government Association, tours of the new COP building were led by Drs. Gourley, Eoff, Nolly, and Jeff Bogue.

Elizabeth Beach McNeely

Elizabeth Beach McNeely, Pharm D, was featured in the Spring 2011 edition of Carolina Pharmacy. After graduating in 2009, she went on to pursue a PGY1 residency at Methodist University Hospital. She is currently in her first year of her Heart Failure Pharmacotherapy Fellowship at the University of North Carolina Eshelman School of Pharmacy. Her experiences this year have included teaching in the Eshelman School of Pharmacy, conducting Phase I, II and III drug development research and working in an interdisciplinary heart failure clinic. Elizabeth is looking to the opportunities ahead as she looks forward to her second year of the heart failure pharmacotherapy fellowship.
Acknowledgements

Special thanks to fourth year student pharmacist Joel Morrison for his invaluable contributions with this edition of the newsletter.

Congratulations Class of 2011!

Visit our website at: www.uthsc.edu/pharmacy

Please submit news items to dbyrd4@uthsc.edu or jbogue@uthsc.edu