Robert Parker, PharmD, and S. Casey Laizure, PharmD, professors in the Department of Clinical Pharmacy, have received a grant award of $299,584 from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences, a subsidiary of the National Institutes of Health. The grant will fund their study on drug interaction.

The study, titled “Inhibition of Carboxylesterase Metabolism by Ethanol,” focuses on identifying factors that affect the activity of carboxylesterase enzymes, which are primarily located in the liver and intestine. These enzymes play an important role in the metabolism of many clinically used medications, including agents used to treat cardiovascular disease, cancer and infectious diseases.
TOP STORIES

Parker and Laizure Awarded NIH Grant – continued

In previous laboratory studies, ethanol was identified as a potent inhibitor, suggesting that drugs metabolized by carboxylesterase enzymes might interact with ethanol. Currently, the objective is to move these findings from the laboratory and determine how ethanol affects the activity of carboxylesterase enzymes in humans.

The research of Drs. Parker and Laizure will compare the blood concentrations of two commonly used medications (aspirin and Tamiflu®) that are metabolized by carboxylesterase enzymes when given alone and in combination with ethanol.

“Given the millions of prescriptions for drugs that are metabolized by carboxylesterases and that more than 100 million people in the U.S. consume ethanol, our project may have important implications for the safe and effective use of these drugs in patients,” said Dr. Parker. “We believe this could be a common drug interaction that has been largely overlooked, and only by the systematic study of ethanol interaction in humans can we begin to understand the clinical importance of this interaction. This study is the first step towards understanding this interaction in humans, and will ultimately lead to a better appreciation of the therapeutic implications of consuming ethanol with drugs metabolized by these enzymes.”

Gourley to Lead University of Tennessee Research Foundation

Chancellor Steve J. Schwab of the University of Tennessee Health Science Center (UTHSC) and Marie Chisholm-Burns, PharmD, MPH, FCCP, FASHP, newly appointed dean for the College of Pharmacy at UTHSC, have announced that Dick Gourley, PharmD, has stepped down as dean of the UT College of Pharmacy, in order to immediately assume the leadership role as interim president of the University of Tennessee Research Foundation (UTRF). UTRF is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that promotes the commercialization of the University of Tennessee intellectual property. In addition, UTRF encourages an entrepreneurial culture, contributes to state and regional economic development, and promotes research and education to benefit the people of Tennessee and beyond.

“Dick Gourley has contributed more than 22 years of outstanding service to the UT College of Pharmacy,” said Chancellor Schwab. “His many significant contributions at the Health Science Center and his willingness to take on the challenges and opportunities at UTRF are greatly appreciated.”

James C. Eoff, PharmD, who has been executive associate dean for the UT College of Pharmacy since 1988, has been named interim dean for the college until Dr. Chisholm-Burns arrives on campus.
I am honored and humbled to become the new dean of the College of Pharmacy at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center (UTHSC). As a dynamic Health Science Center and College of Pharmacy, with a talented support base and student body, I wholeheartedly look forward to this opportunity.

Industrialist Henry Ford once said, “Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success.” Without question, the strongest asset of any successful organization is its people. And there is no doubt that because of you – students, alumni, faculty, staff, health care and academic partners, colleagues, and friends – the College of Pharmacy is a thriving organization with a long-standing reputation of quality education, service, and research. For that reason and the relentless contributions you make to improve the profession and human condition, I hold you in the highest esteem. As we come together for a new beginning, we must keep together and work together to progress so our visions become reality.

We have many things to be proud of, and our future is teeming with wonderful possibilities. A few months ago, we moved into our new building which houses offices and state of the art classrooms and laboratories that will facilitate quality learning and scholarly endeavors. We have expanded our statewide footprint as well as our global influence, and our multi-campus structure has allowed us to increase our capacity to carry out the college’s mission. Certainly these accomplishments would not have been possible without teamwork, and teamwork will spur us on as we target greater achievements in the future.

As we look toward the future and strive to make our college even better, we must keep in mind those areas of excellence we want to build upon. We must also be cognizant of under-explored opportunities that may help lead us to higher ground. Certainly everyone’s talents will be tapped and challenged to strengthen our quality and reputation. Working together, as a team, we will prosper!

Our past and future successes are directly linked to the hard work of many. However, there are a few people at the university who I want to expressly thank. The first recognition is to Dean Dick Gourley who has dedicated numerous years and good work to the college, and we certainly extol his invaluable contributions. I would also like to thank Chancellor Steve Schwab, Executive Vice chancellor Kennard Brown, Vice Chancellor for Finance and Operations Anthony Ferrara, and others, including other colleges at the UTHSC, for their unwavering support of the college of Pharmacy. Additionally, I cannot overstate my gratitude to Dr. James Eoff for his dedication to the college and for serving as interim dean until my arrival. And a special thanks is extended to our executive team, faculty, staff, students, residents, alumni, affiliates, professional organizations, and friends for their continued support and encouragement.

In closing, allow me to again convey my appreciation to you for the opportunity to be a part of the college’s family. I am excited to be among the strong cast of individuals who make the college exceptional, and I will dedicate my sincerest efforts to lead our college into the next era of growth and evolution. As we come together, keep together, and work together as a team, I am confident that our college, and therefore its stakeholders, will reach new heights of success. I enthusiastically look forward to meeting and working with each of you.

Marie A. Chisholm-Burns, PharmD, MPH, FCCP, FASHP
Dean-Designate, College of Pharmacy
Boucher Honored with ACCP Clinical Practice Award

Bradley Boucher, PharmD, FCCP, BCPS, received the American College of Clinical Pharmacy’s prestigious 2011 Clinical Practice Award. The award was presented in Pittsburgh, PA on October 16 during the Opening General Session of the ACCP 2011 Annual Meeting.

The ACCP Clinical Practice Award honors an ACCP member who has made substantial and outstanding contributions to clinical pharmacy practice. The criteria considered in identifying potential candidates include exceptional leadership in the development of innovative clinical pharmacy services and sustained excellence in providing them. Bradley Boucher is professor of Clinical Pharmacy and associate professor of Neurosurgery at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center. Boucher practices in the area of Critical Care at the Regional Medical Center at Memphis. In recommending Dr. Boucher, Dr. G. Christopher Wood, associate professor of Clinical Pharmacy and a long-time colleague, wrote in his letter of nomination,

“Dr. Boucher has contributed regularly to the medical and pharmacy literature and has delivered many presentations at scientific and professional meetings focusing on critical care pharmacotherapy and other intensive care–related subjects. As a current ACCP fellow and a past president and treasurer of ACCP, he has provided significant leadership within the College and the profession.”

Finks, Hudson and Crill Named ACCP Fellows

AACP Fellowship is awarded in recognition of continued excellence in clinical pharmacy practice or research. Nominees must have been Full Members of ACCP for at least 5 years, must have been in practice for at least 10 years since receipt of their highest professional pharmacy degree and must have made a sustained contribution to ACCP. Shannon Finks, PharmD, BCPS; Joanna Hudson, PharmD and Cathy Crill, PharmD, BCPS, all associate professors of Clinical Pharmacy, were in attendance at the 2012 ACCP Annual meeting in Pittsburgh, PA to accept this honor. Dr. Hudson was also recently inducted into the National Kidney Foundation as a Fellow.
TOP STORIES

Chisholm-Burns Wins Book Award

The book, *Pharmacy Management, Leadership, Marketing and Finance*, authored by Marie Chisholm-Burns, PharmD, MPH, FCCP, FASHP, newly appointed dean for the College of Pharmacy, is the winner of the distinguished 2011 American Medical Writers Association (AMWA) Medical Book Award, Health Care Professionals Category.

AMWA’s book awards were established more than 30 years ago to recognize the very best in fictional and non-fictional medical writing. The award was presented to Dr. Chisholm-Burns at the AMWA 71st Annual Conference on October 21 in Jacksonville, FL.

FACULTY

Agatha Nolen, PhD, FASHP (left), assistant professor of Clinical Pharmacy, graduated from Tennessee State University on August 13, 2011 with a PhD. Her field of study was Public Administration with research in U.S. Health Policy. Dr. Nolen’s dissertation is titled: “Barriers to Reforming the U.S. Health Care System for Patient Safety: A Study of Ten Years of Policy Implementation for Three Health Information Technology (HIT) Strategies”.

Robert Parker, PharmD (right), professor of Clinical Pharmacy, gave a presentation at the BIT Life Sciences’ 2nd Annual International Conference of Medicem-2011 held in Beijing, China, August 9 – 11. The theme of the conference was, Master Drug Discovery Chemistry. The title of his presentation was "Carboxylesterases: A New Target for Drug-Drug Interactions?"

Emma Tillman, PharmD (left), assistant professor for research in the Department of Clinical Pharmacy, was honored with the American College of Clinical Pharmacy, Gastroenterology, Liver, and Nutrition Practice Research Network Travel Award for 2011.

Susan C. Woodard, PharmD, BCPS, CGP, assistant professor of Clinical Pharmacy, completed the ACCP Academy’s Teaching and Learning Certificate Program.
Ram Mahato, PhD, professor of Pharmaceutics and Drug Delivery, updated and revised his book, *Pharmaceutical Dosage Forms and Drug Delivery*, with help from Ajit S. Narang. This second edition incorporates pharmaceutics, drug dosage and delivery into an integrated resource accessible to students, instructors, and professionals alike.

**POSTERS AND PRESENTATIONS**

In October, college faculty, students, graduate students, residents and alumni presented more than 20 posters at national meetings of the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists (AAPS), American College of Clinical Pharmacy (ACCP), Infectious Disease Society of America (IDSA) and Spanish Society of Hospital Pharmacists.

*Shaun Rowe, PharmD, BCPS*

*Megan Foster, PharmD*

*Sloan Regen and Jenny Easterling
Student Pharmacists*

*Emily McCoy, PharmD ('08)*
POSTERS AND PRESENTATIONS


- **Dickerson RN.** Modulating the protein catabolic response to trauma and sepsis. Spanish Society of Hospital Pharmacists Pre-Conference Nutrition Symposium on Sarcopenia and Cachexia. October 18, 2011. Santiago de Compostela, Spain.


POSTERS AND PRESENTATIONS


**UTCOP Fellow Selected as ACCP Best Resident and Fellow Poster**

Dr. Stephanie Flowers poster titled “Sterol uptake in Candida albicans: a novel mechanism of fluconazole resistance” was as the American College of Clinical Pharmacy’s (ACCP) Best Resident and Fellow Poster in conjunction with ACCP’s 2011 Annual Meeting. The Annual Meeting was held October 16-19, 2011, in Pittsburgh, PA.
**STUDENTS, GRAD STUDENTS & POST DOC RESIDENTS**

**Student Team Runner-Up at ACCP Clinical Pharmacy Challenge**

A team of four UTCOP student pharmacists competed against 84 teams initially through four online rounds and then on to the quarterfinal, semifinal, and final round at the Annual ACCP Meeting in Pittsburgh, PA, October 15-17. The team was presented with an engraved plaque to display at the College and $750 cash award to be shared among the team members.

The team members are Jake Smith, Mark Dunnenberger, Jennifer Rivers, and Sloan Regen. This is great recognition for the UT COP and our students and we are so proud of the team's accomplishments.

**International Students Visit UTCOP**

Every fall, the college hosts a group of international students and practicing pharmacists who visit Tennessee to learn about pharmacy practice in the United States. This year, students came from Ireland, Japan, Thailand, Hungary, and for the first time, Turkey. The group visited several practice sites in Memphis and Knoxville.

Gozde Yesilyaprak, a Master’s degree student from Mamara University in Turkey said, “I really enjoyed the experience in UT, it was great exchanging knowledge and learning about different applications of pharmacy practice in the United States as well as other foreign countries.”
Todd Burgan PharmD ('04), won the Tennessee Golf Association (TGA) Mid-Amateur Championship. Burgan broke numerous scoring records in capturing the 24th Annual TGA Mid-Amateur Championship presented by Gentleman Jack which was contested at Cleveland Country Club. Burgan finished the 54-hole championship at 203, 13-under-par.

2011 College of Pharmacy Alumni Weekend

The weekend of November 3-5 UTCOP celebrates Alumni Weekend in Knoxville.

Thursday, November 3
Fall Therapeutics Seminar • Hilton Knoxville, 8 am – 5 pm
Golden Graduate, Alumni Board & Advisory Council Dinner Reception • Calhoun’s on the River, 6 – 8 pm

Friday, November 4
Fall Therapeutics Seminar • Hilton Knoxville, 8 am – 4:30 pm
Alumni Board & Dean’s Advisory Council Meeting • Hilton Knoxville, 8 am – 12 noon
Alumni Awards and Reunion Luncheon • Hilton Knoxville, 12 – 1 pm
Class Reunions • Visit http://uthscalumni.com/reunions for reunion plans

Saturday, November 5
College of Pharmacy Tailgate • Corner of Andy Holt and Volunteer Boulevards, 4 pm
UT vs. MTSU • Neyland Stadium, 7 pm

Go to http://uthsc.edu/pharmacy/ce/ , call (800) 733-0482 or email alane@utfi.org for more information.

K-Town Throwdown Tailgate

On Saturday, October 1, UT College of Pharmacy hosted the annual K-Town Throwdown tailgate in Knoxville. Alumni, students and faculty enjoyed BBQ and festivities before UT faced off against Buffalo.
You Are Invited!

Save the Date and join us for a UT College of Pharmacy Alumni Reception in New Orleans!

The alumni reception takes place in conjunction with the ASHP 46th Midyear Clinical Meeting & Exhibition.

Admission to the alumni reception is complimentary; however, advance registration is recommended for planning purposes.

Please register online at uthscalumni.com/ashp by 12/1/11.

We hope to see you there!

For more information, contact Amanda Lane at (901) 448-8580 or alane@uthsc.edu.

For more information about the ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting & Exhibition, please visit www.ashp.org/midyear2011.
OTHER

Condolences

The college family extends condolences to:

The family of Dr. Malcolm Douglas Clark of Livingston, UT College of Pharmacy Class of 1969 who passed away on September 11, at the age of 67.

It’s Football Time in Tennessee – Go Vols!

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*Alumni Tailgate on UTK campus – at corner of Andy Holt Ave and Volunteer Blvd, 4 pm

Acknowledgement

Special thanks to fourth year student pharmacist, Cyle White, for his valuable contributions to this edition of the newsletter.

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

The University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy

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

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