

## School Unveils New Website

By: Kathryn Bidwell



Did you forget the date of the Alumni Awards and Reunion Banquet? Do you want to check on the date of the next Continuing Education offering? Would you like to attend the Annual APhA/ASP Student Auction but can't find the notice about when and where?

Check the Events Calendar on the School of Pharmacy website!

A recent overhaul of the School of Pharmacy's website has provided users with a wealth of information at their fingertips. As a valuable resource for current and prospective students, alumni, and faculty the website offers easily readable panes that are simple to navigate.

A variety of helpful links are featured on the website. Recent news and events, an alumni directory, admission requirements, and research and employment opportunities, are all available for website browsers. Online editions of the school's newsletters and Annual Report can be accessed through the website. These are only a few of the many links that are available.

The Office of Marketing & Communications is continually updating information for the website in an effort to provide an easy to use tool that connects everyone associated with the University of Connecticut's School of Pharmacy. We'd love to hear your feedback and suggestions!

[www.pharmacy.uconn.edu](http://www.pharmacy.uconn.edu)



## Cruise News

Plans are in the works for an alumni cruise to Alaska in August 2007. The school's

Office of Continuing Education will be offering opportunities to earn CE credits while on board.

Information will be available on the School of Pharmacy website in early March, or by contacting Dan Leone at: [daniel.leone@uconn.edu](mailto:daniel.leone@uconn.edu) or 860-486-0244

Join us on the high seas, reconnect with friends, complete some continuing education requirements, and enjoy beautiful Alaska!

# Prescriptives

School of Pharmacy News

## Here We Grow Again

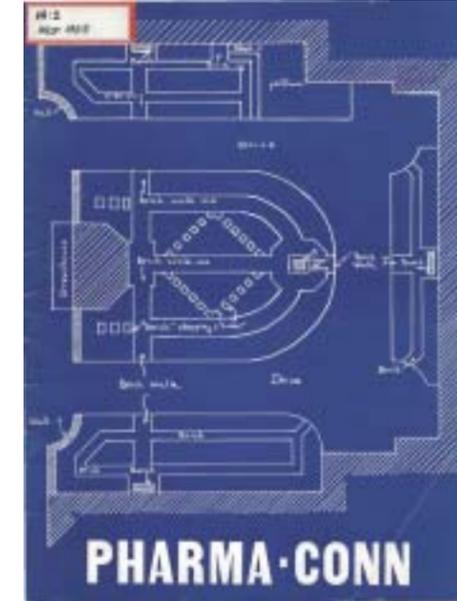
By: Karen Logan

Gardening has been around for thousands of years. From ancient Egypt to the Roman Empire to medieval Europe, gardens have been cultivated and developed for their aesthetic beauty, for the sustenance they provide and for the medicinal properties of plants. Early apothecaries and monks studied plants and herbs for their curative properties and restorative value. During the middle ages, European universities developed gardens and collected varieties of plants to serve as living laboratories for their academic studies.

It is little wonder, then, that when the School of Pharmacy building at the University of Connecticut was opened in 1956, its design would include plans for a medicinal garden. Fenna Lee Fisher (Bonsignore), '56 and Alice Trcka, Co-Editors of the Pharma-Conn Journal, wrote in a March 1955 editorial that "The medicinal garden at the University of Connecticut has added a distinctive touch to the School of Pharmacy. Situated in the court of the Pharmacy building, it contains over 200 medicinal plants. The greenhouse, which is an integral part of the garden, contains tropical species." The garden included a lye stone on loan from the Mansfield Historical Society which was a center piece and teaching tool for undergraduates.

A student of pharmacognosy, Ms. Fisher recalls the garden vividly and how her mentor, Dr. Schwarting loved it so. Schwarting, internationally recognized for his renaissance studies in pharmacognosy, was a leader in the transformation of that discipline from a plant-based orientation to a science based on the chemistry of natural products. He was the preeminent scientist to engage in the study of medicinal agents from microorganisms and he pioneered the use of radioisotopes to elaborate the biochemical pathways by which plants and microorganisms make medicinally active products. His passion, however, was the garden. He spent hours there, tending the plants and caring for each brick.

Plants were selected for the garden based on the dean's knowledge of plants with therapeutic properties, opinions solicited from other schools of pharmacy and suggestions from other UConn faculty who had an interest in natural products. The garden faced in a southerly direction so care had to be taken in the location of the plants depending on each plant's preferences for light, heat and moisture. Early emerging plants like Sanguinaria were placed in the southwest corner as were the lady slippers. Marijuana was originally planted in this area but it quickly spread to the entire garden making it difficult to remove once locals recognized its potential for abuse.



Blueprints for the school's Medicinal Garden circa 1955



## A Message From the Dean

Dear Friends:

In the School of Pharmacy, we have begun our second year in our new home. Let me share with you some of the highlights of the fall semester.

The Provost's Office has given their preliminary approval of the school's Diversity Plan developed last spring. This first phase will begin to be implemented this fall, while the Diversity Committee develops a full-three year plan.

Over the last several years, Dr. Trinh Pham has led our assessment efforts while continuing to serve as a full-time clinical faculty member. Despite some excellent work by Dr. Pham, it became apparent that additional resources were necessary to fully develop a school-wide assessment plan and to oversee our assessment program. In July 2006, therefore, I appointed Dr. Lauren Schlesselman as Director of Assessment and Chair of the Assessment Committee. Dr. Schlesselman has been with us on a part-time basis for several years as a pharmacy practice faculty member; now full-time, she will commit half of her time to the assessment effort.

The school was visited by the ACPE re-accreditation team on October 3-5, 2006. We were eager to share with the team the progress we have made since their last full visit six years ago. We look forward to receiving the ACPE Board's final actions/recommendations in the near future.

Peter Tyczkowski has received a grant from the State of Vermont to study the actual cost of dispensing and professional services associated with providing prescriptions to Medicaid population. The goal of the

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# A Pharmacy Student's Reflections from London

By: Aaron Waltzer P2

After compounding 6 full years of foreign language education with nearly eight semesters of pharmaceutical training I learned one quite valuable lesson: 'Painkillers' is the same word in any country! I did not learn this in any classroom, no; it required a trip across the Atlantic to discover the international significance of COX inhibition.

As dear as the University of Connecticut's Pharmacy training program is to me, I must candidly admit that there is one less than inconspicuous flaw. We have no study abroad opportunities in the program. We are lucky though to have a few professors and students who are pushing to establish foreign programs, but there is nothing yet. It is up to the student to take part in winter or summer study abroad programs. That was precisely the initiative I took, and it was certainly a worthwhile experience!

I signed on to study in London with Profs. Ruth and Harris Fairbanks of the university's English department. The trip was not designed for pharmacy majors, or any other particular major for that matter. The trip was entitled "The Arts In London". We attended many performances, including productions of two Shakespeare plays, The History Boys, and a concert of the London Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Sir Colin Davis. Other required events included trips to the major museums of London and, most notably, day trips to Stonehenge and Bath, the "Monte Carlo of England". I also had the good fortune to take a side trip to Paris for the day. The trip attracted many diverse UConn students, a large portion of which were seniors like myself who regretted never taking a full semester abroad and used this short term to do what we should have done many semesters ago. Back to those pesky painkillers.

My zeal to get out and about in London manifested itself as a nasty bout of shin splints. I was unprepared to deal with the pain of strained ligaments, especially within only two days of a sixteen day trip. I used this as a learning experience. Countless times we have been drilled with the facts of how rigorously the United States Food and Drug Administration monitors what can and cannot be sold over the counter. I had expected to see many more pain medications sold over the counter in London or Paris. I was most amazed to see that both countries only didn't have any of the 'better' drugs over the counter. Even something as seemingly innocuous as Naproxen required a prescription!

My first pharmacy excursion was in London where I learned that acetaminophen is called paracetamol. Talk about a language barrier! My second pharmaceutical experience of note occurred while in Paris. Without any knowledge of French, I found the pharmacy by scanning window displays. This was going to prove to be a much more challenging conversation. The pharmacist on duty in Paris began speaking to me in French. I was quite intimidated. The only words I could muster up were "painkiller". He smiled knowingly and began speaking in better English than I've heard from many United States residents.

In retrospect my studies in Europe gave me quite a few new perspectives. Primarily, I can call myself an international scholar. I have gained an experience that not many of my peers can claim. I have seen some of the masterpieces of western culture and immersed myself in a European life-style. More importantly, though, I have gained new insight into pharmacy. I have learned that the grass may not always be greener on the other side and that I am quite relieved to still have Alev! 🇺🇸



## Contributors:

Elizabeth Anderson, Kathryn Bidwell, Daniel Buttrey, Dennis Chapron, Kaitlin Hurd, Beth Krane, Katie Kurzawa, Daniel Leone, Karen Logan, Robert McCarthy, Michael Moore, Peter Morenus, Aaron Waltzer

Prescriptives, the official newsletter for the University of Connecticut School of Pharmacy and the School of Pharmacy Alumni Association, is published semiannually. Please send comments, news and story ideas to: Elizabeth Anderson, Director of Marketing & Communications, at (860) 486-0847 or via e-mail: liz.anderson@uconn.edu.

# Professional Student News Briefs

**Ketsya Amboise** was elected as the national vice president of SNPhA. The University of Connecticut chapter also received five awards at the annual meeting held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

**Andrea Ciliberto** received a NACDS Foundation Pharmacy Student Scholarship. The NACDS Foundation supports the development of future leaders in the chain community pharmacy. Students selected for the scholarships must be enrolled as full-time pharmacy students, have experience in chain community pharmacy, and have a desire to pursue a career in chain community pharmacy. Students are evaluated based on their career goals, interest in chain community pharmacy practice, and their credentials, including leadership activities and professional and community involvement.

**Sarah Hooker** attended the American College of Clinical Pharmacy National Meeting as part of the new StuNet Advisory Committee. Sarah also received a very competitive Air Force scholarship that will pay for the last two years of pharmacy school and was commissioned as a captain in the USAF. After graduating with her Pharm.D., Captain Hooker will serve in the U.S. Air Force for a minimum of three years.

**Katie Myers** received the ASHP Executive Vice President's Award for Courageous Service for Hurricane Katrina relief efforts by the Pharmacy Student Government. 🇺🇸

# Historic Diploma Donated to the School of Pharmacy

By: Kathryn Kurzawa

Thirty years ago when Dr. Marie Smith walked into an antique shop in Pennsylvania, she never anticipated the kind of discovery she was about to make. She took an immediate interest in an old oak dresser and felt compelled to buy the piece. As she was searching through the dresser when she got home, Dr. Smith found a large crumpled paper stuffed in the very back of a drawer. As she unfolded the paper the word "pharmacy" immediately caught her eye. Unknowingly Dr. Smith, a professional in the field herself, had stumbled upon a rare and very important part of American pharmacy history.

The paper turned out to be an original Ph.G. diploma for Arlington Grove Srine from the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy - one of the first pharmacy schools established in the U.S. The document contains four signatures, one belonging to the famous pharmaceutical pioneer, Joseph Remington. Remington was the author of an early influential text book about pharmacy practice and many refer to him as the "Father of Pharmacy." The signature is dated March 18, 1887. The School of Pharmacy Office of Marketing and Communications has contacted the Smithsonian Museum of American History in Washington, D.C. for confirmation that this is the oldest surviving document of its kind in the country.

The body of the diploma reads, "Whereas having been engaged for four years in the Drug and Apothecary business, having attended the requisite courses of instruction in the School of Pharmacy of this college, and having passed an examination in Chemistry, Materia Medica, and the Theory and Practice of Pharmacy before the Professors and a committee of the Board of Trustees, therefore he is deemed qualified to deal in Drugs and prepare and dispense medicines and is hereby declared a Graduate in Pharmacy, Ph.G." Current pharmacy students may envy the lack of requirements and years of experience needed to become a pharmacist in the nineteenth century, but the profession must also be respected for how much notoriety and respect it has gained since 1887.

Due to the extremely deteriorated condition of the paper, Dr. Smith brought the diploma to a local art restorer in New Jersey. It took six long months to straighten the wrinkled diploma, which Dr. Smith later learned was actually made from finely woven sheepskin. For years the diploma hung in various offices and homes belonging to Dr. Smith. When the new Pharmacy-Biology Building was constructed, she suddenly felt the urge to part with the diploma because, "I finally felt I had found a good home for it." Interested visitors can find the antique diploma hanging on the wall of the Laurence D. Runsdorf Dean's Conference room located on the third floor of the building. 🇺🇸



## More about Joseph Price Remington

By: Kathryn Bidwell

The oldest pharmacy diploma in the country was signed by Joseph Price Remington, a noted leader in the industry. Joseph Price Remington was a man who was destined for a career in pharmacy. Remington, the son of a physician and descendant of an apothecary, naturally showed an interest in the field of pharmacy at an early age. Remington planned on attending college to earn his degree. However, his plans changed after he experienced the loss of his father. It was not until one of his sisters married Henry M. Troth, a founder of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, that Remington resumed his study of pharmacy.

Troth impacted Remington's life tremendously. He offered his guidance to Remington and led him to Charles Ellis, the owner of Charles Ellis, Son & Company.

Ellis was an apprentice under Elizabeth Marshall, the first female pharmacist in Philadelphia. Ellis was also a founder of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy where Remington eventually earned his Ph.G.



Remington's signature on the diploma donated by Dr. Marie A. Smith.

After working in various pharmaceutical manufacturing companies, Remington turned to teaching. He was a professor of pharmacy for forty-four years until his

death. In 1877, he established a laboratory at the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy where he encouraged an active approach to teaching students in the laboratory. Remington eventually became the dean of the prestigious college and is remembered for his great devotion, excellence, and passion for the field of pharmacy.

According to the National Museum of American History at the Smithsonian, the earliest pharmacy diploma on record is dated from April 2, 1887 and was granted to Herbert C. Easterday by the National College of Pharmacy, Washington. The diploma that Dr. Marie Smith found is dated March 18, 1887. Therefore, the oldest known pharmacy diploma in the country is located at the University of Connecticut, School of Pharmacy in the Laurence D. Runsdorf Dean's Conference room. 🇺🇸

**Dr. Diane Burgess** was named a fellow of the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists.

**Dr. Craig Coleman** was selected as a 2006 ASHP Foundation Literature Awards winner in the category of Drug Therapy Research, for his article, "The Impact of ACE Inhibitors or Angiotension II Type 1 Receptor Blockers on the Development of New-Onset Type 2 Diabetes." The ASHP Foundation Literature Awards program annually recognizes important contributions to the literature of pharmacy practice in hospitals and health systems.

**Dr. Philip Hritcko**, assisted by his colleagues whom comprise the Professional Experiential Program Special Interest Group (PEPSIG), helped develop valuable modifications and feedback concerning the accreditation standards applied to pharmacy students nationwide. The American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) and the Accreditation Council of Pharmacy Education (ACPE) work in conjunction to form new accreditation standards for future pharmacy students every five to six years. Before changing the existing standards, the ACPE and AACP give members of organizations like PEPSIG a chance to suggest alternative ideas, express concerns, or lend approval. Many of Dr. Hritcko's suggestions concerning the proposed standards were considered and implemented.

**Barbara Murawski** has returned to the School of Pharmacy as an administrative services specialist in the Department of Pharmacy Practice. Barbara formerly served the school in the Office of the Associate Dean and returns to us from her position as an academic advisor in the Department of Family Studies.

**Dr. Lauren Schlesselman** was appointed Director of Assessment for the School of Pharmacy and chair of the school's Assessment Committee. Dr. Schlesselman will focus half of her time on assessment while retaining many of her current faculty responsibilities including coordinating and teaching the pharmacy practice lab course.

**Dr. Marie Smith**, head of the Department of Pharmacy Practice, was appointed to the 2006-2007 AACP Professional Affairs Committee and serves as an Advisor to E-Health Connecticut.

**Peter Tyczkowski** was recently awarded the Connecticut Quality Improvement Innovation Award and a Community Outreach Award for his key role in the Students Assisting Patients with Medicare, Part D. project. With the launch of Medicare Part D many people with Medicare were given the opportunity to sign up for prescription drug coverage from a wide variety of plan sponsors featuring different levels of benefits, premiums, and coverage. The breadth of the program created widespread confusion and choice difficulties. Tyczkowski, along with 172 pharmacy students, used the Medicare internet tools to screen the medication profiles of over 23,000 ConnPace participants and aided in the suggestion of plans most suitable for individuals' needs.

**Dr. C Michael White** was named the vice chair of the University of Connecticut Institutional Review Board. The Institutional Review Board is responsible for the review of all human subjects research at the UConn-Storrs Campus and the five regional campuses.

Check our website in July for information on the homecoming football game and School of Pharmacy tailgate tent in October!

Have an idea for an alumni event? Let us know!

Contact us at:

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school moved to its new location in 2005, the garden was left behind.

That's when Dean Robert McCarthy appealed to the University's Building and Grounds Committee to win approval to relocate the garden to the science quad. Concurrently, he enlisted the assistance of a group interested alumni and friends of the school. The result is that plans are underway to relocate, redesign and rejuvenate the garden. Led by Master Gardener Diana Stanzone, the wife of Ralph Stanzone, '72, and Joseph DeLucia, '65, the group is seeking not only to move the garden to the school's new location, but also to endow a fund to ensure that the garden is cared for in perpetuity.

The vision for the new garden is to create a peaceful corner of natural beauty on campus that will provide a haven for faculty, staff and students, while allowing students to understand the natural properties of plants and their uses in modern pharmacy studies. McCarthy adds, "We are extremely grateful to Diana, Joe and the rest of the volunteers who are helping us to preserve this important part of our heritage."

Many thanks to all who contributed to this article: Fenna Lee Fisher (Bonsignore), Professor Emeritus William Kelleher, Professor Emeritus and Former Dean Karl Nieforth, and Robert Williams.

Information about supporting the medicinal garden is available by contacting Anne-Margaret Gaffney, associate director of development, at 860-486-9342 or agaffney@foundation.uconn.edu.

## Diane Duncheskie: Student or Superwoman?

By: Katie Kurzawa

With everything first year professional (P1) pharmacy student Diane Duncheskie accomplishes in a week you begin to wonder how in the world she finds the time. Originally from Oreland, Pennsylvania, Diane began swimming for the UConn varsity swim team three years ago. Along with her passion for swimming, Diane also developed an interest in the healthcare, biology, and chemistry fields. "I wanted to combine my interests to learn how a drug can suppress or cure a person's ailment."

As a School of Pharmacy student and varsity athlete, Diane lives according to a very tight schedule. The first day of classes also marks the first day of swim season. At least twenty hours of Diane's week are spent in the pool; Monday, Wednesday, and Friday practices begin before sunrise. Every afternoon the team gathers again to lift weights and condition. Diane specializes in the butterfly and breaststroke and competes with top swimmers from other major universities such as Brown, Rutgers, and Notre Dame.

After practice and meets, Diane often goes to the library to finish class work. She estimates more than twenty hours of her week are spent on academics. Diane claims the two most important ingredients for managing her hectic life as a pharmacy student and an athlete are her organizational skills and faith in herself. Diane's great effort has indeed paid off - she competed at the highest level at the Big East Swimming Championships in February Of 2006, and gained acceptance into the highly competitive Doctor of Pharmacy program.

Not surprisingly, Diane treasures any spare time she can find. She relaxes by shopping, eating out with friends, watching movies, and solving tricky sudoku number puzzles. When possible, she also enjoys participating in community service events. The strong desire to help people around her is reflected in Diane's aspiration to focus on the community aspect of pharmacology. Currently, when Diane's schedule becomes tense she keeps things in perspective by thinking, "Yes, you were up at 5:30 a.m. for practice but remember - you are a student in the School of Pharmacy. Just breathe!"



P1 student Diane Duncheskie is a Big East Academic All-Star 2003-2006

## Blogging at UConn

By: Katie Kurzawa

You may wonder, what exactly is a "blog?" Many are not alone in their confusion over this new word as it calls to mind visual images of swamp monsters and nasty bacteria. In fact, the term is the title for a very popular form of web-based communication. A blog is an online diary where people write their day-to-day experiences, social commentary, complaints, poems, etc. Most authors of blogs leave the option open for readers to comment on their entries, ask questions, or simply say hello. Currently, there are over two million blogs on the web and thousands more are created everyday. There is, however, one blog of particular interest to prospective and current students, alumni, and friends of the University of Connecticut School of Pharmacy.

Kristy Daub, a third year pharmacy student (P3), has been chosen along with five others to write a blog on the university's admissions website detailing the normal life of a UConn student. Kristy was offered this opportunity through her work at the Lodewick Visitors Center where she leads campus tours and speaks with prospective students and parents about the university and all it has to offer. As a team captain at the center, Kristy now has the ability to speak to a significantly wider audience through the power of the internet.



P3 student, Kristy Daub, blah, blah, blogged her way through the fall semester to help prospective students get a glimpse of her life at the School of Pharmacy.

Although Kristy admits she has no prior experience writing a blog or a journal, she is excited for the chance to share information about student life at UConn. When Kristy posts two to three times a week she often writes about, "classes, homework, life in general, my job, and anything else I encounter on a normal day." The blog shows how the students overcome common obstacles throughout the fifteen weeks of the semester; including tough professors and exams.

During the fall 2006 semester, Kristy's blog was directly linked to the University of Connecticut admissions website so that prospective students could easily find and read her journal. New students are chosen for the project each semester. Kristy feels the blogs are a great tool to benefit incoming students. "Prospective students will have immediate access to the life of a UConn student. It will serve as a preview to see all UConn has to offer both inside and outside the classroom before they decide to come here." Kristy was glad to help prospective students, and hopes the project is a success.

Each year the United States Pharmacopeia selects six individuals to participate in its fellowship program. For 2006-2007 the UConn School of Pharmacy is proud to announce two of the selected fellows as current students Atul Saluja and Shumet Hailu. The USP Fellowship Program supplies funding to recipients to promote research in areas related to standards for drugs and their use. Since the program's establishment in 1981, USP has invested more than \$2.8 million in fellowship awards.

Applicants for fellowships must have been accepted for full-time study in a Ph.D. or Pharm.D. program, been accepted to a fellowship program, or been awarded a postdoctoral research appointment. After submitting a research proposal and a completed application form the applicants are reviewed by a USP Council of Experts Review Panel. Reviewers are selected on the basis of their expertise in standards and matched whenever possible to applicants' research interests. Special emphasis is placed on the purpose of the awards to promote education and training of Fellows in the sciences that are applicable to the standardization of drugs.

One of the current USP Fellows, Atul Saluja, joined the UConn School of Pharmacy in the Fall of 2001 as a member of the graduate program. He has been involved with a mechanistic investigation of high concentration protein solutions in order to address formulation and physical stability issues with such formulations. His work has been focused on developing a novel technique based on ultrasonic shear rheometry for investigation of protein-protein interactions in high concentration protein solutions. Atul declares, "It is truly an honor to be selected as one of the six fellows nationwide. Being a USP fellow provides me a unique opportunity for not only conducting research in my specific area of interest but also to interact with other fellows and people from the industry and academia who have been working and conducting research in various fields dealing with different aspects of the modern day pharmaceutical industry."

Shumet Hailu, a native of Ethiopia, was selected as a USP Fellow for his project focusing on the chemical stability of amorphous drugs in the presence of silicates. Understanding an optimization of

these types of drugs in the presence of silicates will assure future chemical stability. Dr. Robin Bogner works with Shumet on the research and says about her experience, "It is a pleasure to work with Shumet. He is a quiet leader who is remarkably perceptive and ingenious in solving research problems." After graduating with a B.S. in pharmacy and an M.S. in pharmaceuticals from Addis Ababa University in Ethiopia, Shumet joined Dr. Bogner's lab at the UConn School of Pharmacy in the fall of 2004. He is currently taking classes to fulfill requirements for a Ph.D. and conducting research for the project. When asked how he feels about becoming a USP fellow Shumet asserts, "It feels great. I have a strange name, Shumet Hailu, belonging to a man who grew up in an under-developed country in Africa where education is limited only to a small percentage of the population. It has been an honor already to become a graduate student at the UConn School of Pharmacy. Now being selected as one of only six USP fellows nationwide is stimulating. It gives me great hope to bring my professional dreams into reality and has further helped to challenge my endurance and endeavor in life." 📖

### Dean's Message...

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project is to help determine how to define AMP (average manufacturer's price), which under new legislation is slated to be used as the basis for reimbursing community pharmacies for medications and cognitive services provided for Medicaid patients.

The school, led by Study Abroad Committee Chair Dr. Diane Burgess and Experiential Director Dr. Philip Hritcko, is working to develop advanced pharmacy practice experiences for pharmacy students at the University of Rennes in France and at the University of Barcelona in Spain. Last year, two University of Rennes pharmacy students spent several months at the school and Yale-New Haven Hospital; next year, we hope to reciprocate. We have begun our relationship with the University of Barcelona with a two-month rotation by a graduate student in Dr. Burgess' lab.

The School of Pharmacy introduced several exciting new professional electives in the fall

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**Igor Gurevich**, a graduate student in the pharmacology/toxicology program in the laboratory of Dr. Brian Aneskievich, was awarded a pre-doctoral fellowship from the American Foundation for Pharmaceutical Education for the 2006 – 2007 academic year. The fellowship was awarded following a national level competition and will support Igor's research on the molecular pharmacology of retinoids.

**Suman Luthra** presented research in the Graduate Student Symposium in Drug Delivery and Pharmaceutical Technology and **Charudharshini Srinivasan** presented research in the Graduate Student Symposium in Biotechnology during the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists' Annual Meeting in San Antonio, Texas. Only graduate students whose research has been competitively judged as outstanding by AAPS leadership are asked to present their findings. Both Suman and Charu received cash awards and plaques at the end of their presentations, as well as complimentary registration to the entire meeting.



Jean Wang [far left] and David Monteith [far right] of Schering-Plough, along with faculty advisor Davy Kalonia [second from left,] present Atul Saluja with the Schering-Plough Award in Pharmacy/Pharmaceutics.

**Atul Saluja**, was awarded the Schering-Plough Award in Pharmacy/Pharmaceutics. The award was established by Schering-Plough to recognize and promote academic excellence in the area of pharmaceuticals and honor students who will be future leaders in the industry or academia. Only the following renowned departments and universities are invited to participate in this program for pharmacy/pharmaceutics: Purdue University, the University of Kansas, the University of Connecticut, and the University of Minnesota. 📖

### Brian Lachapelle Honorary Alumnus

Brian Lachapelle joined the staff of the University of Connecticut Foundation in October 2001 as the director of development for major gifts and was promoted in 2002 to the position of director of development for the Schools of Allied Health, Nursing, Pharmacy and Family Studies. During his tenure he successfully directed the School of Pharmacy's campaign "Building a Future of Pharmacy Together." The campaign concluded on June 30, 2004 raising a record \$6.1 million for the school's faculty, students and programs. Mr. Lachapelle played a vital role in establishing the Pfizer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Pharmaceutical Technology and the Boehringer Ingelheim Endowed Chair in Mechanistic Toxicology, the two largest philanthropic commitments in the school's history. During his tenure the School of Pharmacy Advisory Board was established, the School of Pharmacy Annual Report was created, and over \$1 million was raised for naming opportunities in the new Pharmacy-Biology Building. His leadership provided a framework for a significant increase in involvement by alumni and friends in the life of the school. In September of 2005, Mr. Lachapelle was appointed to the position of director of development at Harvard Medical School Boston, Massachusetts where he currently works. He is a graduate of the Carroll School of Management at Boston College. He holds an MBA from American International College and continues to take advantage of the educational opportunities at Harvard.

### Roy Katz Honorary Alumnus

Roy Katz is a registered pharmacist and owner of The Medicine Shoppe in Manchester, Connecticut. He has a staff of 45 and provides award-winning service in the greater Hartford area. His pharmacy is the top store in The Medicine Shoppe's worldwide organization. Mr. Katz graduated from Long Island University. During his 20 years in business he has been very active in community affairs. He is a past president of the Manchester-North Chapter of the American Cancer Society. He currently serves on several advisory boards including The Manchester Memorial Hospital Diabetes

Program and the Per-Se Technologies computer panel. He enjoys providing pharmaceutical service to people and currently works closely with several hospice programs in the area. Pharmacist Katz has been very active in pharmacy affairs in Connecticut and is presently the president-elect of the Connecticut Pharmacists Association.

### Steven D. Cohen Distinguished Emeritus Professor

Dr. Steven D. Cohen received his B.S. in pharmacy and M.S. in pharmacology from the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and his D.Sc. in toxicology from Harvard University. He joined the University of Connecticut in 1972 as assistant professor of toxicology. As associate professor, he founded the Center for Biochemical Toxicology and the Intra-departmental Graduate and Postdoctoral Research Training Program in Environmental Toxicology in the early '80s. He directed both until leaving the school in 2000. While at the school, Dr. Cohen played an important part in mentoring graduate and postdoctoral students. There are now over 50 alumni of the toxicology program that Dr. Cohen founded and directed who are making important contributions to toxicology through their professional positions in academia, industry and government. Dr. Cohen instituted the Toxicology Scholars Colloquium at UConn which introduces graduate students to world renowned toxicologists in an informal setting. The colloquium also matches UConn toxicology graduate students with postdoctoral positions in the laboratories of prestigious scientists hosted by the program. Dr. Cohen has received many honors including having three of his research papers recognized as the best paper of the year by the Society of Toxicology. As an emeritus professor, Dr. Cohen retains an appointment as research professor of toxicology at UConn and continues to participate in graduate research training. 📖

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Although the medicinal garden belonged to the School of Pharmacy, it was used by the faculty of Botany, Horticulture and Pharmacy as a teaching tool. Additionally, it was established and cared for by many in the university community, most notably Marcia Babbidge, wife of the University President. She worked elbow to elbow with local gardening aficionados, from the plant science professor who assisted in the original design and layout to the lady from Caprilands Herb Garden in Coventry, whose knowledge of herbs and donation of cuttings and plants was invaluable, to the many students who spent time weeding and caring for the garden as part of their financial aid package. Bob Williams '58, son of Walter "Roy" Williams, a professor of Chemistry at the School of Pharmacy from 1928 through 1968, used to tag along with his dad on weekends and help with the weeding and chores.

Dr. William Kelleher, emeritus professor of pharmacognosy, spent a great deal of time in the garden, as well. A small hedge that he planted lined the garden on both sides on the driveway. He built a wooden frame which he could use with a hedge trimmer to keep the hedge a uniform height. Kelleher also worked on the natural product ergot that results from an infection of rye grass forming a black swollen grain known as sclerotia. From that, he would isolate the active ingredient ergot and use it as a starting material for further modifications.

Unfortunately, over time, interest in the garden began to wane as the field of pharmacognosy was eclipsed by modern pharmaceuticals. Upkeep of the garden fell to a group of dedicated volunteers who struggled to keep up with the demands of maintaining the plants.

The passing years saw thousands of pharmacy students making their way through the program; many held fond memories of the garden as part of their collegiate home. When the pharmacy building was slated for replacement under UConn 2000, plans included a new medicinal garden. However, the garden fell by the wayside as construction costs grew over the life of the project and when the

Continued on Page 10

## Distinguished and Honorary Alumni and Distinguished Emeritus Professor to be Honored

The Pharmacy Alumni Association will honor three distinguished alumni in the fields of academia, industry, and pharmacy practice, two non-alumni who will be named honorary alumni and an emeritus professor who will receive the Distinguished Emeritus Professor Award. The awards will be presented at the 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Pharmacy Alumni Awards and Reunion Banquet on April 14, 2007 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Cromwell Connecticut.

### Albert A. Belmonte Academia

Dr. Albert A. Belmonte received his B.S. (1967) and M.S. (1969) in pharmacy from Northeastern University, Boston, Massachusetts. He obtained his Ph.D. (1972) in pharmaceuticals from the University of Connecticut. He served as assistant professor and associate professor of pharmaceuticals at Auburn University, Auburn, Alabama, from 1972 to 1981; associate professor and associate dean at St. John's University, Queens, New York, from 1981 to 1988 and professor and dean of the College of Pharmacy and Allied Health Professions at St. John's University from 1988 to 1994. For the period 1995 to 1999, he served as professor, dean and vice president for Academic Affairs at the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences in Boston, Massachusetts, including a 7-month term as interim president of the College and 2 years as provost. He returned to the full-time faculty of the college and assumed his role as professor in 1999. He also served as interim dean of pharmacy for 2001-2002. He was awarded the College Medal in 2003 for his service to Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences and was appointed professor emeritus in May 2006, upon his retirement. Dr. Belmonte's research interests included membrane model systems, dosage form design and biopharmaceutics. His educational interests include publications dealing with curriculum, student interests, and trends in pharmacy education. Dr. Belmonte is a member of the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists, the American Pharmaceutical Association, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy. He has served in both elected and appointed offices for these organizations. He is a past member of the Board of Directors of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy including two years as chair of the Council of Deans. He is a past national president of Rho Chi, the pharmacy honor society.

### Mary Inguanti Pharmacy Practice

Mary Inguanti received her Bachelor of Science degree in pharmacy from the University of Connecticut School of Pharmacy in 1984. She also received a Master's degree in public health from the University of Connecticut. Pharmacist Inguanti is the vice president of operations and quality at Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center. She most recently served as the director of pharmacy for Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center in Hartford, Connecticut. This system includes the Mount Sinai Campus, the Rehabilitation Hospital of Connecticut, Saint Francis Care Behavioral Health, Alcohol Drug and Recovery Centers and Saint Francis Care at Enfield. She is responsible for the Service Excellence Division of Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center, the Pharmacy Division, accreditation oversight including Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO), Quality and Outcomes, Risk Management, Kaizen and Infection Control. A fellow of the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists, she is presently the chairman for the Connecticut Hospital Association Pharmacy Directors work group. She has recently been appointed to the Committee on Patient Care Quality of the Connecticut Hospital Association Board of Trustees. She was selected as a 2006 finalist for the Women of Innovation Awards Program developed by the Connecticut Technology Council. Ms. Inguanti was most recently named to the Board of Trustees for the P&T Society. She is also on the Editorial Advisory Board of Drug Topics and was named 1999 Pharmacist of the Year by the Connecticut Society of Health Systems Pharmacy for her outstanding contribution in the area of medication safety. She was recognized in 2002 as an honored member of the Who's Who of Professionals Society. She is a fellow of the Wharton School and the Leonard Davis Institute of Health Economics of the University of Pennsylvania, executive pharmacy leadership program.

### Thomas E. Buckley Industry

Thomas E. Buckley received his Bachelor of Science degree in Pharmacy from the University of Connecticut School of Pharmacy in 1982, and his Master of Public Health degree from the University of Connecticut School of Medicine.

Prior to his current work as a Clinical Education Consultant for Pfizer, Pharmacist Buckley was a clinical pharmacist at New Britain General Hospital in New Britain, Connecticut and at St. Peter Hospital in Olympia, Washington. In both positions, he served on various hospital committees including Pharmacy and Therapeutics, Patient Education, and Cardiac Rehabilitation, and authored numerous disease management protocols and patient education materials. As a Clinical Education Consultant, he works with health care professionals in a variety of practice settings to assist with patient outcomes research, professional and patient education needs and other clinical projects. He has authored or co-authored numerous journal articles in a diverse number of disease states and practice issues.

Pharmacist Buckley has been very active with professional pharmacy organizations, serving as chair of the Connecticut Society of Health-Systems Pharmacists' legislative committee for the past 14 years, championing collaborative practice legislation and numerous other pharmacy legislative initiatives. He is the recipient of the CSHP Paul Pierpoli Lecture Award, CSHP's Pharmacist of the Year Award, the Connecticut Pharmacists Association Daniel C. Leone Pharmacist of the Year Award, CPA's Professional Pharmacy Performance Award, CT-ASCP's Pharmacist of the Year Award, and ASHP's Literature Award for Innovation in Pharmacy Practice in Health Systems. From July 2006 to February 2007, he is serving a Global Health Fellowship from Pfizer and the International Rescue Committee at the Mae Tao Clinic in Thailand, improving pharmacy and medical services for the Burmese migrant community along the Thai/Burma border.

**George Romer '67** of Slavin's Pharmacy, Stamford, CT has received the Medical Service Award from the Stamford Community Health Center for recognition and appreciation for his contribution and commitment in ensuring access to quality primary health care services for the medically indigent, underserved population of Stamford, Connecticut.

**Edmund Karvosky Jr. '73** received the 2006 Professional Pharmacy Performance Award at the Connecticut Pharmacists Association annual meeting in September 2006.

**Stephen Marcham '76** was named the Daniel C. Leone Pharmacist of the Year at the Connecticut Pharmacists Association annual meeting.

**Mark D'Ambrosio '85**, owner and president of Terravita Coaching, is certified as a Professional Co-Active Coach through Coaches Training Institute. He specializes in working with small and medium sized businesses. He lives in Old Saybrook, Connecticut.

**Peter Tyczkowski '78** was sworn in as President of the Connecticut Pharmacists Association at their annual meeting. Sworn in as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President was **Meghan Wilkosz '03**.

## Dean's Message...

Continued from Page 4

semester including courses on pharmacy entrepreneurship and e-health. These follow several new electives last year focused on pediatric pharmacotherapy and diabetes care. We have also inaugurated several new seminar series to allow graduate students, residents, and fellows as well as university, and external researchers and scholars to share their work. Finally, we have developed a series of research seminars in conjunction with the Department of Physiology and Neurobiology.

UConn alumni, please be sure to mark you calendars for the Annual Alumni Banquet scheduled for Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup> at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Cromwell. Also, check our website about our alumni cruise to Alaska in August. News will be posted soon. 

**Dan Gleason '94** and **Karen Lillpopp Gleason '95** announce the birth of a daughter, Marcyanna, on April 3, 2006. She joins a brother, Aiden. The family resides in Groton, Connecticut.

**Sean Jeffery '95** has been awarded the Elan Biopharmaceuticals Innovative Pharmacy Practice Award for 2006.

**Catherine Ulbricht '94** is co-founder of Natural Standard Research Collaboration which produces evidence-based reviews of herbs and supplements to educate healthcare providers and consumers.

**Jennifer Skillen Megna '98** and her husband, Damian, announce the birth of a daughter, Julia Elizabeth, on May 11, 2005. The family lives in Framingham, Massachusetts.

**Kevin Chamberlin '03** and **Annik Carrier Chamberlin '03** announce the birth of a daughter, Grace Ann, on June 10, 2006.

**Ron DeVizia '03** was featured on the cover and in an article in the October 2006 issue of **Pharmacy Today**. The article relates his involvement as the leader of 15 pharmacists who provide medication therapy management (MTM) and diabetes education services at Kerr Drug pharmacies in North Carolina. Ron credits his involvement as a student as coordinator of the APhA-ASP chapter diabetes education project and "a

**James A. Elias '66**  
February 19, 2006

**Alexander Hamilton Jr. '61**  
August 15, 2006

**Edward Carton '42**  
August 25, 2006

**Joseph C. Rheiner '50**  
October 8, 2006

**Alfred J. Brener '62**  
December 11, 2006

very good rotation" with his mentor, **Donald Zettervall '79** for leading him to his present position.

**Susan Milliken '03** has been named the 2006 Pharmacists Mutual Distinguished Young Pharmacist. She received the award at the Connecticut Pharmacists Association annual meeting in September.

**Alexandria Piotrowski '03** married Mark Dunleavy in September 2006. She has been working as a clinical faculty member at Northeastern University since August 2005.

**Sarah Belanger '05** and Adam Kaprove were married in September 2006. Sarah is a staff pharmacist for Rite Aid in Plainville, Connecticut. The couple lives in South Windsor, Connecticut. 

## What's New With You?

We want to hear from you! Please use this form to tell us about address changes, personal and professional honors, or everyday events that we can use for the Alumni Update column. Mail To: University of Connecticut, School of Pharmacy Alumni Association, 69 North Eagleville Road, Unit 3092 ~ Storrs, Connecticut 06269-3092, or e-mail us at: daniel.leone@uconn.edu

Dr.  Mr.  Mrs.  Ms.  Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class Year: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Maiden/Former Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Employer/Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Business Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 News: \_\_\_\_\_



As I sit writing this article, the holiday season is upon us. It is the season of giving and of giving thanks. Part of my responsibility as president is to remind all alumni to give back to the school – financially, politically, or in one of our most valuable resources: our time. Another part of my responsibility is to recognize those alumni, or those around me, that have given of themselves on behalf of the association. Given that this is my last column as president, these feelings of the season are timely.

I must begin with a special thank you to Dan Leone. Dan has been serving as executive vice president for over a decade now. Dan continues to play a vital role in the day to day operations of the association, which not only includes being involved in the planning and implementation of alumni events, but also by serving as the liaison between the association and the school. Dan has played an integral role in the transitions of officers of the alumni association, including my own. Because of Dan's hard work (often behind the scenes,) we all benefit greatly and our organization and our school look that much better.

I also wish to thank Dean McCarthy. The dean is a whirlwind of positive energy. He has gone above and beyond his responsibilities with his work for and his support of the Alumni Association. In my duties I have worked closely with Dan and Dean McCarthy; I hope that I can retain just a small amount of what I have learned from them – both from their knowledge of people and circumstances and from their years of pharmacy experience. A special thanks to the support staff at the school: especially Liz, Karen, and April – for your support of the association and of the school, and for the encouragement and gentle nudges that you have given me along the way. Lastly, I wish to thank the officers and the Board of Directors for their service. You are all volunteers and the commitment that you have made to the school in time and resources is appreciated.

Over my term as president, I have participated in the celebrations of the new building and of our school anniversary; I have had the privilege of awarding multiple "distinguished alumni" and "honorary alumni" awards; I have participated in this past year's hooding ceremony and have attended countless other events on behalf of the organization. What have I learned from my experiences as president? The take-home message for me will be a deeper respect of what it truly means to be an alumnus of the University of Connecticut School of Pharmacy. We like to crow about the school and about the respect it garners. We hear or read about the awards and the accomplishments of the students, faculty and alumni. This can be easy for us to take

for granted. I know because I did. After working closely with students, faculty and alumni, I have been able to see first hand the hard work that it takes to be a premiere pharmacy school in the country. I have witnessed the incredible dedication of the faculty and staff. I have met so many who have achieved professional success and even more that have given, or given back, to the school. I can only describe those individuals as just "good people." Usually, when you surround yourself with good people, it makes you a better person too.

I encourage our alumni to get involved with the school, to give back in some way; not only for the benefit of the school and the students that follow in our footsteps, but for yourself as well. I would like to thank the school, the alumni, the Alumni Association and the students for allowing me this opportunity to serve as president and for making this such a great learning experience.

As a reminder, please watch your mail for information regarding the School of Pharmacy Alumni Association Annual Banquet and Awards Ceremony that will be held on April 14, 2007 at the Crowne Plaza in Cromwell, Connecticut. As always, if you have ideas or wants, or you are interested in participating in association activities, please free to contact me at (860) 657-4083 or farmassist@aol.com, or contact Dan Leone at the school, or any of the officers. Thank you again for your continuing support of the school and the School of Pharmacy Alumni Association. 📧

## Continuing Education

### Henry A. Palmer CE Finale

The Henry A. Palmer C.E. Finale was held on Thursday, December 28, 2006 at the Bishop Center on the Storrs campus. This program provided pharmacists with the opportunity to select from a wide array of continuing education programs, from one to eight hours of credit, including coverage of law in one session. Topics for the day included: Contemporary Legal Issues for Pharmacists (Law CE), Neuropathic Pain, When It's Skin Deep -- Overview and Update of Pediatric Skin and Soft Tissue Infections, New Frontiers in Cardiovascular Complementary and Alternative

Medicine, Women's Health Initiative -- The Mystery Unfolds, Hypothyroidism -- Diagnosis and Treatment, Pharmacogenomics of Antidepressants, New Concepts in the Treatment of Hypertension and a special workshop on Adverse Drug Effects in the Elderly -- Some Problem Solving Approaches.

### Schwartz Symposium

The 30<sup>th</sup> Arthur E. Schwartz Pharmacy Practice Symposium will be held on May 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>, 2007 here at the UConn

Storrs Campus. "For the first time the AES Symposium will be held over a two day period. Each day will provide 6.0 contact hours of C.E. including one hour of law. Either or both days may be attended. The theme will be "Non-Prescription Medications". Coverage will include perspectives of the burgeoning OTC market place from a number of perspectives, including regulatory, industry, consumers, alternative medicine and pharmacy practice. In addition the second day will focus on some new views on OTC marketing and will include interactive case-studies which will engage participants in round-table discussions about patient case studies. 📧

**Mark Your Calendar**  
for the Annual Alumni Awards and Reunion Banquet at the Crowne Plaza in Cromwell, Connecticut.

**April 14, 2007**



As I write this column, the weather has finally cooled and we are still awaiting snow, but plans for the 37th annual Pharmacy Alumni Association's Awards and Reunion Banquet are heating up. The event will be held on Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup> at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Cromwell, Connecticut. The 36<sup>th</sup> annual banquet held last April was a tremendous success attended by many alumni and students. We want to continue the momentum and make the 37<sup>th</sup> annual banquet even more successful. Some outstanding alumni and friends have been selected to be honored at the banquet. Named Distinguished Alumni will be Dr. Albert A. Belmonte, Mary Inguanti and Thomas E. Buckley. Brian LaChapelle and Roy Katz will be given Honorary Alumnus status and Dr. Stephen D. Cohen will be given the Distinguished Emeritus Professor Award. Recognition will be given to the reunion classes of 1947, 1957, 1967, 1977, 1982, 1987 and 1997. If you are a member of one of these classes, you must certainly be looking forward to your reunion. Please mark the date in your calendar now. All alumni will receive invitations to the event in early March.

One of the goals of the association and Dean McCarthy is to increase the number of alumni events held each year. We would like every alumnus/a to attend one event each year. In line with this goal, we had a School of Pharmacy tent at the Homecoming football game in October. Everyone attending had a great time and we will repeat the event this year at Homecoming. As noted in previous newsletters, we are planning a cruise to Alaska combined with continuing education sometime this summer. As soon as plans are finalized, we will send invitations to all alumni and information will be available on our website. Why not try to attend one of these events and enjoy the company of your fellow alumni and classmates. If you want to contact classmates and put together a group for any of these events, let me know and I will be happy to help you.

The Alumni Wall of Fame has been erected on the third floor of the Pharmacy-Biology Building. The wall lists the names of all Distinguished Alumni who have been honored since the award was instituted. In addition, the pictures and biographies of the last three years recipients are displayed in individual frames. Each year, the three oldest photos will be removed and replaced with the latest awardees. On November 4<sup>th</sup>, Dean McCarthy held a reception for Distinguished Alumni and all donors naming rooms in the new building. As you enter the building, all such donors are listed on an honor roll and each named room is marked with a plaque showing the name of the donor. If you are interested in naming a space and being added to the honor roll, please contact Anne-Margaret Gaffney, associate director of development at 860-486-9342.

As I always remind you at this time of the year, dues bills have been mailed. If you have not paid your 2007 dues, please use the form in this newsletter and send in your dues today. The money collected from dues is used to support the activities of the association and to support the students. 📧

## UCONN PHARMACY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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- Vice President  
Jacqueline Murphy '78
- Secretary  
Ellen Konspore '79
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