

Prescriptives

School of Pharmacy News

Alumnus Samuel S. Kalmanowitz Honored with the University of Connecticut Medal

Excerpted from the UConn Advance article by Karen Grava
Additional information by Sarah Kearns & Elizabeth Anderson



President Michael Hogan presents the University of Connecticut Medal to Samuel S. Kalmanowitz '61 at the May 2008 Graduate Commencement Ceremony.

School of Pharmacy alumnus, Samuel S. Kalmanowitz, joined an elite group as he was honored with the University of Connecticut Medal for his contributions to his community, to the profession of pharmacy, and to the University of Connecticut. This is the first time that a member of the School of Pharmacy has received the university's highest honor. The medal, established in 1983 by the Board of Trustees, recognizes individuals whose "life achievements serve as examples of the university's aspirations for its students" and who "have had a significant influence on the university."

Kalmanowitz, who received a bachelor's degree in pharmacy in 1961, had for the past four decades been a leader in the practice of community pharmacy and in technological innovation in the field. He started Kaye's Pharmacy in Meriden in 1963, owning and operating it until he retired and sold it in 2003. "Sam was a very special person," says Robert L.

McCarthy, dean of pharmacy. "His commitment to the School of Pharmacy, his patients, and his community has been a model for us all."

Kalmanowitz served as a mentor to students and new members of the profession, and served on several advisory boards, including one for Hospice and one for the Visiting Nurse Associations. He also was a founding member of the School of Pharmacy Advisory Board. A frequent donor to the school, he helped the school win a major software donation.

During his career, he earned a number of awards from professional associations and from the UConn Pharmacy Alumni Association. "Mr. Kalmanowitz is an example of what we hope all of our alumni will become — a leader both in his profession and in his community," says Hogan. "He set a fine example for all of us."

The school's Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy Studies Class of 2008 was fortunate to have Kalmanowitz give the Keynote Address at their commencement ceremonies. "Sam's untimely death, only tens days after receiving the University of Connecticut Medal, was a shock to us all," says Dean McCarthy. His words to the Class of 2008 were inspirational. He imparted his formula for success — ethics, humanity, lifelong learning, and hard work. He communicated the basic tenets of his life and his success to the assembled audience.

A Message from the Dean



Dear Friends:

The 2007-2008 academic year was marked by the realization of important milestones for the school: our first professional students studying abroad; the awarding of the first AHRQ Evidence-based Practice Center to a school of pharmacy; the first pharmacy students to receive the university diversity award; the first student elected to hold an APhA-ASP national office; the school's first Lyman Award recipients, awarded for the best paper published in the **American Journal of Pharmaceutical Education**; and the school's first recipient of the University of Connecticut Medal. These important milestones are a testament to the commitment of our students, faculty, staff, and alumni to establishing our school as one of the nation's premier, public, research schools of pharmacy. Our academic year ended with profound sadness as we lost a dear friend and alumnus. We will miss Sam Kalmanowitz, but we will always recall him fondly and remember all he taught us about what it means to be a caring person.

This past June marked the completion of my first full five-year term as dean; it's difficult to believe the time has passed so quickly. I have been professionally blessed first by coming to the University of Connecticut and then by being given the opportunity to lead this wonderful school. I have been fortunate to have the unwavering and enthusiastic support of two presidents and two provosts and an exceptional student body, faculty, and staff. It was not a difficult decision

Phan Mail



I enjoyed reading news of significant recent developments at the School of Pharmacy in Prescriptives Vol. 3, #2. As a three time graduate of UConn Pharmacy, I was saddened to learn that William J. Kelleher (WJK) had passed away. The obit about Bill covered many of his contributions to the School of Pharmacy, his superb academic background capped by a Ph.D. in biochemistry from Wisconsin under the direction of world-famous biochemist, Marvin Johnson, and some of his activities. I wanted to add a few personal recollections of Bill that derive from my time working with him for my M. Sc. in Pharmacognosy during January 1963-June 1966. I have very warm memories of my experiences then and through 1968 when I finished the Ph.D. degree at UConn as well.

Anyone who worked with Bill realized very quickly that they would be held to the highest standards of performance, and levels of accountability for everything. Mine was a "real" 60s project entitled, "The production of lysergic acid derivatives in submerged culture: Inorganic nutrition studies"! Our laboratory team at the time included Gary Elmer, a Professor of Medicinal Chemistry at the University of Washington, Steve Burton, Mei Li Swenberg, Frima Botnik, Irv Hughes, Dick Kowalsky and Nick Mihalopoulos. We were daily drilled into the intricacies and internal workings of Mettler balances, the Perkin Elmer IR, the pH meter and its glass electrode (Bill's Wisconsin Biochemistry lab made their own,) and gyrotory New Brunswick incubator shakers among other things. Occasionally signs would appear like, "in your dissertations, how will you explain the results obtained this week during



temperature fluctuations in the incubator room?" – an obvious cause for worry. Weekly seminars were performance-inspiring gatherings as all could expect passionate grilling on behalf of WJK, and thesis writing was one of the most dynamic experiences we had.

I am extremely grateful for the skillful and intellectual guidance received at UConn under Bill Kelleher, Art Schwarting, Jim Bobbitt (Chemistry) and Ralph Collins (Mycology.) I was proud to be a trainee supported by the first NIH training grant in natural products in the USA won by these top faculty scholars. Lessons learned in blending scientific diversity, mentoring, and active professional participation were enormously valuable and inspiring to me. These people were superb models to emulate in mentoring 31 Ph.D. students, 32 postdocs, and visiting scholars who passed through my own lab during the past 39 years. In the best sense, all of these people are relatives in the scientific lineage of WJK and others who made my UConn experience so memorable. ■

Jack Rosazza, Ph.D.

Professor Emeritus, Medicinal and Natural Products Chemistry and Director Emeritus, Center for Biocatalysis and Bioprocessing, University of Iowa

We're on a Mission...

In the spring of 2008 faculty and staff members Dennis Wright, Ph.D., associate professor of pharmaceutical sciences, Lauren Schesselman, Pharm.D., director of the Office of Assessment & Accreditation and assistant clinical professor of pharmacy practice, and Elizabeth Anderson, MBA, director of the Office of Marketing & Communications were tasked with reviewing the school's mission statement and proposing updates that would more closely align with new accreditation standards and reflect the work the school is now undertaking. After reviewing a variety of corporate and academic mission statements, and receiving input from both the School of Pharmacy Advisory Board and various members of the faculty, the committee, chaired by Dr. Wright, reported, "Mission Accomplished." The new mission statement was approved by a vote of the faculty and reads as follows:

"The mission of the School of Pharmacy is to bring together a diverse group of faculty, staff, and students to advance the quality of health care by providing outstanding professional and graduate education, pioneering research in the pharmaceutical sciences, and committing to excellence in pharmacist-directed patient care." ■

Did You Know...

Alumnus Mike Guertin has a passion for books and served on a committee to help plan the Pharmacy Library's 70th Anniversary Celebration?



See Page 10 for more about Mike.



University of
Connecticut

Contributors:

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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.

Focus on Faculty

UConn Faculty Members Receive Prestigious Rufus A. Lyman Award

By Kate Mather

Three of the University of Connecticut's pharmacy practice faculty have received the Rufus A. Lyman Award for their outstanding contribution to the **American Journal of Pharmaceutical Education**, the official publication of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP). Each year, a committee from the AACP chooses the paper that they feel most successfully shows "utility and significance to pharmacy education, originality, research methodology, and writing style," states Dr. Robert L. McCarthy, the dean of the School of Pharmacy. Lauren Schlesselman, Pharm.D., Craig Coleman, Pharm.D., and C. Michael White, Pharm.D., along with Dr. Eang Lao '08 were honored with the award for their paper entitled "Number and Impact of Published Scholarly Works by Pharmacy Practice Faculty Members at Accredited U.S. Colleges and Schools of Pharmacy (2001-2003)." The paper, published in June of 2007, explores how much of an impact pharmacy practice faculty contributions have made on biomedical literature, and the researchers found some surprising results.

As director of assessment at the School of Pharmacy, Dr. Schlesselman's main interest is in determining how effective pharmacy practice faculty are in terms of the educational contributions they make outside of the classroom. Because pharmacy science faculty have their productivity assessed on the basis of the amount of grant money they are awarded, pharmacy practice faculty, who do not earn grant money as readily as their counterparts, must be evaluated differently. This assessment can be based on the number and quality of professional papers published by the faculty. Dr. Schlesselman realizes that publishing is important and says that contributions made by faculty "can influence the way medicine is handled."



Dean Robert L. McCarthy [center] congratulates Drs. Craig I. Coleman [left] and Lauren Schlesselman [right] at the Lyman Award presentation at the AACP Annual Meeting.

In addition, Dr. Coleman maintains that by studying the number and quality of scholarly contributions made by pharmacy practice faculty, other faculty can benchmark themselves and compare their own contributions to those made by other faculty members. By determining that the publications submitted by pharmacy practice faculty members had very high impact factors, the researchers concluded that pharmacy practice faculty contributed substantially to biomedical literature. Schlesselman, Coleman, and White's paper shows the importance of school faculty in the development and advancement of the biomedical field. It is because of their own contribution to scientific literature that the faculty received their award.

The Rufus A. Lyman Award is not an honor given lightly, explains Associate Professor of Pharmaceutics Robin Bogner, a former AACP Lyman Committee member. "Not only is it tough to just get into the journal," says Dr. Bogner, but to be the "best in the view of all of those [committee members] is tough to do too." Dr. Schlesselman and Dr. Coleman admit that they had no idea that they would even have been considered for the award, and both are very pleased and honored. Dr. Coleman states that he is "honored that research [he has] done has been selected" and maintains that his focus is "to do things that impact patient care." Dr. Schlesselman, too, is happy to know that her own work is having an impact. It is "important to know how well we are doing," she says. We "really can contribute to and influence" the biomedical world. ■

International Drug Safety Conference

By Sarah Kearns and Kate Mather

University of Connecticut Associate Professor of Toxicology José Manautou recently participated in a scientific conference on drug development at the Nnamdi Azikiwe University in Awka, Nigeria. The conference, organized by the Africa Education Initiative, a non-profit organization based in Mystic, CT, included students and scientists from Nigeria, several other African countries, and the United States. Directors General from numerous Nigerian Institutions and Ministries, including Professor B. Solomon, Professor Onwualu, and Dr. Dora Akunyili also attended the conference.

Dr. Manautou, the newly elected vice president elect of the Society of Toxicology Mechanisms Specialty Section, discussed issues surrounding drug-induced hepatotoxicity, a frequent reaction of medications such as paracetamol (acetaminophen.) Hepatotoxicity, or toxicity of the liver, is a common but little known side-effect of acetaminophen overdose. Other speakers included Dr. David Blackwell from Pfizer, Inc. who lectured on the importance and improvement of safety testing in drug development.

Sponsors of the event: Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Nigeria Mineral Water Bottling Co., Lhasa UK, and Pfizer, Inc — were thanked by Foundation President Dr. Chudy Nduaka in his closing statements, as he called upon other organizations to help the foundation fund and organize other similar student programs. He hopes conferences such as these will help to enhance curricula across African Institutions. ■

Save the Date

The third annual Pharmacy Student Government Fun Run will take place on Saturday, March 28, 2009. Check our website in February for details and registration information.

Dr. Amy Anderson, associate professor of medicinal chemistry, has been appointed assistant head of the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences. Amy is also the Principal Investigator on a subcontract for a new ROI that was recently funded to investigate methods to redesign proteins to bind novel ligands. She and her post-doc, Erin Bolstad, wrote a paper that was recently accepted to *Proteins*: “In pursuit of virtual lead optimization: The role of the receptor structure and ensembles in accurate docking”

Associate Vice Provost Keith Barker announced the selection of **Dr. Robin Bogner** as a 2008-2009 University of Connecticut Teaching Fellow. Robin’s selection was based on an impressive teaching portfolio that included a description of teaching innovations, scholarship, and the recommendations of colleagues and students. Robin has been a gifted and committed teacher in our school for many years, mentoring scores of students; she is most deserving of the highest teaching honor the university can bestow. With Robin’s selection, the School of Pharmacy boasts three of the university’s thirty-four Teaching Fellows. **Dr. C. Michael White** was selected two years ago, while **Dr. Jim Henkel** has also been honored.

Lisa Brown joined the school as assistant director of development. Lisa is an UConn alumna and holds an MBA from the University of New Haven. Lisa served as director of marketing for Kostin, Ruffkess & Company for a number of years. Most recently, she has worked at Three Rivers Community College and Central Connecticut State University, where she held an adjunct faculty position. While at Three Rivers, she worked closely with institutional advancement to develop and implement public relations & communications initiatives. We welcome Lisa and wish Anne-Margaret Gaffney success in her new position at the Pomfret School.

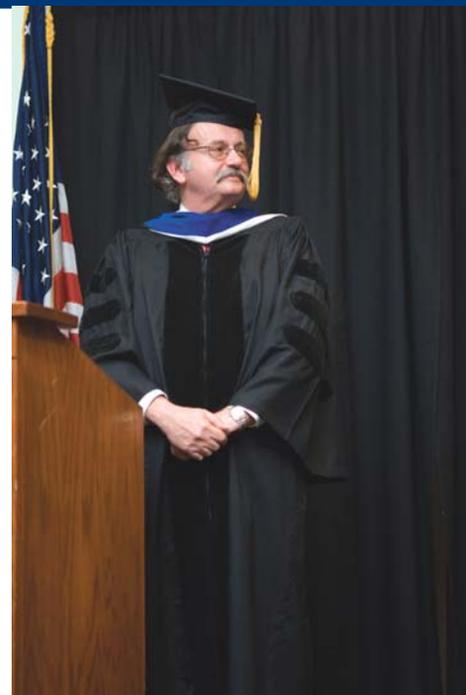
Tom Buckley, MPH, has joined the School of Pharmacy as an assistant clinical professor. Tom’s primary responsibilities will be to coordinate the Public Health/Policy course and co-ordinate the P1 and P2 Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experience [IPPE] sequence. He is also working on offering an Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience [APPE] elective with the Cambodian refugee program in the Hartford area.

Charles Caley, Pharm.D., associate clinical professor has been collaborating with UConn’s Student Health Services to provide consulting services to psychiatric patients. The project was awarded the 2008 College of Psychiatric and Neurologic Pharmacists (CPNP) Innovative Practice Award at their annual meeting in Scottsdale, Arizona.

Dr. Bodhi Chaudhuri recently received funding by the Center of Pharmaceutical Processing Research (CPPR) for his proposal on “Quantifying Drying Performance of a Filter Dryer: Experiments and Simulations”

Dennis Chapron, M.S. retired from the University of Connecticut on August 31, 2008. Dennis began his career at the UConn School of Pharmacy in September 1974 – thus giving UConn (Storrs and Farmington) students, residents, and colleagues 34 years of service as a teacher and scholar. We thank Dennis for his contribution and remarkable legacy at our school and the Department of Pharmacy Practice.

Craig Coleman, Pharm.D. was selected to serve as a member of the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s/U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’, “Nutrition Evidence Library (NEL)” team. Craig was selected for his expertise in evidence-based medicine, and will aid with the production of the USDA’s “2010 Dietary Guidelines for Americans”, the primary source of dietary health information for policymakers, nutrition educators and health providers in the US.



[Pictured Above] Dr. Gerry Gianutsos addresses the Doctor of Pharmacy, Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy Class of 2008 at the Commencement Ceremony. During his humor-filled speech, Dr. “G” reminded us that according to Gary Trudeau, “Commencement speeches were invented largely in the belief that outgoing college students should never be released into the world until they have been properly sedated.”

Dr. Neil Facchinetti retired from the University of Connecticut School of Pharmacy after nearly 30 years of dedicated service. We wish Neil well in his retirement.

Dr. Gerry Gianutsos was elected School of Pharmacy Teacher of the Year by the Pharm.D. Class of 2008. Gerry was the keynote speaker at Commencement on May 10th.

Dr. Phil Hritcko, assistant clinical professor and director of the Office of Experiential Education, has been appointed assistant head of the Department of Pharmacy Practice. During his tenure at UConn, Phil has made immeasurable contributions to our experiential program, which comprises a third of our professional curriculum, while becoming a leader in experiential education regionally and nationally. He was selected as the 2008 recipient of the School of Pharmacy Faculty Service Award which is presented annually to a member of the School of Pharmacy full-

time faculty who is recognized as having provided outstanding service to their department, the school, the university, the profession, the scientific community and/or the public at-large. Phil has played an integral role in the establishment of the NERDEE (New England Regional Departments of Experiential Education) group, which has become a model for similar consortia across the nation. The NERDEE group has developed regional preceptor training programs and presented numerous papers at national meetings. This summer at the Annual Meeting of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy, Phil was installed as chair of the new Experiential Education Section. In addition, Phil, working with Diane Burgess, has directed the launch of our study abroad program.

Dr. Sean Jeffery was re-elected to serve a second term on the 2008-2009 ASCP Board representing Region One. He also served as the pharmacy consultant to the comprehensive pain management service at the VA. This group recently received a VA Research Enhancement Award Program (REAP). These programs are stepping stones designed to establish nationwide centers for research excellence providing access to funding opportunities available only to REAP sites for establishing pilot studies. Dr. Jeffery is interested in pursuing medication research as part of this diverse group of psychologists, physicians, nurses, chiropractors and physical therapists.

Jennifer Lee, Pharm.D., assistant clinical professor of pharmacy practice, has been classified as a Certified Diabetes Educator.

Dr. José Manautou was elected vice-president elect of the Society of Toxicology Mechanisms Specialty Section.

Provost Peter J. Nicholls announced the reappointment of **Dean Robert L. McCarthy, Ph.D.** to serve a further five-year term as dean of the School of Pharmacy at the University of Connecticut. This term is for the period July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2013. This reappointment follows the completion of an extensive

evaluation process conducted by a review committee chaired by Dean David Woods. The review committee noted, in particular, that through Dean McCarthy's dedicated work the visibility and stature of the School of Pharmacy has increased both within the university and to external communities in the state and beyond. Following this announcement, the dean shared his vision and goals. His major priorities include improving the school's national ranking and enhancing the graduate program by focusing on recruitment and finding funding for residencies and fellowships. Other major priorities include: diversity, research and scholarship, developing joint degree programs, providing post-Pharm.D. training, and opportunities to study internationally. Additionally, his priorities for development include endowed chairs and professorships, Pharm.D. scholarships, endowed graduate fellowships, and both endowed and annual post-Pharm.D. residencies and fellowships.

Dr. John Morris, head of the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, has been appointed assistant dean for research. John's responsibilities will include developing strategies to enhance the scholarly productivity of the school, facilitating scholarly efforts of the faculty as appropriate, acting as a liaison to the university for scholarly and research related activities, serving as a liaison for the coordination and integration of scholarly activities between the Storrs campus and University of Connecticut Health Center, and other duties that support and enhance the scholarly mission of the school.

Dr. Marie Smith has been appointed to the Board of Trustees for the Connecticut Pharmacy Services Corporation, a for-profit subsidiary of the CPA. In May 2008, she served as an invited workshop leader at the AACP Institute on "Faculty Recruitment, Retention and Enrichment" in Landsdowne, VA. Her session focused on the use of faculty recruitment and retention tools such as merit programs and individual faculty development plans. In May 2008, Dr. Smith had a book chapter "E-



[Pictured Above] The New England Regional Departments of Experiential Education, better known as the NERDEES, meets periodically to address issues of common concern. The group is chaired by UConn's Dr. Phil Hritcko.

Prescribing in the Integrated Environment" published in *Electronic Prescribing for the Working Clinician: A Safety Guide* (Jones and Bartlett Publishers).

In June 2008, Dr. Smith chaired and moderated the 2008 Hewitt Symposium - Value of Medicines, Value of Pharmacists: Better Care at Lower Costs (conducted by the UConn School of Pharmacy.) This invitation-only, executive-level conference convened Connecticut health care payers, employers, providers, and academics to focus on value-based insurance design; pharmacists' impact on medication use; and to catalyze pilot projects on appropriate and cost-effective medication therapy management, medication adherence, and pharmaceutical outcomes research. Dr. Smith gave the opening presentation on "Components of Value-based Benefits for Medications."

Fei Wang, Pharm.D. has been promoted to associate clinical professor of pharmacy practice and has been named a Fellow of the American Society of Health-Systems Pharmacists during the Summer Meeting and Exhibition in Seattle. Fellows are selected based on their contributions to the scientific literature, research, education and leadership in professional activities. This program recognizes excellence in practice and promotes public awareness of outstanding pharmacists.

Dr. C. Michael White has been promoted to professor of pharmacy practice. ■

Two University of Connecticut Faculty Receive Honors from the Society of Toxicology

By: Kate Mather

At the Society of Toxicology's 47th annual meeting in Seattle in March 2008 two faculty members from the University of Connecticut's School of Pharmacy received awards for their exceptional contributions to toxicology research, service, and education. Dr. Steven Cohen, M.S., D.Sc., ATS, an emeritus professor of toxicology, was honored with the Society's 2008 Education Award. The former president of the Society of Toxicology (SOT) taught at the University of Connecticut from 1972 until 2000, when he left to join the faculty of the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences School of Pharmacy – Worcester. During his time at UConn, Cohen founded the Center for Biochemical Toxicology and the inter-departmental graduate and postdoctoral Research Training Program in Environmental Toxicology. The Rosenberg/Cohen Graduate Fellowship in Pharmacology and Toxicology at the University of Connecticut is named in his honor.

Dr. José Manautou, was also honored at this year's SOT meeting. The associate professor of toxicology was presented with the 2008 AstraZeneca Traveling Lectureship Award. According to the SOT website the award, which recognizes excellence in research and service in toxicology, will enable Dr. Manautou to conduct a lecture tour of Europe to promote collaboration between European and North American toxicologists. He currently plans to visit Switzerland, Portugal, France, Hungary, and England. Dr. Manautou states that his European tour will help promote mutual learning. He says, "Geographical distances make it difficult to collaborate. We want face-to-face interaction." During his lecture tour, Dr. Manautou will be covering the areas of hepatotoxicity, the regulation of drug transporters, and the effect of the immune system on the way the liver reacts to toxins.



Dr. José Manautou [center] receives the 2008 AstraZeneca Traveling Lectureship Award at the Society of Toxicology Annual Meeting.

Dr. Manautou has been a member of the Society of Toxicology since 1988, when he first joined as a student during graduate school. Over the past 20 years, he has served on several SOT committees, was principal investigator of the SOT's NIH grant that supports its undergraduate educational program, and as SOT Councilor. Additionally, Dr. Manautou was recently elected vice president elect of the SOT Mechanisms Specialty Section. According to Dr. Manautou, this section's main focus is on the mechanisms by which chemicals produce toxicity in the body. This position is held for three years and Dr. Manautou is excited about his new role: "this [position] is one I always had my eyes on. Presiding over this group is something I know I will enjoy tremendously." ■

Did You Know...

Dr. Steven Cohen was named a Distinguished Emeritus Faculty by the School of Pharmacy Alumni Association in 2007. Dr. Henry A. Palmer, the only other recipient, received his award in 2004.

Professor Making Strides in with Glucose Microchips

By: Kate Mather

Over the past decade, scientists have been vigorously trying to develop implantable microchips that can be used to monitor the human body's most natural functions: the ability to stay energized and the onset of stress and fatigue. The United States military has shown considerable interest in this project due to the fact that such a sensor will give them great insight into the health of troops on the battlefield. They will be able to monitor a soldier's adrenaline and lactate levels, gauge fatigue, and use this information to alter diet and nutritional intake. In his November 13th Defense Spending Bill, President Bush allocated \$1.6 million to the development of this project as a military necessity.

The glucose sensor currently being developed at the University of Connecticut by Professors Burgess (Pharmacy), Papadimitrakopoulos (Chemistry) and Jain (Electrical Engineering) is the size of a small splinter, about 0.5mm in diameter by 5mm in length. Yet this small device should not be considered rudimentary; it houses four very intricate components: a power source, a computer to read information, a device for wireless communication, and the sensor itself. One of the main concerns, however, is how to defend this sensor against attack by the body. The body's natural reaction to foreign devices is to destroy and isolate them immediately. Without any sort of protection, the area around the sensor will become inflamed and hard fibers will encircle and cocoon the chip, making it impossible to obtain information from the blood stream. The solution that Dr. Diane Burgess a professor of pharmaceuticals at the University of Connecticut, and her colleagues have developed is to release anti-inflammatory drugs from a special coating that surrounds the sensor. This localized release of anti-inflammatory drugs into the surrounding tissue protects the sensor from the body's natural defenses. This allows continued

functionality, at present up to a lifespan of three months, but researchers anticipate that this can be continued for even longer periods. When the chip fails, a new one can easily be injected under the skin at the wrist area. Likewise the old sensor can be easily removed using a needle.

With the development of new ways to keep the sensor functional and intact, further investigation as to what other purposes the sensor might fulfill has followed. Dr. Burgess foresees the sensor as being not only important to the military, but also as an essential addition to the every day lives of diabetics. With the ability to monitor blood-sugar levels through internal measurement, diabetics will no longer have to prick their fingers in order to test their blood. As the sensor can provide blood sugar levels 24/7, it can anticipate exactly how much insulin is needed to maintain normal blood-sugar levels. In this way, those with diabetes will not have to guess at how much insulin to take for proper diabetes control and thus the many debilitating side effects of diabetes may be avoided.

Though many may be skeptical about such a microchip, comparing it with futuristic human tracking devices often seen in the movies, there are obvious advantages gained through the use of this new technology. Not only will it help doctors to more fully understand the inner-workings of the human body, but it will help to control a serious disease that plagues over 20 million Americans. The research conducted by Dr. Burgess and her colleagues is helping to advance healthcare as we know it. Their enormous strides are having a great impact on not only the well-being of today, but also of the future. ■

Faculty Members Chapron and Facchinetti Retire

By: Karen Logan

Dennis Chapron, M.S., Associate Professor of Pharmacy Practice, has retired from the School of Pharmacy after 34 years of service. As a teacher, practitioner, mentor and friend to students and colleagues, Dennis leaves an immeasurable legacy behind at the School of Pharmacy. His academic areas of interest include drug disposition and response in the elderly, mechanistic investigations into drug-drug interactions, pharmacogenetics, and clinical problem solving in geriatrics, but his specialty is in connecting with the students, patients and colleagues.

In recognition of his many contributions to the School of Pharmacy and to the development of clinical pharmacy education in Connecticut, Dean Robert L. McCarthy has announced that the School of Pharmacy will be honoring Chapron by permanently naming the annual awards honoring excellence in experiential teaching the **Dennis J. Chapron Preceptor of the Year Award**. McCarthy said, "I can't think of a more appropriate way to honor Dennis' career. He is a legendary teacher in the classroom, but also particularly at his practice site, where his knowledge of therapeutics and dedication to his students is unsurpassed."

Chapron, known for excellence in teaching, received the Teacher of the Year Award from the School of Pharmacy in both 2003 and 2006. Dean Emeritus Michael Gerald hailed Chapron's impact, saying "you were a trail-blazer laying the foundation for generations of pharmacists to serve as drug experts and consultants to healthcare professionals in Connecticut. Many of our faculty colleagues were your students, and you served as their role models for becoming outstanding caring clinicians and teachers."

In addition to his skills as a teacher, Chapron is a living example of lifelong learning. He is an accomplished photographer, as well as an avid reader. The ink was barely dry on his retirement papers when he announced his intention to move on to a new challenge as the Medication Safety Officer at St. Francis Hospital in Hartford.

Neil J. Facchinetti, Ph.D., associate professor of pharmacy practice announced his decision to retire in the spring of 2008. As a mentor and teacher, he influenced thousands of pharmacy students for nearly 30 years. He is perhaps, best known for his pivotal role in creating the Patient Counseling Lab, which is focused on developing communications and counseling skills for pharmacy students. In dedicating their yearbook to him in 2008, pharmacy students wrote, "...Dr. Facchinetti showed us that pharmacy is about patients, not just science. He has instilled in us the ability to effectively communicate with and counsel our patients." P4 student Amelia Arnold adds, "Dr. Facch challenged us to rise above the pharmacist stereotype of 'count, lick, stick and pour.' It was in his counseling lab that we first began to practice our professional pharmacist counseling skills, and it was with his guidance that we began to learn compassion for our patients."

Perhaps because of his leadership role in teaching patient counseling skills, throughout his career, Dr. Facchinetti was also widely known for his interest in cutting edge technology and its use in developing students' communications skills. Under his tutelage, students have practiced patient counseling, videotaped and critiqued their skills, using the valuable feedback he provided to hone their skills. Best wishes to Dr. Facchinetti in all his future endeavors. ■



School of Pharmacy faculty and staff celebrated Dennis Chapron's career at a Retirement Luncheon held on August 27th. Pictured above are Associate Dean Andrea Hubbard [L] and Dr. Robin Bogner [R] with Dennis.

President's Message ~ Jacqueline Murphy '78



In the past, I have written about the changes in the practice of pharmacy, about the accolades the School of Pharmacy has received, and how the school has kept up with these changes in pharmacy.

This time I would like to focus on what I feel are the most important and best assets of the school – you, the alumni.

Every year at the annual banquet we honor three distinguished alumni in the fields of education, pharmacy practice, and industry. These three individuals have boldly left their mark on the pharmacy profession. That does not, however, begin to scratch the surface of the every day contributions, at a grass roots level, all pharmacists make to enhance our profession. Whether in industry, community, nuclear, hospital, or any other practice setting, you make an impact on the quality of life of your patients. Perhaps you caught an overdose, drug interaction, or allergy. You may have counseled your patient on how to adjust insulin doses or on pain management. Perhaps you were just there and listened for a few moments. You touched a life – maybe saved a life.

We, as pharmacists, sometimes get caught up in the mechanical side of our profession. We spend eons of time on the telephone with insurance companies, dealing with wholesalers, trying to complete necessary paperwork for proper documentation and payment, etc. Sometimes we lose sight of what is important to us and our patients.

If you are not fully utilizing your technicians to do much of the typing and counting, look to revamp your practice

to give you time to spend with your patients. Technicians I have worked with at many locations run the pharmacy, leaving me time to spend with my patients. A good technician is worth his or her weight in gold! Encourage your technicians to take the national certification test and reward them when they pass.

We should be proud of the profession we chose and our daily commitment to the patients.

The past six months I have had the privilege and opportunity to work with several members of the P1, P2, and P3 classes. These young students are bright, articulate, and will be great assets to their communities once out of school. What better way to pass the baton and encourage young students than to volunteer your time and expertise to teach them what you know.

The School of Pharmacy always needs volunteers in several of the practical lab courses, such as the P1 year communications course. There you help students begin to master the art of verbal (and non-verbal) communication with patients. One month rotations sites for the P4 students are always needed. In a community setting you can encourage young students to do in-store in-services, or get out into the community at senior centers and other locations. If you work in a specific disease setting, such as pain management or diabetes, it gives the students a chance to get hands-on experience working with that disease and really put their knowledge to work.

Involvement is the focus of the Alumni Association. Look for ways to enhance and grow the profession. As the unsung, unrecognized members of the profession, reach out to share your knowledge. Continue to teach your patients about their disease management with drugs and help teach the next generation of pharmacists. They will learn, and so will you. ■

From the Executive Secretary ~ Daniel C. L



While it is not January, with its cold weather and snow, here in Storrs it is the beginning of a new year. The students have arrived and there is activity on the campus after a summer lull. It is also the start of a new year for our pharmacy alumni association.

In May, we sent out a survey to those alumni for whom we have e-mail addresses to determine the extent of involvement of our alumni with the school and the association and the value of the pharmacy alumni association to alumni. Dean McCarthy and the association's board have been concerned about the low level of participation by alumni in pharmacy alumni activities. We sent the survey to over 860 alumni, received back about 200 as bad addresses and that made a net survey of about 660 alumni. Over 200 responded to the survey which is an excellent response. We are now in the process of analyzing the results. We have also put the survey on the school's webpage and would like to receive more responses. If you did not receive the survey or have not previously responded, please go to the www.pharmacy.uconn.edu and click on the survey link on the opening page. We hope that the results will give us important information about what you think about the association and how we can improve it. I would also suggest that you go to the school's webpage periodically to see what's happening here at Storrs.

The Homecoming Celebration football game will be held on October 25th when

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of our alumni and friends.

Martin J. Plukas '50
August 8, 2006

Dominic J. Abbruzese '65
May 13, 2008

Walter Dybowski '40
December 25, 2007

Richard A. "Dick" Wamester '61
May 16, 2008

Tina M. Dionne '86
October 17, 2007

Samuel S. Kalmanowitz '61
May 20, 2008

Shirley G. Ableman '50
March 25, 2008

James Patrick Connelly III '79
June 14, 2008

Lawrence V. Cammarato '69 MS
April 2, 2008

Dr. Robert W. Meschke '52
June 26, 2008

Richard A. Rosen '75
June 28, 2008

Samuel S. Kalmanowitz

Samuel S. Kalmanowitz, 68, husband of Virginia (Ginny) Correa Kalmanowitz, died suddenly at home on Tuesday (May 20, 2008) just ten days after receiving the University of Connecticut Medal and delivering the keynote address at the UConn School of Pharmacy Bachelor of Science Commencement Ceremony. Born in Meriden on December 30, 1939, he was the son of the late Milton and Rose Kalmanowitz. He was a member of Congregation B'Nai Abraham and was the former president from 1989-1991. Mr. Kalmanowitz served in the U.S. Air Force Reserve. He graduated from the University of Connecticut with a Bachelor of Science degree in Pharmacy, in 1961. Entrepreneurial from the outset, he began his 40-year career as a Connecticut community pharmacist by establishing his own business, Kaye's Pharmacy, in Meriden on October 1, 1963. He filled eight prescriptions on that first day. The pharmacy's original quarters soon proved too small for the growing business, and Kaye's moved across the street to larger space three years later. This began a repeated cycle of expansions and growing service that culminated in 2003 when Kaye's Pharmacy was processing nearly one thousand prescriptions per day for thousands of patients. In 2003, he retired and sold his business to CVS. Mr. Kalmanowitz has received numerous honors for his entrepreneurship. In 1990 he received the esteemed Bowl of Hygeia Award from A.H. Robins (now Wyeth) and was inducted into the Bowl of Hygeia Hall of Fame. In 1998 he earned an Independent Superstar by the national publication *Drug Topics*, as Kaye's Pharmacy was selected as the top independent pharmacy in the United States in 1998. In 1994 he received the University of Connecticut Pharmacy Alumni Association Award for distinguished service in pharmacy. In 2002 he received the Connecticut Pharmacists Association's Elan Pharmaceutical Award in Recognition of Innovative Pharmacy Practice. In addition to his contributions to the profession, Mr. Kalmanowitz was known as an active leader in his community, having served as chair of the Meriden Redevelopment Agency from 1988 to 1995. He led a project that redeveloped Meriden's downtown area and also served on the building committee for the town's new YMCA building. His civic contributions were recognized in 1997 when he was inducted into the Meriden Hall of Fame. Mr. Kalmanowitz was a recognized innovator in pharmacy technology, especially for his applications of the QS-1 pharmacy company system which has streamlined the dispensing of pharmaceuticals. He continued to share his expertise by consulting at the School of Pharmacy as well as with private businesses. He helped many students and practicing pharmacists maximize utilization of the latest technology and equipment in the pharmacy industry. Mr. Kalmanowitz was nationally recognized for his expertise in pharmacy technology and served on a number of advisory boards as a pharmacy consultant and advisor. A friend, advisor, and inspiration to the School of Pharmacy, Sam will be greatly missed by faculty, staff, students, alumni, and friends.

UConn plays Cincinnati. This year, we will be joining the UConn Alumni Association for our Homecoming get together. They will have a large tent outside Rentschler Field and tables will be reserved for pharmacy alumni. All of the tickets allotted for the School of Pharmacy sold out within the first week. It will be great to see our alums at the game!

We are already working on plans for the 2009 Annual Awards and Reunion Banquet. If you are a member of the class of '49, '59, '69, '79, '84, '89 or '99 and would like to help in arrangements for you class reunion, please contact me at 860-486-0244 or daniel.leone@uconn.edu. We do all the administrative work here but need alumni to help in turning out their class members. We will also be seeking alumni for distinguished alumni awards in academia, industry and pharmacy practice. If you would like to nominate an alumnus/a, you can contact me or go to the webpage for a nomination form.

When I speak to our alumni, many of them say that pharmacy has been good to them. I feel that way and I'm sure that you do too. I am asking you to give a little back to the school that started you on your road to success by volunteering to help on alumni reunions, volunteering to be a member of the association's board of directors, and by attending more pharmacy alumni events. Give me a call at 860-486-0244 or send me an e-mail at daniel.leone@uconn.edu if you would like to discuss this further. ■

Alumni Update

Allan Krasnow '59 is a pharmacist at CVS and plays saxophone in four bands. He is also a justice of the peace in Connecticut.

John (Jack) Rosazza '62 BS, '66 PhD has been named an honorary alumnus of the University of Iowa College of Pharmacy. He has been a faculty member since 1969 during which time he was an outstanding teacher and researcher. He is now professor emeritus and maintains a research laboratory at the UI Center for Biocatalysis and Bioprocessing.

Stanley Weisser '63 associate clinical professor of pharmacotherapy and outcomes sciences at the Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy in Loma Linda, CA was appointed to the California State Board of Pharmacy in November 2007.

James Wojnar '68 recently celebrated the 50th anniversary of Medical Pharmacy in Willimantic, CT. The pharmacy was established by the late Peter Beckish '54 and purchased by Jim in January 1985. He has been joined at the pharmacy by his sons, Chad, a pharmacist and Jason, a respiratory therapist.

John Aforismo '72 and his wife, Shireen, have opened the Silas W. Robbins Bed and Breakfast in Wethersfield, CT. Shireen works full time at the B&B and John still owns his medication information company.

Joyce Mordenti '75 BS, '83 PhD has been promoted to vice-president, Translational Medicine at Medivation Inc., a biopharmaceutical company with small molecule drugs in clinical development.

Michael Rubino '75 director of pharmacy services at Hartford Hospital, received the Paul G. Pierpaoli Award from the Connecticut Society of Health-System Pharmacists, presented annually to a pharmacist for outstanding service and dedication to the profession.

Tracie Ezzio '77 owns and operates Pepperell Family Pharmacy in Pepperell, MA.

Edward Sypniewski '80 was recently promoted to deputy director, Scientific Affairs, Medical Department at Bayer HealthCare Pharmaceuticals, Wayne, NJ. He received his Pharm.D. degree from MUSC in 1983 and served on the faculty of Virginia Commonwealth University Schools of Pharmacy and Medicine for ten years before joining Bayer in 1996.

Anthony Volpe '85 is director of pharmacy services for the State of Connecticut Southwest Community Mental Health System. He is an adjunct professor of pharmacy at UConn and an adjunct professor of organic chemistry at the University of New Haven. He lives in Orange, CT with his wife of 21 years and their two children.

Christian DeGeorge '94 married Melissa Peloquin on November 3, 2007. He is a pharmacy manager/pharmacist at Walgreens in Okeechobee, FL.

Prabhat Pokhrel '94 is a clinical faculty member in the Department of Family Medicine at the Genesys Regional Medical Center in Grand Blanc, MI.

Suzanne (Dube) Burrige '96 and her husband, Gary, welcomed twins Matthew and Samantha on November 16, 2007. Suzanne is a hospital pharmacist at Erie County Medical Center in Buffalo, NY. The family lives in Grand Island.

Kristina M. (Cambra) Yaylagul '97 writes that she married John Yaylagul (brother of Abdullah Yaylagul '99) in 2004 and moved to Buffalo as John finished up his residency in emergency medicine. They are now living in Connecticut and she has worked at various CVS locations since graduating. She is now enjoying raising their son, Michael (10 ½ months) and is expecting their second child in November.

Daniel Raboin '02 is living in Wheaton, MD and entered the Uniformed Services University, School of Medicine, class of 2012 in August.

Bryan Lentini '01, '03 PharmD and his wife, Kristin, announce the birth of their first child, Ashley Elizabeth on July 8, 2007.

Kenneth A. Angle '06 and his wife, Brie Barash were featured in the Love Story section of the Moments page of the Sunday Hartford Courant in April about their courtship and marriage. He is a staff pharmacist at the Hospital of Central Connecticut in New Britain.



Pat and Joe Krzanowski, Class of 1962, enjoyed their visit to the School of Pharmacy where they met Dean McCarthy.

Pharmacy alumnus Mike Guertin...

has discovered how to compound his love of antiques and pharmacy, with a touch of cutting edge eBay technology to arrive at the perfect prescription for an engaging hobby. Guertin has donated a number of items to the School of Pharmacy Library over the past few years, including a rare, first edition dispensary by Remington, the "father of pharmacy."

When Guertin, a retired hospital consultant moved to a new home, he decided to decorate it with memorabilia from the profession that means so much to him. He soon learned to search online sources like eBay to find interesting pharmacy items. A visit to Guertin's home reveals beautiful antiques from display cases filled with apothecary jars like his most recent purchase, labeled "Tincture of Opium Camphar", as well as many rare books. ■

Pharmacy Library Celebrates 70 Years of Service

By Sharon Giovenale and Liz Anderson

Celebrating the Pharmacy Library's 70th Anniversary seems the appropriate time to review the library's evolution from a room full of books into a 21st century learning facility. From its beginning in 1925 as the Connecticut College of Pharmacy in New Haven until 1938, the duties of the dean included serving as college librarian. In 1938, the library was moved from the dean's office to a well-lighted, larger space in a new building, and a full-time staff member was appointed to supervise circulation and cataloging of library materials. In July 1941, the Connecticut General Assembly enacted a bill creating the College of Pharmacy of the University of Connecticut, making the college an official part of the university. But the college remained in New Haven until 1951, when it moved to the Storrs campus and occupied space in former World War II barracks. The library was moved into the Rostov Building, a temporary classroom/office facility.

The Pharmacy Building was later named the Harold G. Hewitt building. The research wing was completed in April 1960. Grants from the National Library Resources Improvement Fund provided money to expand the library into two large rooms on the third floor. In 1972, new reading room furniture and carpeting were added and a self-instructional learning center was created in a former classroom on the first floor. The center included a media preparation room where the media specialist produced teaching materials. In the 1980s, the pharmacy librarian performed mediated database searches for faculty and graduate students on a personal computer, located down the hall from the library in a small alcove outside Dr. Ana Rother's office and laboratory. The summer of 1989 saw the refurbishment of the reading room. Teaching assistants were conscripted to move books, files, tables, desks and chairs into the main lecture hall and a nearby teaching laboratory. Cheerfully and energetically, the students moved everything out of the library in one day in May and returned everything on the last day before classes started in the fall. Upon completion of the renovations, the library provided its first end-user workstation, with Medline on CD-ROM and available exclusively to faculty and graduate students.

In the mid-1990s, four networked computers were installed to provide one-to-one instruction and search capabilities. For the first time, professional degree students were performing their own online research. The learning center evolved into a small computer laboratory, equipped with free, used computers obtained by an interested faculty member. These were steps in the right direction. But by 2000, the library and learning center were stretched beyond their ability to provide adequate resources for an increasing number of professional degree students and to meet the needs of a complex, data-rich environment and a computer literate clientele.

A School of Pharmacy Building Committee was convened in the fall of 1998, including faculty from the departments of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Pharmacy Practice and members of the staff, including the pharmacy librarian. The architectural firm of Davis, Brody Bond, of New York, was commissioned to design a new building to be located between the Babbidge Library and the School of Business. In October 1999, however, the proposed Pharmacy Building was relocated to the research science area and several biology laboratories were added to the plan. Thus the Pharmacy/Biology Building was born.

The new location required significant redesign, but the architects adjusted the plans to the new topography and added several much needed biology laboratories. In November 2000, Gilbane Building Company was selected as construction manager for the project. On June 14, 2005, the Pharmacy Library was the first unit of the School of Pharmacy to move into the new building. In contrast to the do-it-yourself move of 1989, professional movers with experience in both library and laboratory moves were hired to do the heavy work. Succeeding days and weeks saw the arrival of new furniture and equipment, a new security system, and various contractors performing the finishing touches necessary in a new building.



Students study in the library in the Pharmacy-Biology Building and often reserve group study space for project meetings. The library's extensive collection is used for research.

The new library is an inviting space and more than twice as large as the previous facility. A multitude of windows create a feeling of spaciousness in a well-wired facility. Seating is comfortable and attractive, with individual study lamps and convenient access to data and power. Four group study rooms, also equipped with data and power outlets, facilitate student group assignments, and an electronic classroom provides a venue for teaching technological and learning skills. The Pharmacy/Biology Building was dedicated on Friday, October 21, 2005.

On October 23, 2008, as a prelude to Homecoming Weekend, School of Pharmacy faculty, staff, students, and visitors will commemorate the library's 70th Anniversary. Speaker Mignon Adams, director of the J.W. England Library at the University of the Sciences in Philadelphia for twenty-two years, will give a presentation entitled Pharmacy and Libraries: A History of Collaboration. Under its original name, the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy maintained the earliest pharmacy library in the United States. Professor Adams was active for many years in the Library and Educational Resources section of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy, serving as chair of the section as well as on the AACP Board of Directors in 1998. She leads a national seminar for new college library directors each year, and has made many presentations at national and regional meetings.

A reception, birthday cake, and library tours will follow the presentation. Visitors are welcome to tour the new library at any time. ■

Naphthalene Research - More than Mothballs

On June 25-26, a group of some thirty scientists met to discuss health effect research on naphthalene at a meeting hosted by Professor John Morris at the School of Pharmacy at the University of Connecticut. Familiar to most of us from its use as moth balls, naphthalene is also present in many coal and petroleum derived products, including aviation fuel and creosote. Findings by the National Toxicology Program¹ revealed nasal and lung tumors in rodents exposed to naphthalene and have led to questions regarding the human significance of these findings. A five-year research program is underway at four research institutes including Dr. Morris's research on respiratory uptake.

The meeting, attended by scientists from academia, industry, the environmental protection agency, the United States Air Force, and the United States Army Corp of Engineers, provided a platform to share data, explore and establish further collaborations, and develop the ongoing research program. Dr. Michael Bird, distinguished scientific associate of ExxonMobile credited the School of Pharmacy's state-of-the-art facilities, in addition to event management services, with setting the stage for a very successful and productive meeting. "So much so," he quipped, "that while moths may beware, the group can very much look forward to returning to UConn in the future." ■

¹ Funded by the American Petroleum Institute, the Asphalt Institute, the Association of American Railroads, the Naphthalene Council, the Utilities Solid Waste Activities Group as well as a program funded by the Electric Power Research Institute.



Dr. Diane Burgess led a group of UConn students to Beijing for a Traditional Chinese Medicine course in the summer of 2008.

Traditional Chinese Medicine Course Offered in Beijing

The University of Connecticut has established a relationship with Peking University in Beijing, China to allow pharmacy students to travel abroad and study traditional Chinese medicine (TCM.) Led by Dr. Diane Burgess, professor of pharmaceutical sciences, the visit of the first delegation of UConn pharmacy students preceded the opening of the Beijing Olympics.

The relationship with Peking University School of Pharmaceutical Sciences provides the opportunity for University of Connecticut students to study TCM in the bustling Chinese capital under the tutelage of faculty from both universities. The students were able to see how western medicine and TCM can co-exist in the medical field. TCM focuses on the use of herbal medicine, acupuncture and massage therapy. UConn students enrolled in the program had the opportunity to focus on herbal medicine, which is gaining popularity. Students also visited herb farms, TCM factories, hospitals, and community practice sites where they worked with doctors prescribing and dispensing herbal medicines.

Students also had a chance to visit places such as the Great Wall of China, the Forbidden City, and the Summer Palace along with other destinations of interest. ■

Pfizer Distinguished Endowed Chair Co-Hosts International Conference

Professor Michael J. Pikal, Pfizer Distinguished Endowed Chair in Pharmaceutical Technology co-hosted an international conference entitled, "the Freeze Drying of Pharmaceuticals and Biologicals" in Breckenridge, Colorado in August of 2008. A noted authority on lyophilization, Pikal teamed up with colleagues from the University of Munich and the Center for Pharmaceutical Processing Research to present the latest research in areas such as materials characterization, formulation science, freeze dry process design and scale up, regulatory considerations, and process control. Additionally, the conference included panel discussions, student posters, and vendor exhibits.



UConn alums and graduate students attended the conference as well as the one day "Short Course" that provided the framework needed to actively participate in the conference.

Last held in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany in 2006, the conference attracts attendees from dozens of countries around the world, and provides scientists and practitioners a platform for networking and creative problem solving in the highly specialized field. ■

White Coat Ceremony

By: Sarah Kearns

In January 2008, third year professional [P3] students celebrated their White Coat Ceremony in the Lewis B. Rome Commons Ballroom. With more than 400 people in attendance, the atmosphere was relaxed and welcoming. Associate Dean Andrea Hubbard welcomed students, families, and guests saying that, "this is a traditional ritual that gives appropriate recognition to compassionate patient care and emphasizes the balance of excellence and science." Turning to the students she added "this ceremony is aimed to highlight the transition from your 3rd year to your 4th year and the professionalism you will need to remember throughout your rotations."

Dean Robert McCarthy welcomed the assembly and touched upon the importance of the White Coat Ceremony and how it has "become a tradition like commencement, and also symbolizes the students' formal entry into professional pharmacy". Dean McCarthy also stressed how the white coat is a constant reminder of their commitment to the patient. He reminded students of the oath of professionalism, they created and took as PIs and how it has prepared them to be outstanding pharmacists.

Following the dean, Jermaine Smith, a representative from the event's sponsor, Rite Aid, and Mrs. Edith G. Goodmaster, a member from the State of Connecticut Pharmacy Commission addressed the students. Both speakers wished the best of luck to the students in their future endeavors as pharmacists.

Dr. George Spratto, former dean of the West Virginia University School of Pharmacy and, current president of the ACPE Board of Directors was the keynote speaker. Dr. Spratto told the students that "the profession of pharmacy has changed from product-oriented inactive work to a patient-oriented active work setting." He went on to give the students methods to achieve their goals. Dr. Spratto says that "vision, persistence, thinking and acting

outside of the box as well as trust and commitment are ways to be perceived as a caring pharmacist."

"Vision is the ability to have forward thinking, and to instill excellence and confidence into others. Persistence is the ability to stay on course without distractions and to learn to be a survivor. Thinking outside the box means you have to be a risk taker and to think in innovative ways. Finally, trust and commitment is the highest level of professionalism that you want to share with your patient."

Dr. Spratto left the P3 students with many things to consider, including one of the Ten Commandments from Kent Keith. Dr. Spratto said the most important commandment to remember was "the biggest man with the biggest idea can be shot down by the littlest man with the smallest idea. So think big!" He continues in his own words saying that "we need people who can see a bigger world and profession beyond the status quo."

At the conclusion of Spratto's speech, the presentation of the coats began. Dr. Hubbard called each P3 to the stage, while faculty members Dr. Diane J. Burgess, Dr. David F. Grant, Dr. Philip M. Hritcko and Dr. Jennifer J. Lee, assisted them in slipping into their white coats. Once all the P3s had received their coats, they stood to face their proud parents and excited underclassmen while Dean McCarthy administered the AACP Oath of a Pharmacist.

The outer evidence of the White Coats will serve to remind students of their inner commitment to the highest levels of professionalism as they finish their last semester of classes and begin their transition to their advanced pharmacy practice experiences. ■



Student News Briefs

David Bolstad, a post-doc in the laboratory of Dr. Dennis Wright, has accepted a position as an assistant professor of chemistry at the University of Montana.

Tzipporah Kertesz, a graduate student in the laboratory of Dr. David Grant was awarded a 2008-2009 America Foundation of Pharmaceutical Education Fellowship.

Michael Lombardo, a PI student working with Dr. Amy Anderson has been awarded a Pharm.D. research grant for the spring semester. His proposal, entitled, "Drug-Target Interactions: Structure-Based Drug Design of Dihydrofolate Reductase Inhibitors" was chosen by a unanimous decision of the Honors and Undergraduate Research Committee. ■

Flu Are You?



Two professional program students, Amelia Arnold and Andy Zhang, volunteered with Edgar Albuja to operate a pharmacy within a pandemic flu alternate care site drill held at the Windham Regional Technical high school. The purpose of this drill was to create a plan to operate a care site for patients too ill to stay at home but not requiring hospital care in the event of a major flu outbreak.

Andrew Bzowyckj Elected APhA Member-at-Large

By: Sarah Kearns

The March 2008 national American Pharmacists Association meeting was held in San Diego, California. This year's theme for Friday night at the opening social for students was "Fire and Ice." UConn P3 student, Andrew Bzowyckj was running for election for National Member-at-Large, and had brought a few supporters from UConn to help him through the weekend. Andrew had made shirts for the occasion that read "Get FIRED UP over some HOT new ideas-Vote Andrew Bzowyckj for Member-at-Large." This message and other factors helped lead Andrew to victory.

Throughout the weekend Andrew attended many different meetings and interviews. He was one of seven candidates competing for only two spots. After the social on Friday, Andrew participated in meet-the-candidate sessions. One of these sessions included an open candidate review, where his platform was read and he had to answer two questions; one from the nominating committee and one from the floor (which could be from anyone about anything.)

What really set Andrew apart from the other candidates was the speech he gave the morning the vote was taking place. Amelia Arnold, a fellow P3, was one of the students who traveled out to San Diego to support Andrew in his campaign. She recounts his particular speech as "inspiring" and "showing that he had clear goals outlined for what he wanted to accomplish if he were elected."

On March 17, 2008 Andrew became the first UConn Pharmacy Student to be elected to a national office of APhA-ASP. Dean Robert L. McCarthy is thrilled with the accomplishment. "Andrew's election is the culmination of work to re-energize the UConn chapter that began with the efforts of our own Kevin Chamberlin when he was chapter president. Former student Rachel Sykes barely missed election as National President a few years ago; now, with Andrew's election, the UConn group takes another step in its development as a nationally-recognized chapter." ■



Congratulations Andrew Bzowyckj the first School of Pharmacy student to hold an APhA national office.

University Medal

Continued from Page 1

Kalmanowitz was an inspiration to all as he said, "I can forget about the wealth or fame; however, I can speak to achieving my desired outcome. That desired outcome was to build a great community pharmacy and serve my patients with the utmost care and respect and treat my employees as my equal and not to expect any more from them than from myself. I strived to engage in community service and to give something back to the school of pharmacy. I feel that I achieved this after 40 years of dedicated hard work, perseverance, foresight, some calculated risk taking, self education and keeping a pulse on all aspects of pharmacy." ■

Dean's Message

Continued from Page 1

when Provost Nicholls offered me a new five-year term. I enter the next half decade with as much enthusiasm and as many ideas as I did when I was first named interim dean. I am proud of what we have accomplished together, yet much remains to be done. My commitment to helping to make our school one of the premier schools of pharmacy in the nation has not wavered. I am confident that together we will achieve all we hope for. ■

GO GREEN & WIN CONTEST DETAILS

You can win the office set, or one of 20 other School of Pharmacy prizes, by sending us your e-mail address and updated contact information e-mailed or postmarked by December 31, 2008. Your next issue of **Prescriptives** will arrive via e-mail unless you indicate in the body of the e-mail that you prefer to continue to receive a paper copy.

Enter by e-mailing us at: pharmacymco@uconn.edu with the subject line **CONTEST**. Be sure to include the following information:

Name, Address, City, State, Zip Code, Telephone Number, E-mail Address, Degree(s), and Year of Graduation.

For those without e-mail, send in a completed "What's New With You" form [found on page 15] to:
UConn School of Pharmacy, Office of Marketing & Communications
69 North Eagleville Road, Unit 3092
Storrs, Connecticut 06269-3092.

Pharmacy Major Dawn Belden: Student, Soldier, Singer

By: Kate Mather

The pouring rain that beat down on the UConn campus didn't seem to faze PI student Dawn Belden as she entered the Pharmacy/Biology Building the afternoon before Valentine's Day. Despite the fact that she was completely soaked through, she still managed to smile and be upbeat. She had to be. Her juggling act includes managing her involvement with the all-female a cappella group the Chordials, her demanding pharmacy coursework, a 6:00 AM workout [three times a week], a two-hour military science lecture and a three-hour lab that her ROTC program required of her each week. As Dawn put it, she simply had "no time to *not* be productive" and the miserable weather was not going to slow her down.

Dawn spent a large part of her childhood being dedicated to music, taking both piano and singing lessons, so when she entered college, she saw no reason why this dedication should stop. Although she eventually decided against getting her degree in music and voice, her membership in the Chordials has continued to strengthen her love of singing. "I have met a lot of people through [the Chordials] and many of my friends are from there," she says. She has been singing ever since she can remember, and when asked whether singing will be part of her future, Dawn replies with a definitive "absolutely."

While Dawn has focused a large part of her energy on music, she has always been interested in working in the healthcare field. Her brother, a pharmacy student at the University of Rhode Island, turned her on to pharmacy after he described to her how much he loved his program. While Dawn was excited about the idea of becoming a pharmacist, she wasn't quite sure of what she was getting herself into. She admits that she was surprised by the difficulty of her coursework, but knowing that the program will only continue to toughen, she says "I am willing to work hard at it." As of yet, she holds no specific interest in any particular area of pharmacy but does see herself becoming a pharmacist in the army.

While it seems that Dawn has already spread herself thin with her classes and the Chordials, she continues to push herself further. In addition to her heavy course load and all the events she must attend as a Chordial, she is in the ROTC [Reserve Officers' Training Corps.] This program, which will make her an officer in the U.S. Army once she graduates, includes several intense workouts each week and also requires a weekly two-hour class and three-hour lab. "I have to schedule every hour of every day," Dawn says of her busy schedule. She "like[s] all the independence [of college.] My mom always used to schedule all of my appointments, but now it's fun to be out on my own."

Dawn was the soloist at both of the School of Pharmacy commencement ceremonies in May, singing the National Anthem in front of over 800 people at each ceremony. When asked if she feels confident about her future performances, "definitely!" she says. "I love testing myself, seeing what I can handle." It seems Dawn has tested herself on multiple levels, and she always seems to hit the right notes. ■



Education, Advocacy and Treatment

Nine students and two staff members from the School of Pharmacy met with the public to provide information on medication interactions as well as do blood pressure and glucose screenings at the Task Force on Oral Health for Older Adult Education, Advocacy and Treatment (EAT) Program at the Legislative Office Building in Hartford on March 5th. During the course of the day the students did 81 blood glucose and 87 blood pressure screenings. ■

Did You Know...

School of Pharmacy students regularly volunteer for outreach and service projects, conducting blood pressure and glucose screenings, working at migrant clinics, and raising funds for a variety of charities?

SEND ME IN FOR A CHANCE TO WIN

SEE GO GREEN & WIN DETAILS ON PAGE 14

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: _____

Prescriptives is Going Greener

By: Elizabeth Anderson

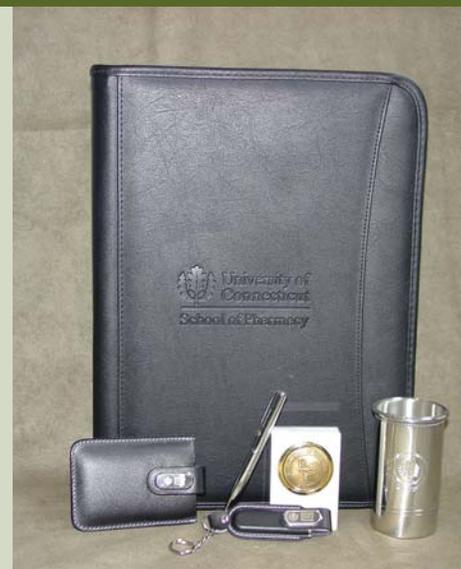
It's time to look at the tassel that hung upon your mortar board and notice the color – green! Over the coming years, the Office of Marketing & Communications will be evaluating ways to “green” the school's publications. You may find a different look and feel to our communications. One thing that is sure to come your way within the next year is an electronic version of our newsletter. Not only are an increasing number of people requesting news in this format, it is one small way that we can reduce paper usage, saving the planet and a few dollars along the way.

I Don't Want 4,000,000 E-mails!

The School of Pharmacy will send electronic issues of newsletters and announcements of special events. You can opt out at any time.

But I Want a Paper Copy!

Limited editions of **Prescriptives** will still be printed for those who prefer to receive a paper copy. These readers can still help us to “green” up by keeping their mailing address up to date. When mail is returned to the office, the school incurs the initial printing cost, the processing and mailing cost, in some cases the cost of receiving an address change from the post office, the cost of time to try to locate a more current address, and – if we find it – the cost of mailing out a (usually new) piece to the correct address. So help the school by keeping all of your contact information up to date.



GO GREEN & WIN ME

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