

# Prescriptives

School of Pharmacy News

## Board of Trustees Establishes the Henry A. Palmer Professorship in Community Pharmacy Practice

Reprinted from the UConn Advance with updates by Elizabeth Anderson



The UConn Board of Trustees has established a professorship in community pharmacy practice in honor of Henry A. Palmer, a popular teacher, scholar, and mentor in the School of Pharmacy for more than 40 years. The Henry A. Palmer Professorship was created in recognition of Palmer's extensive scholarship in community pharmacy and patient care. His teachings have prepared many generations of pharmacy students for their vital day-to-day role in community pharmacies across the nation. Dr. Palmer attended a reception in his honor to celebrate the professorship, prior to his death in late May.

The University of Connecticut Foundation, Inc. and the School of Pharmacy received more than \$756,000 from donors to support the professorship. A committee of alumni volunteers is pursuing additional gifts this year in order to raise the minimum \$1.5 million needed to establish an endowed chair in Palmer's honor. Robert McCarthy, dean of the School of

Pharmacy, says the professorship will help the Department of Pharmacy Practice recruit a nationally renowned scholar and researcher to the faculty. McCarthy says he hopes to fill the position in the coming months. "The School of Pharmacy has been around for nearly 85 years," says McCarthy. "If you look at those eight plus decades, two individuals have really dominated the history ... It was Dean Harold G. Hewitt in those first 40 years. And in the past 40 years, Henry Palmer has been that dominant person. You just hear his name again and again as someone who has had an effect on students and faculty."

Palmer began his career in the School of Pharmacy in 1958 as a graduate teaching assistant while he completed his master's degree (1960) and Ph.D. (1965). He was named assistant dean in 1979, clinical professor in 1981, and associate dean in 1985. From 1988 to 1996, Palmer served as director of the School's Alumni Association. Palmer received the Distinguished Alumnus Award in 1999 and the first Distinguished Emeritus Faculty Award in 2004.

After retiring from teaching in 2000, Palmer continued to serve as clinical professor emeritus and director of the School of Pharmacy's Office of Continuing Education for a number of years. "I never would have imagined such an honor would be bestowed on me," Palmer said. "This honor clearly reflects on the support of my family throughout my teaching career, as well

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## A Message from the Dean



Dear Friends:

Like everyone else, the difficult financial times have been a significant challenge for us this academic year. I am grateful to our exceptional leadership team and the support of our students, faculty, and staff for their commitment to ensuring that we don't waver from the high standards of professional and graduate education that have been the hallmark of our school for nearly 8 ½ decades. Just below the dark cloud of budgetary challenges, our students and faculty have continued to shine brightly. Thanks to their efforts, we will emerge from this trial an even stronger and more dynamic educational and research institution.

While we have had challenges on the financial front, we have also had successes. Our outstanding faculty continued to bring in sizeable grants and we have successfully endowed the Dr. Henry A. Palmer Professorship in Community Pharmacy Practice. We were lucky enough to celebrate this milestone with Hank and his family before his passing at the end of May. Donations in his memory continue to be received and it is hoped that we will be able to raise the additional funds needed to endow a chair in his honor.

Inside this issue of Prescriptives, you will find information on how UConn President Mike Hogan is matching new scholarship dollars with his "Presidential Challenge." Here at the School of Pharmacy, we'll be establishing the Dean's Society to recognize our donors.

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# Presidential Challenge Announced for Scholarship Funding

By: Karen Grava

Storrs – President Michael J. Hogan recently announced a new Presidential Challenge program to raise \$100 million in private funding for scholarships and graduate fellowships at the University of Connecticut. As an incentive to donors to participate in the program, Hogan said the President’s Challenge Fund will use existing university scholarship funds to match the spending allocation of all newly established scholarship and fellowship endowments generated by private funds at a rate of \$1 for every \$1 over four years. An endowment is a permanent fund that preserves principal and uses a portion of earnings to annually support the scholarship. It also matches contributions for non-endowed scholarship or fellowship funds with 50 cents for every dollar given. The value of the match is that it is an incentive to donors who wish to have a scholarship or fellowship offered in their name and couple their gift with an institutional award. To qualify for the program, endowed gifts must be at least \$25,000, and annual gifts must be at least \$10,000.

President Hogan said he is pleased to work with the UConn Foundation to put this new scholarship and fellowship fund into place precisely as the need for financial aid is increasing. “Students and their families, like everyone else, are being hit hard by the current economic challenges. Given the important role of higher education in catalyzing economic development, we need to seek ways to protect their access to UConn, one of the nation’s top public research universities.” “The President’s Challenge demonstrates to prospective donors, alumni and other friends that the university stands ready to partner with them by matching private donations that enable us to fulfill our academic mission,” said Robert McCarthy, dean of the School of Pharmacy. “The university can’t meet its mission without private support. When that support is matched by an investment on our part, we are able to make a significant commitment to assisting our students. I applaud President Hogan for his efforts to support our students especially in these difficult financial times.” ■

## The Rock is Back

Adapted from UConn’s The Currents

The rock sitting at the corner of North Hillside Road and Alumni Drive is painted by individuals and student organizations. It was first painted in the 1940s and became a coveted tradition among students. The original rock was removed for construction of the Life Sciences building in 1958, but a portion of it was relocated to North Hillside Drive where it was painted for the next 40 years, then moved to storage after the UConn 2000 construction project. During Homecoming, The Rock was officially welcomed back to campus with a special ceremony. Our own Kappa Psi Nu Chapter as well as Pharmacy Student Government took their turn painting The Rock this year. ■



## Dean’s Society Established

The University of Connecticut School of Pharmacy is one of the preeminent pharmacy schools in the country, recognized as an outstanding national leader in education and research. Private support by our alumni, friends, and corporations provides invaluable assistance to the school, the students and the faculty, and strengthens School of Pharmacy Endowment.

The combined gifts from our alumni and friends help us reach our goals and continue our strong standard of excellence. The Dean’s Society is a special community of the School of Pharmacy’s donors who support the dean’s vision and goals through their annual gifts to the school.

The Dean’s Society is for alumni who graduated less than five years ago and make a pledge of \$1,000 per year for five years; and for alumni who graduated five or more years ago and make a pledge \$2,000 per year for five years. Your commitment must be fulfilled within five years.

Recognition as a member of the Dean’s Society includes; recognition on the Dean’s Society Donor Wall, special invitation to the annual Dean’s Society Reception at the Jorgensen Performing Arts Center, preferred seating at school events, and special recognition on the school’s website and in the annual report.

The School of Pharmacy wants to work with you to ensure your gift is a rewarding investment for you. There are many ways to make a gift to the school including; planned gifts, property and real estate, securities/stock, gifts-in-kind, endowments and outright gifts. Contact Lisa D. Brown, assistant director of development for the School of Pharmacy, at 860-486-9342 or via e-mail [lbrown@foundation.uconn.edu](mailto:lbrown@foundation.uconn.edu) to find out more about the Dean’s Society or to make a tax-deductible gift. ■



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](mailto:liz.anderson@uconn.edu).

## Representative Joe Courtney Speaks to Pharmacy Students

By: Laura Blackburn

Storrs — Representative Joe Courtney engaged pharmacy and nursing students, faculty, and staff as he spoke about the future of healthcare and the current Medicare crisis to Tom Buckley’s Public Health and Healthcare Policy (PHRX 3050) class in November. He urged students to get involved in the current politics of healthcare saying, “This will affect you for as long as you are in the profession.” Rep. Courtney also congratulated UConn pharmacy and nursing students for their hard-science approach to healthcare and for their innovative involvement in education as well as in healthcare professions.

On the heels of the recent election, the issue of healthcare reform is incredibly important—reform policies have already been introduced by Sen. Kennedy (MA) and Sen. Baucus (MT). Rep. Courtney says that Obama will target healthcare reform in his administration and that it is a pervasive issue across the nation. During campaigning Courtney heard from the public directly through town hall-style meetings and said, “At every single one of those town hall meetings, healthcare was always at least number two if not the number one issue on people’s minds.” Rep. Courtney has made healthcare a priority in his legislation as his first speech given on the House floor was about Medicare reform.

Rep. Courtney went on to speak about the current Medicare and prescription drug crisis, connecting current events in healthcare policy to the course material. The Medicare system was created in 1964 under similar political circumstances as today. Courtney hailed the creation of a federally-funded medical program as “a great step forward for our country. It transformed people’s lives.” Now the entire system is facing new challenges as a result of the changing face of healthcare. Advancements in primary care and prescriptions drugs have cut the necessity for in-patient hospital services, which was initially the central aspect of Medicare coverage.

Although the Medicare system and private health insurance companies are faced with new problems, Rep. Courtney stressed that reform is possible and that students must be actively involved in the political process in order to have their voices as future healthcare professionals heard. He described the Medicare “donut hole” gap in coverage, which leaves many people who are enrolled in the program paying almost 100% of drug cost out-of-pocket expenses on top of the monthly premium. Since a large portion of healthcare professions treat people who are enrolled in Medicare, any reform in policy will affect future professionals. There, however, have been federal programs that have been economically successful in extending the umbrella of coverage, including HUSKY (a children’s healthcare program) and ConnPACE (a senior and disabled citizen healthcare and prescription plan).

According to Rep. Courtney, 47 million people in the United States are without health insurance and small businesses are undercovered or uninsured; the lack of insurance leaves these people vulnerable to bankruptcy and other forms of financial hardship due to expensive medical bills. Further, our federal healthcare programs are vastly inefficient, with 16% of our nation’s GDP going towards funding Medicare and Medicaid. Rep. Courtney thinks healthcare reform will be a target of the Obama administration that sees health insurance as a question of justice and a basic human need.

After speaking to the audience about current events in healthcare policy, Rep. Courtney took questions from the audience. One student asked about how Courtney would respond to the naysayer who thinks healthcare reform would be too expensive. Rep. Courtney answered, “We are currently overspending in terms of public healthcare programs.” He maintains that there are certain efficiencies that can be accomplished, like covering more people with comprehensive coverage that is at least



Representative Joe Courtney speaks to Tom Buckley’s Public Health and Healthcare Policy (PHRX 3050) class in November.

comparable to other developed nations; tobacco tax would take care of funding needed parts of the system. Also, Rep. Courtney thinks that extending coverage to all children would be the “best healthcare dollar you can possibly spend” because these children will eventually become productive, contributing members of society.

Dr. McCarthy, dean of the School of Pharmacy, asked Rep. Courtney what pieces of healthcare reform he would put into a plan. Courtney said he would first seek to define what healthcare is and who should be covered. From this fundamental question, politicians could begin to deal with the chopped-up system of health insurance and deal with the problems caused by current insurers’ risk avoidance strategies that take pre-existing conditions into account. Rep. Courtney said his plan would include a blend of public and private programs and that the reform should not create one large and complex system.

PHRX 3050 is one of the first classes in the new pharmacy curriculum and seeks to give its students the opportunity to learn about political processes that affect how their professional life will play itself out. Students and faculty were given a unique opportunity to hear first-hand from a politician about what opportunities for reform are just over the horizon. Courtney closed his talk by thanking students for their wonderful participation in advancing the healthcare profession and urging them to get involved on the political side. ■

# Faculty News Briefs

**Dr. Brian Aneskievich** delivered a platform presentation entitled “Will the Cycle Be Unbroken? Nuclear Receptor Regulation of a Corepressor’s Expression” at the Cold Spring Harbor Nuclear Receptors: Bench to Bedside Conference.

**Dr. Ben Bahr** recently became a member of the University of Connecticut Stem Cell Institute, the European Task Force on Brain and Lysosomal Neurodegenerative Diseases, and a member of the Editorial Board for the journals *Neurochemical Research* (Springer Netherlands) and *Rejuvenation Research* (Liebert publishers, NY). He was a symposium organizer/chair at the annual Experimental Biology Meeting in Washington, DC, where his postdoc received the 2nd place ASPET Postdoctoral Scientist Award.

Dr. Bahr also was an invited speaker at Northeastern University’s Department of Chemistry/Center for Drug Discovery Seminar: “New Ideas from Compensatory Responses for Treatments against Brain Diseases” in Boston, MA; Telethon Institute of Genetics and Medicine (TIGEM) Seminar: “Lysosomal Enhancement Reduces Cellular and Behavioral Changes in APPSwInd and APPswe/PS1dE9 Mice” in Naples, Italy; Brains for Brain Workshop on Brain and Lysosomal Neurodegenerative Diseases: “What Can We Learn from Non-LSD Diseases that Share Cellular Accumulation Events?” in Frankfurt, Germany; the 27th CNC Conference: “From Brain Slices to Animal Models: Chasing Novel Treatments Against Excitotoxic Brain Damage and Alzheimer’s Disease” in Limassol, Republic of Cyprus; the 9th International Conference on Alzheimer’s Disease Drug Discovery: “Testing of New Lysosomal Modulatory Drugs for Reducing Tau Aggregates and Other AD-Related Changes” in New York, NY; and the Connecticut Chapter of the Society for Neuroscience Seminar: “From Brain Slices to Transgenic Mice: Developing Lysosomal Modulators to Offset the Cellular and Behavior Alterations in Alzheimer’s Disease.”

**Dr. Urs Boelsterli** received a research grant from Helsinn Healthcare S.A. for a project on the role of reactive intermediates in nimesulide-induced hepatotoxicity.

**Dr. Bodhi Chaudhuri** has been selected as a reviewer for the *Journal of Chemical Engineering Science*. Dr. Chaudhuri’s undergraduate student from chemical engineering, Robert Yau, has been selected for the “Travel to Present Research Grant” from the Office of Undergraduate Research (OUR). He won first place for his poster titled: Experimentally Validated Numerical Modeling Study of Mixing in a Coating Pan, at the Annual Meeting of American Institute of Chemical Engineers in Philadelphia, PA.

The ACCP Board of Regents has named **Dr. Craig Coleman** the recipient of the 2009 ACCP New Investigator Award at the ACCP Awards Session at the International Congress on Clinical Pharmacy in April 2009. This award recognizes a college member with less than six years since completion of training whose research program is especially noteworthy in its theme and productivity. Dr. Coleman also presented a lecture during the conference.

**Dr. Megan Ehret** appeared on Fox 61 News to discuss herbal supplements. In addition, Dr. Ehret, with Dr. Deborah Shelton from the School of Nursing, has received an UCHC/Storrs and Regional Campus Incentive Grants for their proposal entitled, “The Effect of Psychotropic Medication Dosing on Symptom Control for Inmates Diagnosed with Bipolar Disorder.”

**Dr. M. Kyle Hadden** has joined the faculty as an assistant professor of pharmaceutical sciences in the medicinal chemistry discipline.

**Dr. Sean Jeffery** and pharmacist Nancy Kastner were selected by the UConn School of Pharmacy “Class of 2008” as the recipients of the Dennis J. Chapron Preceptor of the Year Award. Dr. Jeffery also was appointed as an adjunct assistant professor at the Yale School of Medicine.

**Dr. Effie Kuti** has been invited to serve on the board of *The Annals of Pharmacotherapy* effective February 2009.

**Dr. José Manautou** has been touring the world as part of his Society of Toxicology’s AstraZeneca Travel Lectureship Series in Europe. He visited AstraZeneca R&D Global Headquarters in Södertälje, Sweden; Zurich University Hospital in Switzerland; and Solvo Biotechnology in Budapest, Hungary. In a second trip, he traveled to the Centre d’Immunologie de Marseille-Luminy in Southern France, Coimbra University in Portugal and AstraZeneca in Alderley Park, Cheshire, England.

Dr. Manautou is the principal author and chair of a symposium entitled, “Regulation of Drug Transporters in Different Disease States and its Toxicological Implications” that was part of the 2009 Society of Toxicology Meeting Annual Meeting in Baltimore, MD. Dr. Manautou also has been elected to the Board of Directors of the Academy of Toxicological Sciences.

**Dr. John Morris** was appointed to the National Academy of Science/National Research Council Committee on Emergency and Continuous Exposure Guidance Levels for Selected Submarine Contaminants; the Society of Toxicology Scientific Liaison Task Force; and the State of Virginia Inhalation Toxicology Advisory Committee; the U.S. EPA, Peer Review Panel for Propionaldehyde. Dr. Morris also chaired the public hearing on the risk assessment document. In addition, he serves on the editorial board of *Inhalation Toxicology*.

**Dr. Lauren Schlesselman** has been elected chair-elect of the AACP Curriculum Special Interest Group.

Alumnae **Dr. Marie Smith** and **Marghie Giuliano ‘75** presented the CMS/CT DSS E-Prescribing Medication Information Exchange Project at the 4th National Medicaid Congress on June 2<sup>nd</sup> in Washington, DC. Dr. Smith also was invited to speak at E-Prescribing 2009: Promises and Pitfalls, a joint meeting of the Connecticut Pharmacists Association and the Connecticut State Medical Society. In addition, she made a presentation entitled, “Medication Adherence Programs in the Era of E-Prescribing and Health Information Exchange” at the CBI Patient Medication Adherence and Compliance Forum, in Las Vegas, NV.

## Future Faculty

**Dr. Fei Wang**, presented “A Holistic Approach to Smoking Cessation” to the Connecticut Osteopathic Medical Society 2009 Annual Meeting in Groton, CT.

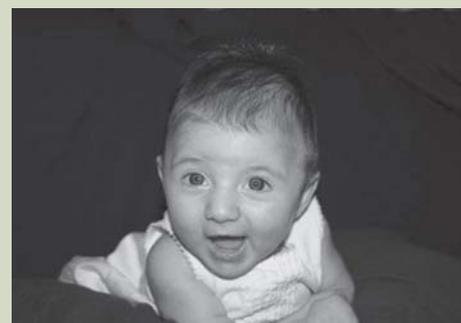
**Dr. C. Michael White** and **Dr. Craig Coleman** are the recipients of the 2008 ASHP Foundation Literature Awards in the category of Drug Therapy Research for “Impact of Statin Dosing Intensity of Transaminase Creatine Kinase.” Drs. White and Coleman also presented a well attended Satellite Symposium at the Association of Managed Care Pharmacy (AMCP) Meeting in Orlando, FL on “Using Meta-analysis for Clinical Decision-making.”

Alumna **Ripple Talati, Pharm.D. '07**; Kurt Reinhart, Pharm.D.; C. Michael White, Pharm.D.; Art Sedrakyan, MD, Ph.D.; Jeffrey Kluger, MD; Craig I. Coleman, Pharm.D. submitted a study “Do the Benefits of Post-Operative Beta-Blockade Outweigh the Harms in Patients Undergoing Non-Cardiac Surgery?” to this year’s American Heart Association Meeting. It was selected as one of AHA’s best and was presented as an oral presentation and included in a live press session.

Dr. White was selected to participate in reviewing grant applications for the National Heart Lung and Blood Institute - Clinical Trials Review Committee (CLTR).

**Dr. Dennis Wright** and **Dr. Amy Anderson** have a new ROI grant: “Targeting Bacillus DHFR: Structural and Synthetic Studies.” Dr. Wright, along with Jennifer Tirnauer from the Center for Molecular Medicine, has received an UCHC/Storrs and Regional Campus Incentive Grants for their proposal entitled, “A High Throughput Screen (HTS) to Identify Novel Anti-Cancer Agents.” ■

During the past academic year, our faculty members welcomed some new additions to their families. Send us your baby photos\* and you may see them in an addition of Aspiring Alumni.



[Pictured Above] Dr. Craig Coleman '01 and wife Stacey, along with big sister Julia age 9 and big brother Ethan age 2, welcomed Isabelle Rose to the family.

[Pictured Above] Drs. Amy Anderson and Dennis Wright, along with big brother Evan, welcomed Dean to the family.



[Pictured Above] Dr. Sean Jeffery '95 and his wife Teresa Seo welcomed Emilia Soojin to the family.

[Pictured Above] Dr. Kevin Chamberlin '03 and wife Annik [Carrier] Chamberlin '04, along with big sister Grace age 3, welcomed Gavin William to the family.

\*High resolution [300 dpi at the finished size of 2½ inches wide] photos should be sent to [pharmacymco@uconn.edu](mailto:pharmacymco@uconn.edu). Be sure to include your (and your spouses if applicable) graduation year as well as the correct spelling of everyone’s name.

## Palmer Chair

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as the many students with whom I’ve had the pleasure of being involved as a teacher, colleague, and friend.” McCarthy says the response from donors so far has been impressive. “Folks have just readily wanted to participate. They were more than happy to give,” he says. “That’s the kind of person that Henry was.”

The new faculty position will focus on all aspects of community pharmacy practice, including patient care, medication management, research, statistical analysis, and consultations with health care providers. “More important than personal honor is what this chair means to the School of Pharmacy and how it will impact on pharmacy practice,” Palmer said. “I’m happy to know there is going to be an exclusive focus on community pharmacy practice and patient care in the future with a dedicated professorship or chair.”

He noted that candidates for the position will have successfully demonstrated the skills to create and evaluate innovative approaches to patient care. “Research demonstrating the value of the community pharmacist in today’s health care system will result in more beneficial and safer patient care,” Palmer added. “Additionally, practicing pharmacists and students will benefit from the resources this faculty chair will provide.” ■

# Kathleen Cameron A Leader in Long Term Care

By: Laura Blackburn

When Kathy Cameron began her education at UConn's School of Pharmacy over two decades ago, she never imagined the impact she would have on the profession, let alone in the daily lives of members of her community. She has had many changing roles over the course of her career, including community pharmacist, geriatric pharmacy researcher, and serving as director for the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists (ASCP) Research and Education Foundation. Cameron's hard work and contributions towards improving and expanding geriatric care were recognized at the School of Pharmacy Alumni Association's 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Alumni Awards and Reunion Banquet, where she was honored with a Distinguished Alumni Award. The honor seeks to recognize career accomplishments and contributions to the profession and to the School of Pharmacy.

Cameron's dedication to improving and expanding health care services to senior patients began during her work as a community pharmacist. Her pharmacy education at UConn taught her valuable communication and clinical skills and gave her the confidence to interact with people on a daily basis, especially older adults and their caregivers who comprised over half of the patients she saw day-to-day in the pharmacy. There is a great need for pharmacists who are familiar with the unique needs of the senior population, especially in terms of medication management and their concerns of balancing several medications at once. Because she felt so in tune with the needs of her older patients, Cameron maintains, "I felt I could make a difference for these people."

After attending Yale University and receiving her Masters of Public Health, Kathy began focusing on ways in which she could improve the availability and quality of services for older adults still residing in the community. "My work in pharmacy and public policy really grounded me in geriatric care," says Cameron of her career commitment. While at Yale University, her thesis focused on medication use and risk of falling among community-dwelling older adults, which applied her interest in research and public policy, and her background in pharmacy.

She is currently working on several long term projects aimed at improving and expanding long-term care services for older adults, particularly medication management. With the enormous demographic changes as a result of the aging of the population, the need for long-term care services for older adults is growing rapidly. Many services that had been previously available only in nursing homes have moved into the community, taking the shape of assisted living communities and other home and community-based services. Geriatrics, however, is still an area in which many community pharmacists are not specially trained. "Assisted living is a new frontier for pharmacists and the need in this setting is tremendous," says Cameron. Many assisted living residents have multiple chronic conditions, memory impairment, and are taking many medications, which are similar features to nursing home populations. Assisted living staff, unlike nursing home staff, often does not have the same background and expertise in how to optimize care for senior patients managing several medications at once. Also, there is very little oversight of medication use, monitoring, and education of staff and residents. This scenario provides a much needed role for pharmacists in assisted living.

Kathy serves as the chair of the Board of Directors for the Consumer Consortium on Assisted Living (CCAL), a national non-profit consumer-based organization focused on the needs, rights, and protection of assisted living consumers and their family members. As part of her work with the consortium, she has applied her expertise in medication management in research projects and educational activities to improve the outcomes of medication use among assisted living residents.

In her most recent work with the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists (ASCP), she has developed products like policy and procedure manuals, tool kits, and education programs that will be offered to community pharmacists. The goal of these projects is to extend care and understanding of the special needs of an aging population that is still active within the community. Increasing the number of pharmacists trained in geriatric pharmacy is an issue that Cameron will continue to work on by getting more and more pharmacists



Kathleen Cameron '87 was honored by the School of Pharmacy Alumni Association as a Distinguished Alumni in practice, along with Dennis Chapron '71 in the field of academia, and Kerry Blanchard '94 in industry. Paul Kramer was named as a Distinguished Emeritus Faculty.

involved and excited about providing specialized geriatric care, no matter where the pharmacist practices.

Additionally, when Medicare Part D prescription drug benefit went into effect in 2006, the confusing system of eligibility left many older consumers wondering which medications were covered and which were not. Working with the National Council on Aging (NCOA), Cameron contributed to Benefits CheckUp, an online tool that provides, explanations of Part D and other benefits, and guidance on which prescription plan to use to fit each elder's unique needs, ensuring that older patients were getting the most out of their prescription benefits.

After a long career with ASCP, Cameron is in the process of starting her own senior care consulting business, balancing her desire to provide top quality patient care with the flexibility she needs as a mother. She expressed her enthusiasm saying, "I have always been interested in the community level of patient care." This area of pharmacy, thus, is where she feels she can make an impact in the daily lives of senior members of her own community. Cameron Senior Care Services will focus on both geriatric care management and medication management, a unique combination of services that seeks to improve care for older adults living at home. Cameron will connect senior

clients, often just out of the hospital or transitioning to an assisted living situation, with agencies tailored to their specific needs. She also will provide her clients with counseling on the combinations of medications they are taking, checking for drug interactions, educating them about their medications, and generally helping them with the optimization of their medication therapy. As for her changing roles in geriatric pharmacy Cameron reflects, "throughout my education and career I was working from a big picture perspective and I learned a lot. Now I am on an individual patient level and working to make a difference for seniors living in my community."

It is this shift to a more local perspective that Kathy Cameron acknowledges as the driving force behind really making a difference in the lives of older people. She began working with the ASCP at a time when the organization was transitioning to a broader approach in geriatric care, getting more pharmacists to serve the elderly in communities. Traditionally, ASCP members worked in nursing homes, so this move to a community-based approach drastically extended the umbrella of specialized care and was an exciting moment for Cameron, who saw her mission of optimizing geriatric care expanding in new ways. She worked on projects that adapted pharmacy practice in the community and incorporated specific areas of concern for senior patients. Like her most recent work with ASCP, this involved developing educational programs for pharmacists to understand how to deal with older adults, and getting pharmacists excited about providing these important services. Cameron also worked with students while at ASCP, which is something she hopes to eventually incorporate into her own business by offering a rotation site for pharmacy students. She says of her commitment to expanding and improving geriatric care, "with the aging population there is such a need for more effective health care services. I try to do anything I can to help, including getting more people involved."

Her hard work and care for those underserved in her community was honored when Cameron received a Distinguished Alumni Award. She explains that the award signifies a confirmation of her accomplishments saying, "it is a

tremendous honor and important validation of the things that I feel are important in pharmacy." Of course, Cameron has been vastly influenced and inspired by people with whom she has come into contact, especially during her time at UConn's School of Pharmacy. She points especially to the motivation that Elliott Tertes, a UConn graduate, pharmacy owner in Connecticut, and former board chair of ASCP Foundation, inspired within her. She says, "he is an amazing friend and has been a great mentor for me." Another of Cameron's mentors is former faculty member Dr. Henry Palmer, whose profound impact on her she can still feel today. "He made pharmacy exciting for me" and taught the practical aspects of pharmacy like communication and how to interact with patients, skills that she attributes as the motivating factor in advocating for older patients. She also expressed the importance of acknowledging faculty members who are doing important work in the field of geriatric pharmacy, Sean Jeffery, Kevin Chamberlin, and fellow Distinguished Alumni Dennis Chapron, and to encourage them to forge ahead in making a difference in the lives of older patients.

Kathy Cameron has been enormously successful in making a difference in the lives of older adults living in the community. Her passion and talent in caring for a population with unique medical concerns will ultimately work towards improving pharmacy practice as a whole and the community at large. ■

## Dean's Message

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We are continuing to tighten our belts and trim spending wherever possible. One way you can help is to sign up to receive this newsletter via e-mail. See page 9 for details. Alumni have stepped up to support our students with attendance at the Alumni Banquet and to attend the APhA Meeting. We appreciate all of you who have supported us during these trying financial times. Thank you from all of us here at the School of Pharmacy. ■

## Amelia Arnold ~ NCPA Presidential Scholar

By: Lauren Silber

Visiting the University of Connecticut during an exciting time of renovation, Amelia Arnold heard of the new School of Pharmacy building and knew UConn was the place for her. Coming from a small town in Maine, Arnold was ready to experience a large university.



The School of Pharmacy encouraged Arnold to continue exploring her interest in medicine and the human body while challenging her academically. Amelia made great strides in the pharmacy program and was recently named the recipient of the 2008 National Community Pharmacists Association [NCPA] Presidential Scholarship.

After reading about the Presidential Scholarship in her NCPA bulletin, Arnold felt qualified and began working with Peter Tyczkowski, the School of Pharmacy's educational outreach coordinator, to complete the required application materials. Arnold compiled a scholarship application form, a copy of her most recent official transcript, her resume, a letter of recommendation from Tyczkowski, a letter of recommendation from a local pharmacist from her home town, and a personal letter to the NCPA Foundation Scholarship Awards Committee outlining her qualifications. Arnold's involvement in the NCPA, the American Pharmacists Association], as well as her activity in Pharmacy Student Government, Phi Lambda Sigma Pharmacy Leadership society, and Rho Chi Pharmaceutical Fraternity set her apart from other applicants. Arnold's work as a Community Assistant [CA] in the pre-pharmacy living-and-learning community in the Towers Residence Hall helped to develop leadership qualities in the pharmacy community. In the position, Arnold worked to create a comfortable living environment for her residents, providing resources and advice as her pre-

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## President's Message ~ Jacqueline Murphy '78



At last spring's Board meeting, Dean McCarthy asked the question, "Why do we have an Alumni Association?" As you know, in the past the school has helped to underwrite such alumni events as the pharmacy tent at the Annual Homecoming Weekend and the annual Alumni Reunion and Awards Banquet. We have also attempted other programs such as the Alaska Cruise and CE/ Women's basketball game. It has become obvious that, besides the banquet and homecoming, these types of alumni events are NOT what you, the pharmacy alumni, want.

So in an attempt to find out what you do want from your association, the Board put together a survey that went out to alumni. Dan Leone has talked about the results of the survey in an earlier newsletter.

The most interesting finding to me is that many alumni thought the cost of joining the association too much! Annual dues are \$25.00 or you can become a life member for only \$250.00. When you consider your average hourly wage, this is a steal!!! And if you become a life member early in your career, you will save money over the life of your membership. When you consider the Pharmacy Alumni Association supports the School of Pharmacy through scholarships, etc. and compare these annual dues to other state and national organizations, you would have to agree that this is a true bargain.

That being said, the Alumni Association started a committee, headed by Elliott Tertes to develop the association into something more than what it is and to help fulfill its mission statement. At a

recent meeting of the committee discussion centered on several topics. These included conducting outreach programs (brown bag, medication review, educational talks, etc.) and involving more pharmacists in the educational process of the school's students. Both of these activities tie into our mission, help the School of Pharmacy, and extend pharmacy practice beyond the confines of the pharmacy counter and the "count, pour, lick, and stick" days of yore. We are also looking at ways to have more communication between the association and alumni through an interactive website. You, our members, are key to all of the activities the association would like to do. To stay connected, please send your e-mail address to Dan Leone. If you have any suggestions or ideas for outreach programs with which you would like help, please contact the board or Dan.

The past two years have been educational for me. From concern that the association may disappear during my presidency to helping to lead the association in a new direction, the experience has been an eye opener. I wish Ellen and her officers the best of everything while continuing to take the Pharmacy Alumni Association in this new direction.

Lastly, I would be remiss if I did not mention Donna Fournier's passing. She was the only female faculty member at the school when I was a student. As a result she was a mentor and role model for many of us. She will be missed. ■

## From the Executive Secretary ~ Daniel C. Leone



The buzz words everywhere are "electronic communication." Like everyone else, we are also trying to get more involved with this mode of communication. We have available to us the school's webpage which gives you up to date information on the school and the happenings here. We also want to expand our use of e-mail to contact alumni. Of the over 4000 alumni in my database, I have e-mails addresses for about 700. I would like to expand the list so that we can have quicker access to our alumni. Also, the school's Office of Marketing & Communications would like to expand their e-mail list so they can send the newsletter to those who would prefer an electronic format. I promise that I will only send you information about pharmacy alumni activities, CE programs and other important school activities. If you would like to be added to my e-mail roster, please send me an e-mail ([daniel.leone@uconn.edu](mailto:daniel.leone@uconn.edu)) with your name, address, class year and e-mail address. If you would also like to get the school newsletter by e-mail, make a note of that in your e-mail to me and I will notify Liz Anderson in the Office of Marketing & Communications.

Last December, I was approached by the Pharmacy Student Government and asked if alumni would be willing to provide financial support for students attending the 2009 American Pharmacists Association annual meeting. The students had been running events to raise funds but needed additional support. I sent out an e-mail to alumni asking for \$100 contributions to sponsor a student. The return was most gratifying and the students were thrilled with the response. Twenty-five alumni

donated \$3250. Listed in a separate box on this page are the names of the donors. Special thanks go to all of them.

We are already looking forward to Homecoming which will be held on Saturday, October 17th at Rentschler Field in East Hartford, CT when the UConn football team will take on Louisville. Last year, we joined with the UConn Alumni Association and participated in Homecoming at their tent. It was a very successful event. This year we are planning to do the same. Watch for further information in the fall and check our website for updates.

Our annual awards and reunion banquet continues to be the highlight of the pharmacy alumni year. This year we returned to Storrs and held the event on May 2nd at the Lewis B. Rome Commons Ballroom in South Campus. It gave us the opportunity to have an open house at the school so that returning alumni could tour our beautiful building. While the turnout was less than we anticipated, an enjoyable time was had by all. For 2010, we will probably go off campus again. If you are a graduate of any class ending in a zero, starting in 1950, and would like to be more involved in the reunion of your class, send me an e-mail at [daniel.leone@uconn.edu](mailto:daniel.leone@uconn.edu).

It would not be a successful column if I did not remind you of two things. First, please help us keep our mailing lists up to date and provide us information for our Alumni Update section by using the What's New With You? form in this newsletter, the electronic form on the alumni section of the website, or e-mail me any address changes or updates. Second, if you have not paid your 2009 dues, please use the dues form in this newsletter to send it in. We really need your membership dues so that the association can continue to provide support to the school. Alumni paying annual dues will receive a membership card. ■

## A Little History.....

Saul W. Eudowe '43

Here's a little history about a family with a pharmacy background. In the 1930s my father, Harry M. Eudowe, had a pharmacy in New Haven, CT. He then took a course in medical clinical laboratory in New York. After finishing this course, he opened a professional pharmacy and medical laboratory in New Haven, CT. He obtained his BS degree from Ohio State and his MS in forestry from Yale University. He taught biochemistry at the College of Pharmacy on York Street in New Haven, CT while still running the store and lab.

I graduated from the College of Pharmacy in 1943, worked as a chemist at US Rubber Company for 4 months, then volunteered for the draft to the army. I was hoping for pharmacy duty but the army had its own plan and put me in a medical training camp. Upon completion, I went overseas to the 82nd airborne division as a medic attached to the glider and parachute regiments. I had only a little opportunity to use my pharmacy skills such as making cough syrups and ointments.

While in Berlin, a few of us pharmacists heard about a chance to go to England work in a hospital pharmacy. We were there for about 4-5 months. The war ended and I went home and married my sweetheart, Edith. The day after we returned from our honeymoon, my father died and I took over his pharmacy and laboratory and ran it for 40 years. A medical lab bought me out and I worked for them as a director then retired and moved to Florida.

I had a sister Marcia who graduated from the pharmacy program at UConn in 1944 or 1945. My son, Harry M. Eudowe, graduated UConn pharmacy school in 1969 and went on to become endodontist in practicing in both Old Saybrook and Madison, CT. I thought this would be of interest to some pharmacists of the past. I am Saul W. Eudowe BS, Class of 1943. My wife, Edith, and I have been together for 63 years. You can reach us at: 15921 Loch Katrine Trail, Delray Beach, FL 33446 or e-mail us at: [maandpae@comcast.net](mailto:maandpae@comcast.net). ■

## Go Green & Win

Thanks to all who participated in the Go Green & Win contest in our last edition of Prescriptives. By supplying your e-mail address and accepting an e-mail link to our online newsletter, you've helped us save over \$1500 on this issue! If you haven't gone green yet but want to join us, drop us an e-mail at [pharmacymco@uconn.edu](mailto:pharmacymco@uconn.edu) or check off the "Green Me" box on the "What's New With You" form. ■

Grand Prize Winner ~ John C. Gregor

### Runners-Up

Austin Bebyn	Pamela Healey
Robert Bianchi	Lisa Hekeler
Guy F. Boisse	Jeffrey Judson
Frank M. Boskello	Ruth LaCasse
Kathleen Colosi Brodsky	Carl B. Laverdiere
Brad Curtis	Kimberly Lenz
Siminka J. Davis	Kim Parker-Girard
Jacquelyn Delhaie DeSantis	Anthony Sciallo
Lester Dober	Bruce Sill
Tom Finan	Milton Smirnoff
Laura Giannini	

## Alumni Support APhA

Special thanks to the following alumni and friends who provided support for students attending the APhA annual meeting.

Allan D. Anderson '62  
 Marta Brooks '87  
 John A. Capuano '73  
 Barbara H. Deptula '78  
 Deborah J. Faucette '80  
 Christopher Fortier '03  
 V. Michael Guertin '66  
 Cynthia Huger '75  
 Ellen S. Jennings '88  
 George Kirkpatrick '71  
 Daniel C. Leone '53  
 Richard Lostritto '76  
 José A. Manautou  
 Stephen Mieczkowski '73  
 Jacqueline Murphy '78  
 Karl A. Nieforth  
 Roland A. Patry '70  
 Erica Peitler '88  
 Edward Schreiner Jr. '82  
 Mukhtar Shihabeddin '84  
 Edward N. Silver '49  
 Rachel Sykes '05  
 Janet L. Thomson '83  
 Alan D. Traster '71  
 Joseph Valigorsky '60

# Alumni Update

**Naomi Bernard '46** was presented with a Special Recognition Award at the ASCP CT Senior Symposium for her dedication to consultant pharmacy and her influential role in its beginning. In the early 60s, she was instrumental in writing guidelines for consulting pharmacy along with a committee she helped form. The guidelines were later partly adopted by the federal government.

**Ronald Abrahams '63** has received the Paul Pierpaoli Award for 2008 from the Connecticut Society of Health System Pharmacists.

**Robert Dana '63** is senior vice president, Regulatory Affairs and PDA Training and Research Institute for the Parenteral Drug Association in Bethesda MD. He is responsible for developing and maintaining all PDA's education programs, including identifying course needs, recruiting instructors, managing the education staff and maintaining the TRI facility. He also continues to serve as the regulatory authority and contact point with external regulatory organizations for PDA. He is married to Claire (Millington), UConn BA '63 and they have 2 children and 6 grandchildren.

**Stanley Hem '65** was placed in the spotlight in the Spring 2009 issue of the Purdue Pharmacist. The article announced that a Stanley L. Hem Pharmacy Scholarship has been established at the Purdue School of Pharmacy. He has been a member of the faculty at Purdue since 1969 and has received many honors for his teaching and research. In 2004, he was named a Distinguished Alumnus by the UConn Pharmacy Alumni Association.

**Robert J. Krueger UConn BS '71, U Iowa Ph.D. '75**, professor of pharmacognosy at Ferris State University College of Pharmacy, was named the 2009 University Distinguished Service Award recipient for his service to the local, university and national communities.

**Robert A. Wollenberg '75** was named the 2008 Daniel C. Leone Pharmacist of the Year by the Connecticut Pharmacists Association.

**Mukhtar Shihabeddin MS '82, Ph.D. '84** sent holiday greetings to all pharmacy alumni from Amman, Jordan where he is director general of ACDIMA.

**Thomas E. Buckley '82** received the 2008 Wyeth Bowl of Hygeia Award at the New England Pharmacists Convention. Tom also was selected, by the UConn Alumni Association Board of Directors, as the recipient of the 2008 Humanitarian Award for his work at the Mae Sot Clinic in Thailand. Last fall Tom joined the School of Pharmacy as an assistant clinical professor of pharmacy practice.

**John Jurczyk '84** is vice president of ambulatory care services at Saint Anne's Hospital in Fall River, MA. He lives in East Greenwich, RI with his wife, Karla, and son, Christopher.

**Christopher Beecher, Ph.D. '86** has taken a new position as professor of pathology, College of Medicine, University of Michigan.

**Jason Virelli '92** has been promoted to corporate vice president, Strategic Planning and Business Development, Baptist Health South Florida, a Fortune 100 Best Company to Work For, providing quality care for patients in Miami, Ft. Lauderdale, and the Florida Keys. Jason and his wife, Traci, have lived in Miami for 9 years and both work for Baptist Health South Florida.

**Susan [Marchessault] Strong '95** writes from East Amherst, NY that she has been employed by Walgreens since 1996, is married to Mark Strong and they are expecting their third son in April.

**Mariah [Harmon] Patterson '02** and her husband, Daniel, welcomed their first child, a son Donovan Clayton on January 8, 2009.

**Alexandria [Piotrowski] Dunleavy '03** married her husband, Mark, in 2006, had

a daughter, Hannah Jane, in September 2007 and a son, Andrew Joseph, in January 2009. She has been working at Wal-Mart Pharmacy on per diem.

**Heather [Lucey] Upchurch '07** married David Upchurch. She is an assistant professor of pharmacy practice at MCPHS in Worcester, MA.

**Kimberly [Walter] Boothe '06** married Richard Boothe on October 25, 2008, relocated to New York, and is working for Bayer in New Jersey as deputy director, Medical Education and Investigation Sponsored Studies.

Elected officers of the Connecticut Pharmacists Association at their annual meeting in October were **Meghan Wilkosz '03**, President Elect; **Emmett Sullivan '93**, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President; and **Dr. Lydia Borysiuk '05 [Hon]** as Treasurer.

**Alison Smith '07** is pleased to announce her engagement to Nicolas de Vazeille. An October wedding is planned. Alison is a pharmacist with Target Pharmacy in Gainesville, VA. ■



## Life Members

Welcome to the following alumni who became Life Members in 2008. Life membership is available to any alumnus/alumna upon payment of \$250 dues.

Dexter P. Blois  
Beth Bonaiuto  
Karen A. Cyr  
Wennis Demetirus-Wilson  
Joyce R. Kamanitz  
Rosemarie E. Koch  
James B. LaFlamme  
James V. Mastroiani  
John E. Michniewicz  
Angela M. Nizzardo  
Mariah H. Patterson  
Christopher Rubino  
Michael Szweczyk Jr.  
David Twitchell  
Frank Wynn Jr.

# In Memoriam

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

**Robert A. Lucchini '53**  
December 15, 2007

**Harold Pevner '36**  
January 2008

**Leonard C. Clymer '57**  
June 24, 2008

**Russell Griswold '51**  
October 10, 2008

**Jane (Ingliss) Pacelli '55**  
October 16, 2008

**Frederick E. Coleman '57**  
October 30, 2008

**Gerard J. Roy '55**  
November 1, 2008

**David Sharasheff '48**  
November 9, 2008

**George J. Kalinowski '55**  
November 24, 2008

**Adam E. Eglin '53**  
December 1, 2008

**Zigmund Karkowski '58**  
December 9, 2008

**G. Philip Lehrman '50 '56**  
December 11, 2008

**Richard Foote '04 (Hon)**  
January 17, 2009

**Maurice Beaulac '58**  
March 18, 2009

**Stephen C. Marcham '76**  
March 19, 2009

**Melvin S. Wrubel '53**  
April 19, 2009

**Andre St. Germain '61**  
May 7, 2009

**Lisa (Fallano) Kamm '95**  
May 11, 2009

**Milton Smirnoff '46**  
June 5, 2009

**Donna Jean (Gray) Fournier** passed away on November 12, 2008 from complications due to cancer. She graduated from UCONN in 1962 as a University Scholar, with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Zoology/Biology and received her Ph.D. degree in 1969. She joined the faculty of the University of Connecticut School of Pharmacy in 1973 and distinguished herself as an outstanding educator. She was a rigorous and demanding teacher dedicated to high academic standards, and she felt particularly gratified on those occasions when she was voted "Teacher of the Year" by her pharmacy students. In 1995, Professor Donna Fournier was appointed associate dean for academic affairs in the School of Pharmacy. The period of her tenure as associate dean was one of intense academic activity encompassing the planning and development of the then new Doctor of Pharmacy degree program, the accreditation of the program and the admission to the School of Pharmacy of the first Doctor of Pharmacy degree candidates in 1997. Throughout her career, Professor Fournier maintained a research program and mentored undergraduate, masters and doctoral-degree students in her laboratory. She took great pride in the accomplishments of these students, and she derived great satisfaction in seeing her efforts as an educator rewarded as they went on to careers as pharmacists, physicians, scientists, and teachers.

During her career, Donna served on many academic and administrative committees and was a member of the University Senate. She also served briefly as interim director of the University Honors Program. Donna retired in 2002, forty four years after joining the UConn community as an undergraduate student.

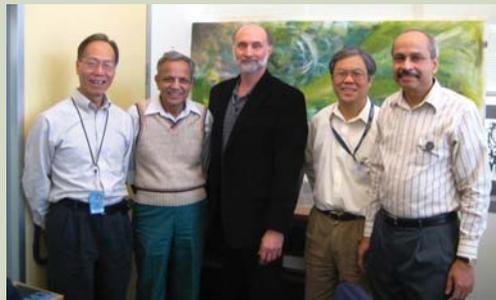
**Henry A. Palmer**, loving and devoted husband of 50 years to his best friend and high school sweetheart, Janice Stuart Palmer, passed away on May 23, 2009. He earned his graduate degree in pharmacy at the Albany College of Pharmacy and moved to Storrs to pursue graduate studies at the University of Connecticut School of Pharmacy, receiving his M.S. and Ph.D. His 42-year teaching career at UConn began as a teaching assistant and ended with his retirement on January 1, 2000 as a clinical professor and associate dean. His teaching focused on the areas of prescription compounding, non-prescription medication and consumer education. His love of teaching the science of pharmacy as it applied to practice was rewarded in many ways, not the least of which were the many awards for teaching excellence and concern for students bestowed by his students. He was also dedicated to providing consumers, from school children to senior citizens, with information on medications to assure their proper and safe use. A scholarship named for him was initiated in 2000 by the Connecticut Pharmacists Association and an annual Continuing Education program was named for him in 2002 by the School of Pharmacy. He was an active member of many state and national pharmacy and health-related organizations and was a past-president of the Connecticut Pharmacists Association. Several of these organizations honored him with awards in recognition of his contributions to the practice of pharmacy. He was a consultant to pharmaceutical companies, government agencies and health-related institutions and he pioneered the development of several methods of medication use for consumers. After his retirement as clinical professor emeritus, he continued his affiliation on a part-time basis for the School of Pharmacy serving as its director of continuing education. In April 2009, the Board of Trustees established a Professorship in Community Pharmacy Practice in his name.

# The FDA's Office of New Drug Quality Assessment

## School of Pharmacy Alumni Serving the Public Health

By: Rik Lostritto '76

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is the federal agency that has a dual mission to both protect and promote public health. Largely through the review process of Investigational New Drugs (INDs) and New Drug Applications (NDAs), the agency helps assure that safe and effective drug products become (and remain) available to the American public.



Pictured [from left to right] are School of Pharmacy alumni Thomas Wong '77, Srikant Pagay '73, Rik Lostritto '76, Andrew Yu '76, and Amit Mitra '80

The Office of New Drug Quality Assessment (ONDQA) serves the agency's public health mission by assessing the chemistry, manufacturing, and controls (CMC) section of INDs and NDAs during the pre-approval review process. This includes the active ingredient(s), excipients, formulation, manufacturing, packaging, stability, new drug product performance (e.g., release from the dosage form), and portions of the drug product labeling. In its role in the multidisciplinary drug review process, ONDQA chemists work collaboratively with physicians, pharmacologists, toxicologists, pharmacists, statisticians, FDA lab personnel, and compliance inspectors assigned to a given IND or NDA application. ONDQA also has regulatory authority over many post-approval CMC activities such as changes in manufacturing methods, formulation changes, labeling, etc. Thus, ONDQA is directly involved in the CMC aspects of a drug product from its beginning to its end.

As part of its responsibility, ONDQA contributes to the science-based drug review process with the regulated industry through written guidance documents, other publications, public workshops (e.g., with trade and/or scientific organizations), and sponsor meetings with drug company personnel over specific products under review. ONDQA consists of approximately one hundred chemists with diverse backgrounds; including pharmaceuticals, pharmaceutical chemistry, medicinal chemistry, analytical chemistry, chemical engineering, and more. Several UConn School of Pharmacy alumni proudly serve the nation's public health through ONDQA. These include:

**Richard (Rik) Lostritto**, Ph.D., B.S. Pharmacy 1976 and Pharmaceutics Faculty 1983-1992

**Amit Mitra**, Ph.D., Pharmaceutics 1980

**Srikant Pagay**, Ph.D., Pharmaceutical Science 1973 and Post Doctoral Fellow 1973 -1975

**Thomas Wong**, Ph.D., Pharmaceutics 1977

**Andrew Yu**, Ph.D., Pharmaceutical Science 1976

For more information, see the agency's website at:

[www.fda.gov/opacom/morechoices/mission.html](http://www.fda.gov/opacom/morechoices/mission.html)



UConn alumna Deborah Cios, Pharm.D. '08 [pictured second from left] receives the ASHP Foundation Student Literature Award for her work with Dr. Craig Coleman [pictured second from right].

Cios, who is a native of Rocky Hill, CT, is a pharmacist with a Pharm.D. degree at the University of Connecticut. Her research on the impact of study-level factors on warfarin control was published in the journal *Journal of Clinical Pharmacy and Therapeutics* by L. Baker, Pharm.D., Stephen P. Sander, Pharm.D., and Deborah Cios, Pharm.D.

Cios' article reported the results of her research on warfarin control in patients whose warfarin levels were monitored in anticoagulation clinics versus patients who were continually monitored to make sure they are receiving the correct dose.

She found that on average, patients were in a therapeutic range when they were monitored in anticoagulation clinics as opposed to patients who were not. This study plays in medication management and medication therapy management, and that students can make a significant contribution to the field of pharmacy.

## Amelia Arnold

Continued from Page 7

pharmacy students began their first year at the university. As a CA, Amelia was commended for her work when she received the university-wide 2006 Jackie Seide Outstanding Community Assistant Award.

Upon notification of her honor as the NCPA Presidential Scholarship recipient, Amelia traveled to Tampa, Florida with her then preceptor, UConn alumnus Angelo DeFazio '85, to accept the award. During the weekend in Tampa, Amelia heard numerous presentations and participated in workshops. Arnold spent time with other winners and discussed the differences and similarities between their schools of pharmacy and NCPA chapters. The most thrilling workshop, according to Arnold, was focused on the NCPA Business Plan Competition. The

## UConn-Trained Pharmacist Wins ASHP Foundation 2008 Student Literature Research Award

Winning paper was authored while a student at University of Connecticut

Bethesda, MD – Deborah A. Cios, Pharm.D., has been named the recipient of the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) Research and Education Foundation's 2008 Student Literature Research Award. The award is one of five that are awarded annually as part of the ASHP Foundation's Literature Awards Program. The awardees were formally recognized during the 2008 ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting that took place in last December in Orlando, FL.

The Literature Awards Program honors important contributions to the literature of pharmacy practice in hospitals and health systems. All Literature Award recipients exemplify excellence in research and writing that foster improvements in the medication-use process, pioneer new uses of technology and pharmacy personnel and promote the pharmacist's role in patient care. The Literature Awards Program was established in 1970, and has recognized more than 400 pharmacy practitioners for excellence.

pharmacy practice resident at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, MA. She earned her Doctor of Pharmacy at the University of Connecticut's School of Pharmacy where she researched and wrote her winning article, "Evaluating the impact of pharmacist-led clinical trials in United States-based clinical trials: A meta-analysis." The article was co-authored with William Arnold and Craig I. Coleman, Pharm.D.

project, which studied patients taking warfarin, a blood-thinning agent. Cios looked at patients in anticoagulation clinics, physician offices or during clinical trials. "Patients who are on warfarin have to be monitored closely to give them the right dosage that is going to be most therapeutic for them," said Cios.

therapeutic range 57% of the time; however, that percentage was higher for patients who were seen in physicians' offices. "I believe my study emphasizes the important role that pharmacists can play in anticoagulation therapies, such as anticoagulation," Cios said. "This award is important to me because it shows the value of research and can help in the advancement of the pharmacy profession." ■

competition allowed students from around the country to use their imaginations and pharmacy backgrounds to develop a business plan for their own independent pharmacy. The excitement culminated during the award presentation where Arnold accepted the NCPA Presidential Scholarship which was donated by Covidien, Inc. Arnold was thrilled, feeling "honor[ed] to win" and to be recognized by "so many people in the field."

Arnold continues to promote community pharmacy in her work through the School of Pharmacy. She is grateful to be part of a tight-knit learning community that combines a big university feel with an intimate classroom setting. Amelia's work at the School of Pharmacy has provided her with the opportunity to learn and develop as a pharmacist. Arnold will continue her studies in a Community-Based Residency Program. ■



School of Pharmacy Librarian Sharon Giovenale, Dean Robert McCarthy, Alumnus Herman Lurie, and Assistant Director of Development Lisa Brown during a visit in November. Mr. Lurie said, "We were totally amazed at how magnificent the new pharmacy school is. We are excited that we have chosen to donate my pharmacy artifacts and memorabilia collection to the school where it will be displayed in such a fine setting."

## University of Connecticut Pharmacy Alumni Association

### Officers 2007 -- 2009

#### President

Jacqueline Murphy '78

#### Vice President

Ellen Konspore '79

#### Secretary

Donald Zettervall '79

#### Treasurer

Austin Bebyn '86

#### Executive Secretary

Daniel C. Leone '53

### Board of Directors

#### Term Expires May 2009

Robert Dana '63

Sherman R. Gershman '51

Keith Lyke '92

Edward Sklanka '74

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#### Term Expires May 2010

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Margherita Giuliano '75

V. Michael Guertin '66

Jennifer Judd '04

Karen B. Rubinfeld '87

David St. Germain '98 '03

#### Term Expires May 2011

Edgar Albuja '93

Robert J. Bianchi '61

John Capuano '73

David J. Cooper '75

Alicia A. Gudaitis '01

George J. Perchak '81

William P. Ward '66

#### Student Representatives

Brian Bachyrycz '10

Carlie Hershgordon '11

## UConn Wins First Pepto Bowl

By: Laura Blackburn

Uncasville — Last September pharmacy students, faculty, and practicing pharmacists met at Mohegan Sun Resort for the 4<sup>th</sup> annual New England Pharmacist's Convention, organized by the Connecticut and Massachusetts Pharmaceutical Associations (CPA/MPA). The first day of the convention, held on September 18<sup>th</sup>, included a full day of continuing education events for both students and practicing pharmacists and the opportunity to network with fellow pharmacy colleagues across Connecticut and Massachusetts.

The highlights for UConn's School of Pharmacy were the keynote address, which was sponsored by the School of Pharmacy's *Henry S. Johnson Memorial Lecture* and the Pepto Bowl, in which our own students participated.

Rebecca Snead, Executive Vice President and CEO of the National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations (NASPA), gave the keynote address entitled, "Join the Quest for a Single Vision in Pharmacy Practice: The Implementation of the JCPP Model," which detailed the changing roles of pharmacists over the next seven years. The JCPP Model serves as an action plan to ensure that pharmacy practice keeps up with other areas of healthcare that are rapidly changing. It considers how pharmacists can change their practice to become an integral part of medication therapy apart from simply delivering medication and involves the learning of both students and pharmacists at the state level to improve the quality of practice across the country.

Snead emphasized, "Significant gaps exist between the goal of optimal drug therapy and the current state of medication use in the United States." In order to remedy these gaps, Snead believes it is necessary to be individually empowered and repeated the mantra, "How will you make sure your peers operate on a higher level?"

The goal of the JCPP Model is for the customer to acknowledge the need for a

medication expert and for the pharmacist to be seen as a significant part of the healthcare continuum. These changes will be completed by 2015 and seek to improve three critical areas: the practice model, payment policy, and communications. Specifically, the model explicitly defines the role of pharmacists and emphasizes the individual responsibility for ensuring optimal medication therapy outcomes. The model also gives pharmacists the ability to charge for their medication advising services and more strongly incorporates pharmacy into the field of healthcare.

In closing the address, Snead repeated the desire for a pharmacist who is personally accountable and individually motivated to advance the profession. She finished, "The community wants a pharmacist that's going to be a partner in their healthcare system."

After wrapping up the Keynote Address Snead introduced the Pepto Bowl, a Jeopardy-like competition testing knowledge of over-the-counter drugs and interactions. Five schools of pharmacy across New England competed in the competition, including the University of Connecticut, University of Rhode Island, Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences—Worcester-Manchester, Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences—Boston, and Northeastern University. Two P3 or P4 students and one non-faculty alum pharmacist made up each team and were responsible for coming up with an answer collaboratively—our own Renee Larouche and Sarah Hooker served on the UConn team with alumnus Jeff Messina '83. When an answer was debatable the authority for a right or wrong answer went to the judges table, headed by Dean McCarthy.

UConn won the first round pick of questions and the ability to choose from five categories, including "Little Ones," a category about children's medicine and dosage and "Mix-Ups," a category about harmful drug interactions. Soon into the game a fierce competition emerged between UConn and URI—both teams often reacted first and second to



Congratulations School of Pharmacy students, Renee Larouche and Sarah Hooler, and alumnus Jeff Messina '83 for winning the first Pepto Bowl. The trophy is on display in the Interview Room in the Pharmacy-Biology Building.

increasingly difficult questions. The point values ranged from 100-500 points, with difficulty increasing with point value.

Going into the second round UConn was in second place with 800 points, just behind URI with 1300 points. The moderator asked questions like, "What is a comedo?" (Answer—a pimple.) Other questions involved drug dosages, over-the-counter birth control and efficacy of vitamins. The audience was excited and engaged—people quickly filtered in and the room filled up for the competition. Toward the end of the second round UConn won the second bonus question to take the lead over URI, which energized members of the audience who were from UConn.

During the final round, the moderator asked one question and each team was given a certain amount of time to wager points and write their answer to the question. The final question, "a carminative botanical supplement has been noted to increase the risk of hypoglycemia and alter platelet function at dosages of or over 1 gram/day," stumped all teams. The teams came up with either Ginkgo Biloba or garlic, both of which are incorrect—the correct answer being ginger. UConn's wager was enough to keep them on top of the competition and claim the Pepto Bowl, which will stay at the university until next year's competition. ■

## Student News Briefs

### Doctor of Pharmacy Students

**Dr. Diana Sobieraj** and the student chapter of **APhA** applied for a \$2,000 grant sponsored by APhA and HRSA to perform comprehensive pharmacy services at a 340B entity. The students, at the APhA meeting, were notified that UConn won a Project CHANCE award.

**Amelia Arnold** received the President's Award Scholarship at the NCPA annual meeting.

**Andrew Bzowickyj** and **Jennifer Schoelle** won the graduate student category for the University of Connecticut Excellence in Outreach & Public Engagement Award.



Jessica Hoover at the ASHP Annual Meeting.

While on rotation with Dr. Effie Kuti, **Jessica Hoover** [P4] conducted medication reconciliation for her internal medicine team. The poster entitled, "Approach to medication reconciliation: quality improvement project" conducted by Jessica, Dr. Kuti, and Grace Jenq, MD was presented at the ASHP Student Poster Session at the annual meeting.

Student **Kevin Luck** was named "Dean Pro Tem" at the School of Pharmacy Advisory Board Meeting in April. Kevin out bid other faculty, staff, and students to win the "Dean for a Day" package at the APhA-ASP Auction.

## Graduate Students

**Xinsheng Gu**, a postdoctoral fellow in José Manautou's laboratory, received one of the two postdoctoral travel awards given by the Mechanisms Specialty Section of the Society of Toxicology during its annual Meeting in Baltimore. The title of his abstract/platform presentation was: "Transcriptional Regulation of Human Multidrug Resistance Associated Protein 4 Gene Expression". The second postdoctoral travel award recipient was alumna Lauren Aleksunes, Pharm.D., Ph.D.

**Igor Gurevich**, a pharmacology / toxicology doctoral candidate in Brian Aneskievich's lab, received an American Foundation for Pharmaceutical Education Fellowship for the 2008 / 2009 academic year.

José Manautou's graduate student **Meeghan O'Connor**, was the opening speaker at the 2008 Northeast Chapter of the Society of Toxicology Annual Meeting. This distinction is given to the winner of the previous year's poster competition. Her presentation was entitled "Identification of Genes that may Contribute to Development of Resistance to Hepatotoxicity."

**Sudhir Verma**, a graduate student in the pharmaceuticals discipline was selected as the recipient of the Schering-Plough Science and Innovation Award. This award is given to an outstanding student who demonstrates leadership, creativity, innovation and who has made significant technical and scientific contribution to research. ■

### 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

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Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

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# Website Scavenger Hunt

By: Elizabeth Anderson

Summer's almost here and it's time for a scavenger hunt! You might win our summer prize pack (consisting of a School of Pharmacy tote bag, insulated lunch bag, and baseball cap) by playing. To enter, go to our website, [www.pharmacy.uconn.edu](http://www.pharmacy.uconn.edu) and find the answers to the six scavenger hunt questions. Enter by using the form on the home page of the website or by e-mailing us at: [pharmacyco@uconn.edu](mailto:pharmacyco@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.

## Questions

1. Who was named Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor in April 2009?
2. Who is on the cover of the School of Pharmacy 2002-2003 Annual Report?
3. Name Dr. Fei Wang's practice site.
4. From which college did Dr. M. Kyle Hadden earn his BS in chemistry?
5. In which year was Margherita Giuliano named a Distinguished Alumna?
6. What was the topic of the 32nd Arthur E. Schwarting Pharmacy Practice Symposium?

## Good Luck!