Recipients of the Alfred D. Ford Diversity Award included Ermir Xhimitiku, presenting the Alfred D. Ford Diversity Award to #.

Ford Saunders, and her husband Les, organized the Malaney Pharmacy Fun Run; Anita Convocation; Gathering at the James Francis Summa Award at Scholarship Kapoor with the Richardson-Vicks/A.

Dr. Diane Burgess presents Mamta students, and Pharm.D. students; organized by Rho Chi, highlights The Pharmacy Research Symposium.

On the Back:

On the Cover:

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Special thanks to all of those who contributed their time and talents to the publication of this annual report:

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A Message from the Dean

Robert L. McCarthy, Ph.D.

I am pleased to submit my tenth report as Dean of the School of Pharmacy. Over this decade, I have been privileged to see the school excel in professional & graduate education, research, service, and public engagement.

Earlier this year, the school was ranked 26th in the nation by U.S. News & World Report, continuing a rising trend over the last several evaluation cycles. Our professional and graduate students remain in high demand for the most competitive post-graduate programs and employment opportunities. Our world-class faculty are among the most respected educators, scholars, and clinicians in their respective fields. In sum, our students, faculty, staff, and alumni, as we say on our school web page, are leaders in pharmacy and the pharmaceutical sciences.

The school continued its efforts to effectively communicate with its many external constituencies. The development of a new School of Pharmacy website was completed that contains access to the school’s Facebook Page, Pharmacy Channel on UConn’s YouTube Channel, and LinkedIn Group. The Offices of Marketing & Communication, Pharmacy Professional Development, and Pharmacy Alumni Association collaborated on the Constant Contact communications system, creating a consistent school template.

The school’s diversity efforts continue to be led by the Diversity Committee. The committee’s work over the years to reach out to urban high school programs has led to new student pipeline partnerships. We continue to receive significant funding from our long standing corporate partner Walgreens, which was equalled by a new grant this year from CVS in support of diversity related activities.

These funds have been used to help support events such as Unity Week, Student National Pharmacy Association (SNPhA) convention attendance, the Urban Service Track program, high school visits, and a variety of other diversity related activities. Leadership within SNPhA has been instrumental in engaging their membership in scheduling visits made to and by our school for a number of urban high school programs including Bridgeport, New Britain, and Stratford.

School of Pharmacy faculty continued to demonstrate success in research and other scholarly activities this year. Approximately $7.4 million in extramural funding was attracted; an increase of approximately $400,000 over last year’s total and impressive in an increasingly challenging funding environment. The Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences attracted approximately $5.3 million in extramural research funding, approximately a 6% increase over the previous year—continuing an upward trend over the last several years.

As highlighted on the cover, the Connecticut Department of Social Services, the Connecticut Pharmacists Association, and the UConn School of Pharmacy received the 2012 American Pharmacists Association Foundation’s Pinnacle Award for Government Agency—Nonprofit Organization—Associations. The award recognizes organizations that have demonstrated approaches to assist patients and their caregivers in achieving better outcomes from their medications. This collaboration recognizes their work on the CMS Medicaid Transformation Grant “Medicaid MTM Project” that involved several UConn School of Pharmacy faculty and staff. The project was also cited as one of Pharmacy’s Top Ten News Items for 2011 by the American Pharmacists Association.

We continued our active involvement as a founding member of NIPTE. In addition to NIPTE’s partnership with the FDA, we have made substantial progress in our discussions with both the NIH and the White House Office of Science & Technology Policy. As the academic year ended, I completed my three-year term as chair of the NIPTE Board of Directors.

The Office of Educational Outreach continued its activities in a variety of projects and initiatives designed to complement the educational needs and interests of our students, while contributing towards UConn’s role as Connecticut’s public, research, land and sea-grant university. These activities include health fairs/events, local community programs and initiatives, innovative engagement projects, and pipeline/career presentations. Our Office of Pharmacy Professional Development continued its focus on practice-based educational programming and successfully finalized an agreement naming our school as the new continuing education provider for Drug Topics.

The continued support of our faculty, staff, students, alumni, and friends is the reason that we continue to be one of the nation’s premier school of pharmacy.

Respectfully,

Robert L. McCarthy
Dean & Professor
Living on campus at the University of Connecticut is usually a difficult adjustment for any incoming freshman. It can be even more difficult for students entering as a pre-pharmacy major, as they have to apply again in their sophomore year in order to gain acceptance into the School of Pharmacy.

To help ease these anxieties, the First Year Programs and Residential Life offices offer the Learning Community housing option for on-campus students to live in a specific area with other students who share similar interests or majors. These communities provide a place where students have resources available such as roommates, resident assistants, and student mentors, who have the same interests.

Sharon Giovenale, pharmacy librarian and coordinator of the First-Year Experience pre-pharmacy courses, insists on its advantage to students applying to the school. “Statistically, a higher percentage of people who are in the community actually get into the program than those who are not in the community,” said Giovenale. She also mentioned a reason for this statistic comes from the student’s ability to meet faculty prior to the application process. Dean Robert McCarthy, one of the many active faculty and staff members involved with the community, commented, “Not only do we see these students in class, but we also gather for events outside the classroom, such as planning a dinner at Towers Dining Hall involving faculty and students.” Meeting faculty prior to applying is advantageous because a student is given information about the program from faculty they may otherwise have missed.

The resident assistants, or RAs, are current pharmacy students who are available to incoming students in their dorms. RAs are available to help guide students with academic or social struggles. Aimee Dietle, Pharm.D. ’12, a former resident assistant in the Pre-Pharmacy Learning Community was named the 2010-2011 UConn RA of the Year. She spoke about the challenges RAs face. “Around exam time and studying for the PCATs, students can get very stressed about their studies, and we tried to create programs that allowed them to take a break.”

The PCAT is a standard exam each pre-pharmacy student must take in order to be considered for entrance into the School of Pharmacy. Dr. Dietle mentioned that the exam is held very early, around 8:00 or 9:00 in the morning. The problem is that dining halls do not open that early on a Saturday. To ensure the students can have something to eat before the exam, the resident assistants provide breakfast for the students at 6:45 a.m. This allows students to just focus on the exam and not have to worry about breakfast in the morning. Since resident assistants are already in the School of Pharmacy, they can advise new students about the exam and reassure them that getting into the program is possible.

Another available resource is the student mentor. Students are required to take a First-Year Experience (FYE) course during their first semester living in the learning community. Mentors are current pharmacy students who volunteer to mentor the students enrolled in this class. There are five to six students assigned to a mentor. The group is small enough where the environment is more casual, allowing students to be more comfortable in their surroundings. Sam Strong, a former Learning Community resident who became a student mentor, commented, “There may be a stigma attached to resident assistants because they have an authoritative presence even if it is not intended. That doesn’t exist for mentors and students may feel more inclined to come to us for more personal problems or concerns.”

The pre-pharmacy FYE class is specifically designed for introducing students to the school and faculty. “This is the only class in the school for pre-pharmacy majors where they can meet faculty, other students, and mentors,” mentioned Giovenale. She describes the environment of the class as being “more of a facilitations class than a lecture.” Dan Baxter, Pharm.D. ’12, who lived in the learning community both his freshman and sophomore years, mentioned one of the advantages of the FYE class. “Speaking with instructors such as Dean McCarthy, I was already well known by faculty even before I applied to the program.”

An improvement within the learning community Giovenale has seen over the years is the continuing commitment to involve honor students who are pre-pharmacy majors in the Pre-Pharmacy Learning Community. Freshman honors students are required to enroll in an honors designated FYE class offered in the fall semester. By adding another pre-pharmacy FYE class in the spring semester, these students are allowed the same opportunity to increase their knowledge about pharmacy while still adhering to the regulations of being an honors student. Ms. Giovenale said, “We have not really been able to involve honors students [in the past]. This allows honors pre-pharmacy students who cannot take the pre-pharmacy FYE class their first semester to fully benefit from being part of the pre-pharmacy community their second semester.”

Students are going to face new obstacles with the transition into a college atmosphere and pre-pharmacy students are no exception. There is an outlet for students with the Pre-Pharmacy Learning Community. With the multiple resources available in the learning community and the statistics supporting the success of the program, it is undeniable that students are more prepared for the application process as well as what they can expect after acceptance into the School of Pharmacy.
Michelle Breland joined the School of Pharmacy as an assistant professor of pharmacy practice, in social and administrative sciences. She earned her Master of Education in community counseling and her Doctor of Philosophy in social and administrative pharmacy from Auburn University. Throughout her education, she has been honored for her achievements, including an American Foundation for Pharmaceutical Education Pre-doctoral Fellowship in Pharmaceutical Sciences, and induction into the Rho Chi pharmacy honor society.

Co-author of seven journal articles, including two publications in the Journal of the American Pharmacists Association (JAPhA), Dr. Breland describes her research interests as “motivated by the desire to increase understanding of the factors that impact pharmacists’ roles in patient care services including the pharmacist-patient relationship.” Throughout her collegiate career she has been involved in research that reflected those ends, from examining the concept of resilience in her undergraduate years, to delving into PI student perceptions of future counseling practices in her graduate years.

At UConn, she intends to focus her research on pharmacy-based patient care services, medication adherence, and improving collaboration among pharmacists, mental health professionals, and other health care providers for “vulnerable patient populations.” One of her research goals is to help combat poor patient outcomes that could result from medication non-adherence or suboptimal care; another goal is to assist patients in securing a better understanding of their illnesses and expectations of their medications.

Dr. Breland looks forward to time at UConn. “This is a very exciting time to be a member of the UConn family. I am really excited to be joining such an outstanding university, and I look forward to beginning my career with the UConn School of Pharmacy.”

Rachel Eyler joined the School of Pharmacy as an assistant clinical professor of pharmacy practice. She received her Doctor of Pharmacy from the University of Michigan.

Dr. Eyler’s main focus is in nephrology. Her research is centered on pharmacokinetics of medication in patients with acute and chronic kidney disease. In 2008-2009 she was a pharmacy practice resident at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor, Michigan. There she worked with patients suffering from different stages of kidney disease. She continued to gain valuable experience and interest in the geriatrics field and the implications of kidney disease in the elderly.

From 2009-2011 Dr. Eyler pursued a fellowship in critical care and nephrology research at the University of Michigan.

The prospect of moving to Connecticut excited me a great deal,” Eyler explained. “I am thrilled to have a position where the school does such amazing work.” The courses for which she is responsible focus on nephrology didactic coursework. In her classes, she enjoys bringing her expertise and interest in nephrology to the students.

Most recently, her research interests include a specific focus on nephrology and geriatrics. Dr. Eyler explains, “this research on pharmacokinetics in elderly patients with kidney disease interests me because I can optimize drug dosing in this often understudied population.” She adds that she is extremely excited to have moved to Connecticut for this position and she “hopes to be teaching at UConn for a long time.”

Xiuling Lu joined the School of Pharmacy as an assistant professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences. Dr. Lu received her Bachelor of Science degree in biochemical engineering and Masters Degree in fermentation engineering at Tianjin University of Science & Technology. She completed her Ph.D. in biochemical engineering at the Chinese Academy of Sciences and obtained her postdoctoral training at the University of Kentucky.

Prior to arriving at the University of Connecticut, Dr. Lu was a research assistant professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill from 2008 to 2011 and conducted research on dual-imaging therapeutic nanovectors. There she obtained three internal grants and led research teams.
Pharmaceutical Sciences

Xiuling Lu, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor

Dr. Lu has published over 30 peer-reviewed scientific manuscripts and has made many presentations at national and international meetings.

Currently, Dr. Lu is working on bioresponsive theranostic nanovectors for improving drug therapeutic ratios and neutron-activatable nanoparticles for targeted radionuclide therapy of tumors. Here at UConn, she hopes to pursue her long-term goal of making carrier-based diagnostic and therapeutic agents applied in the clinical management of patients. While working on her research, she intends to collaborate with professors in the UConn Health Center and School of Engineering as well as professors from Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Yale University.

The School of Pharmacy welcomed alumna, Mary Morytko, to the staff as a field coordinator in the Office of Experiential Education. While at UConn, her primary role will be supervising and monitoring students who are enrolled in the experiential programs.

The Office of Experiential Education manages the pharmacy practice experience components of the professional pharmacy curriculum. This program is designed to provide students opportunities to apply information gained from instructive learning in many different pharmacy practice settings. Morytko will help the office obtain its main mission by assisting students in developing the knowledge, skills and attitudes required of a competent and caring pharmacy professional.

Morytko holds two degrees from UConn. She earned a Bachelor of Science in pharmacy in 1984 and a Master of Science in health administration in 1996. She has extensive experience in institutional pharmacy practice as both a staff pharmacist and former director of pharmacy at Windham Community Memorial Hospital in Willimantic, CT. She also practiced as a pharmacist in a community practice setting and at UConn’s Student Health Services.

Morytko is excited to be “involved with the pharmacy students and visiting the wide-range of practice sites.” She is looking forward to sharing her experience with students as they develop into pharmacy practitioners.

Experiential Education

Mary Morytko
Field Coordinator

The purpose of this exam is to aid P3 students as they transition into the clinical rotations. It helps keep information fresh and allows students to engage their memory on critical disease states. It can be seen as a preparation for the NAPLEX, or North American Pharmacist Licensure Examination. The exam also informs faculty how the curriculum is working. It highlights strengths and weaknesses of the information that is being retained in the classroom. “There is always room for improvement,” Dr. Schlesselman states, “as the years go on, it will only develop and get stronger.”

Serving as 30% of the Correlated Pharmacy Problem Solving (CPPS) class, the test is graded as a pass/fail. The test is incorporated into one semester of the five semester class.

Milepost Exams

Testing and applying knowledge is crucial for Pharm.D. students. Dr. Lauren Schlesselman, director of assessment and accreditation, coordinates the school’s institutional and curricular assessment and accreditation activities. She is in charge of curricular assessment, or milepost examinations, which are governed for P3 students and which will be mandatory for both P2 and P3 students in the spring of 2013.

This test was first administered to the P3 students at the beginning of the 2012 spring semester. “It’s going to take some tweaking and we know it’s not perfect but it gives us a strong idea of the students’ progress,” says Dr. Schlesselman. It is a case-based exam, giving details about a fictional patient, history of illness, medical history and medications, which the students have to assess. They then answer a series of questions based on the background information ranging from how to treat the patient to which medications may work best for an illness.

Serving as 30% of the Correlated Pharmacy Problem Solving (CPPS) class, the test is graded as a pass/fail. The test is incorporated into one semester of the five semester class.

Students must receive a grade of at least 75% to pass the test and they have the opportunity to take the exam three times throughout the semester. The first attempt was given within the first couple weeks of the semester, the second attempt took place in the middle of the semester and the final attempt was at the end of April. Beginning in 2013, P3 students must pass the exam in order to advance to experiential rotations.
We gratefully acknowledge the alumni, corporations, foundations, friends, and parents who made gifts to the school between July 1, 2011 and June 30, 2012. Your continued commitment provides very important resources to our students and faculty.

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Edward Silver [left] and David Silver [right] present the William H. Silver Scholarship to Gina Guinta at the School of Pharmacy Scholarship Convocation.

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“I absolutely believe in the power of tithing and giving back. My own experience about all the blessings I’ve had in my life is that the more I give away, the more that comes back. That is the way life works, and that is the way energy works.”

~ Ken Blanchard

Continued on Page 8
Scholarship Recipients

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Nitin Dixit

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Graduate Student Spotlight

Shermeen Abbas completed her Ph.D. in pharmaceutics at the University of Connecticut School of Pharmacy in 2011. She accepted a position as a bioproduction research and development scientist in Indiana at Eli Lilly and Company, the tenth largest pharmaceutical company in the world.

While earning her Ph.D. in pharmaceutics at UConn, Dr. Abbas’ research focused on investigating various aspects that can affect the stability and shelf-life of a protein drug molecule. One way to increase the stability of aqueous protein formulation is to add sugars to it. Her dissertation focused on investigating the mechanism in which various sugars affect the stability of proteins.

Completing her Ph.D. under the direction of Dr. Devendra Kalonia, Dr. Abbas describes her time at UConn as “a pleasant and memorable experience.” The School of Pharmacy has prepared her to step into the industry with confidence. “Not only [my] scientific knowledge but also how to approach and handle problems.”

Dr. Kalonia expresses the future success of his former student by describing her as “a very independent and curious scientist.” In addition to being a mentor to graduate students, she “was really dedicated to her work. She was always there and always working,” said Dr. Kalonia.

While at UConn, Dr. Abbas was awarded the Sergei N. Timasheff award for best poster presentation at the Protein Stability Conference in Breckenridge, CO. The competition is held every other year in honor of Professor Sergei N. Timasheff for his research in understanding and addressing the fundamental issues in Biology and Biophysical Chemistry. Dr. Abbas’s accomplishment marked the first time this award was granted to a UConn graduate student.

At Eli Lilly and Company, Dr. Abbas joined the Bioproduction Formulations Group with core responsibility in formulation development of proteins. “I expect to utilize the knowledge gained at UConn and my Ph.D. towards my job at Eli Lilly,” Dr. Abbas describes. “Not only [my] scientific knowledge but also how to approach and handle problems.”

Continued on Page 17
Melanie Allen  
Mohamed Ammar  
Kwasi Anyinam  
Joshua Baldino  
Daniella Benea  
Patrick Brooks  
John Brow  
Vincent Bucchieri  
Elizabeth Cai  
Gus Campos  
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Clarissa Chan  
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SungHee Lee - UCHC  
Erica Lepkowska - CVS  
Sarah Livings - Resident Baystate  
Jacqueline Lloyd - Rite Aid  
Ramona Maldonado - Rite Aid  
Christina Matsis - Resident, St. Vincent's  
Marian Merced - CVS  
Emily Merrick - Stop & Shop  
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Shermeen Abbas ’11
Doctor of Philosophy, Pharmaceutical Sciences: Pharmaceutics
Doctoral Dissertation: Investigation of the Effect of Polyols on the Conformational and Solution Phase Stability of Aqueous Antibody Formulations
Major Advisor: Dr. Devendra S. Kalonia

Jennifer Beierlein ’11
Doctor of Philosophy, Pharmaceutical Sciences: Medicinal & Natural Products Chemistry
Doctoral Dissertation: Structural and Synthetic Studies into Novel Antifolates Targeting Bacillus anthracis Dihydrofolate Reductase
Major Advisor: Dr. Amy C. Anderson

Priscilla Encarnacao
Doctor of Philosophy, Pharmaceutical Sciences: Pharmacology & Toxicology
Doctoral Dissertation: Identification and Characterization of Transcriptional Control Elements Regulating a Novel Post-Receptor Signaling Mediator, TNIP1
Major Advisor: Dr. Brian J. Aneskievich

Kathleen Frey ’11
Doctor of Philosophy, Pharmaceutical Sciences: Medicinal & Natural Products Chemistry
Doctoral Dissertation: Towards the Understanding of Resistance Mutations in Dihydrofolate Reductase from Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus
Major Advisor: Dr. Amy C. Anderson

Amanda LoGuidice ’11
Doctor of Philosophy, Pharmaceutical Sciences: Pharmacology & Toxicology
Doctoral Dissertation: The Role of Cyclophilin D in Mitochondrial Mediated Drug Toxicity
Major Advisor: Dr. Urs A. Boelsterli

Edward Oblak ’11
Doctor of Philosophy, Pharmaceutical Sciences: Medicinal & Natural Products Chemistry
Doctoral Dissertation: Oxabicyclic Building Blocks as Key Intermediates in the Synthesis of Natural Products
Major Advisor: Dr. Dennis L. Wright

Ken Qian ’11
Doctor of Philosophy, Pharmaceutical Sciences: Pharmacetics
Doctoral Dissertation: Spontaneous Crystalline-to-Amorphous Phase Transformation of Organic or Medicinal Compounds in the Presence of Porous Media
Major Advisor: Dr. Robin H. Bogner

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Major Advisor: Dr. John B. Morris

Xiaoming Xu
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Doctoral Dissertation: Liposomal Drug Products: A Quality by Design Approach
Major Advisor: Dr. Diane J. Burgess

Congratulations Class of 2012
Throughout the past year PSG has run many successful programs. The highlight of our programming this year was the James Malaney Pharmacy Fun Run. This year we had over 350 people donate to the event, 200 of which braved the snow to run, helping us raise more than $5,000 completing the $25,000 needed to fully endow the James Malaney Scholarship Fund.

We continued our fundraising efforts this year by again hosting the popular Trivia Night where we bring together the students, faculty, and staff for an evening of fun filled trivia games designed by our very own pharmacy students. Teams representing all of the various organizations generously donated to the event and helped PSG raise over $500 dollars for charity.

PSG continues to be a strong advocate for Autism awareness and again invited an enthusiastic group of young men and women to the School of Pharmacy to participate in a compounding experiment designed by our own Dr. Robin Bogner. Additionally, we had speakers from the University of Connecticut Health Center address the students on how we, as future pharmacists, can have a positive impact on this unique patient population.

Looking forward for PSG, I would like to see us form bonds with other public research institutions like UConn and reach beyond our local university community to get involved with the national pharmacy community on a scholastic and professional level.

The AAPS student chapter at the University of Connecticut was established in 1996 and is one of the oldest student chapters. The chapter is comprised of PharmD, post-doctorates and graduate students from different departments in pharmaceutical sciences such as medicinal chemistry, pharmaceutics and pharmacology. Our chapter’s primary goal is to promote professional advancement and leadership development among students by providing opportunities to participate in various educational/scientific events and social activities. It serves as a platform to increase awareness of career opportunities among students, both in industry and academia.

During the 2011-2012 academic year, the student body was lead by highly motivated students Sumit Kumar, chair; Mary Kleppe, vice chair; Pooja Sane, secretary and Mariya Pindrus, treasurer. Chapter Advisor Dr. Devendra Kalonia heads the group and guides us in achieving our goals and objectives.

At the beginning of every school year, new students are welcomed to our department and AAPS chapter during a Welcome Lunch, hosted by our chapter, and generously sponsored by Robert McCarthy, the dean of UConn’s School of Pharmacy. The annual seminar series is a key element in the chapter’s educational activities. We invite our guest speakers both from academia and industry to give scientific seminars and interact with students and faculty. This year we hope to have a total of seven speakers at our school.

Students that are a part of the AAPS chapter at UConn, go by the motto, “Work hard, play hard.” Apart from educational seminars we also coordinate social activities where students can continue to get to know their fellow students and faculty members outside of the professional setting. This year we designed our chapter’s first ever customized T-shirts and held a Holiday Pot-Luck party at Dr. Kalonia’s house.

We are sure that the new committee will continue to take our chapter’s objectives to a new paradigm.
The 2011-2012 academic year was a success for the UConn APhA-ASP chapter. Our members and our executive board strove to make an impact in our school, in our community, and on the national level. As a direct result of our collective effort and enthusiasm, we were able to promote all of APhA-ASP’s patient care project initiatives: Operation Heart, Heartburn Awareness, Operation Diabetes, Operation Immunization and GenerationRx. Furthermore, we participated in the International Pharmaceutical Students’ Federation and engaged in local health-care and pharmacy policy discussions.

Within the School of Pharmacy, we provided professionalism lectures to P1 and pre-pharmacy students, hosted a device and screening tools workshop, invited a pharmacist to speak about addiction, and provided education on immunizations and heart health. In the community, our members screened for hypertension at Gampel Pavilion, took hemoglobin A1Cs at a local pharmacy, spoke to high school students regarding the dangers of smoking, educated middle school students on prescription drug abuse, volunteered at university flu clinics, provided heartburn tips at a community center, and represented our school in Hartford for Pharmacy Day at the Capitol.

On a national level, our school was honored at the APhA Annual Meeting in New Orleans, LA as the winners of the Region One Operation Immunization award, and our public service “PharmFlix” video placed in the top 15 submissions from all schools and colleges of pharmacy.

From this sampling of the achievements and contributions of our chapter, we hope to demonstrate our passion for promoting UConn and the profession of pharmacy.

The American Society of Consultant Pharmacists is an organization geared towards empowering pharmacists to improve the quality of care for all older persons. This past year, the UConn ASCP student chapter has been involved in many community as well as nationwide projects that promote healthy aging. Students attended weekly sessions at the Alzheimer’s Resource Center of Connecticut to work on cognitive strengthening exercises with patients who reside there. This opportunity allowed students to give presentations to the day program residents about concerns with aging, necessary vaccinations and OTC medications. It not only exposes students to direct patient care, but more importantly has been an amazing outreach experience that has touched the lives of the residents as well as the students who attend.

In addition, the students have been involved in shadowing/volunteer projects with Dr. Jeffery at the West Haven VA. This has allowed the students to paint a picture of what a “day in the life” looks like for those who dedicate their life to caring for older persons. Opportunities like these have shown the students how vital the role of the pharmacist can be in the overall care of the patient.

ASCP students are also involved at the national level. This past November, eight members of the student chapter attended the ASCP Annual Convention in Phoenix, AZ, where we took part in programs geared towards expanding our knowledge of pharmacy practice as well as student programming geared directly towards preparing us for residency programs or job interviews. It was an extremely beneficial trip, and the students left the trip feeling enthusiastic about the future of pharmacy.

The Connecticut chapter of ASCP also holds the annual Senior Symposium event at Foxwoods each year, in which experts in geriatric medicine meet to discuss current issues, advances and debates in health care. Students help run the two day event, assisting with registration and speaker introductions, as well as attending the sessions. It is one of the students’ favorite events, as it brings together the experts in the fields of pharmacy and medicine who discuss topics that directly affect a population that we are all passionate about. With the great successes of our current programs, we are looking forward to expanding our outreach and further promoting the importance of pharmacist involvement in all aspects of care for our aging population.
The Alpha Zeta Omega Nu Chapter at the University of Connecticut had a very successful academic year. We have grown in membership, inducting 20 new brothers in the fall. We had some successful fund-raisers, raising money for charities such as the Hole in the Wall Gang Camp, a summer camp for children with serious illnesses, as well as the Lustgarten Pancreatic Cancer Foundation. Our members also raised $2256 towards HuskyTHON, whose proceeds all go towards the Connecticut Children’s Medical Center.

Alpha Zeta Omega helped organize a way for our fellow students in the School of Pharmacy to travel to senior centers throughout Connecticut in order to present a number of important healthcare topics. In addition to these local events, many of our members spent time traveling to various other schools of pharmacy in New Jersey, Massachusetts, and Ohio to meet with fellow members of AZO. Finally, we have had a number of dinners and meetings with our alumni chapter over the course of the year in order to keep in touch with our roots.

The Connecticut Society of Health-System Pharmacists (CSHP) is an affiliate of the national professional association American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) that represents pharmacists who practice in hospitals, health maintenance organizations, long-term care facilities, ambulatory care, home care, and other components of health care systems. We diligently and passionately work to provide service to the profession of pharmacy, to students of pharmacy, and to the community. CSHP provides opportunities for professional growth and we actively promote for the future of health system pharmacy.

During the past year, CSHP students participated in the following events: the Liver Walk, Catch the Wave, clinical skills competition, breast and testicular week, the Connecticut Children’s Medical Center holiday toy drive, poison prevention to local elementary schools, and Operation Donate Life. We also attended site visits at various rotation locations.

Pharmacy residents from Hartford Hospital were invited to speak about residencies, their experience at midyear, and their practice site. Gigi Shafai, Pharm.D. was invited to a Lunch & Learn to present about a pharmaceutical career in industry. Dr. Jill Fitzgerald presented a curriculum vitae seminar and critique.

Any student enrolled in the University of Connecticut School of Pharmacy is eligible for membership in the chapter.

The 2011-2012 academic year has truly been a huge success for Kappa Psi. The fraternity has grown dramatically both in size and in spirit. In the fall semester, the fraternity was able to pledge its largest pledge class in years, including a total of 18 new members. These new brothers were a welcome addition to the group and have already proven their quality in the numerous service and philanthropy activities that were planned for the spring semester. New brothers Greg Greenier and Jared Mangano even came out to meet some alumni members at the Graduate Chapter meeting.

After acclimating the new brothers of Kappa Psi, it was straight to work with planning the regional meeting of Kappa Psi’s Province I. This was an especially important event for the brothers in the region as the current Provinces for Kappa Psi will be re-aligning
Phi Lambda Sigma
Alpha Gamma Chapter
Gabrielle Pugliese
President

Phi Lambda Sigma started the fall semester by organizing the UConn School of Pharmacy Second Annual Student Pharmacist Compounding Competition, a preliminary competition sponsored by Medisca Pharmaceuticals. Students competing in teams of three, were judged by local compounding pharmacists Mike Roberge and Gene Gresh. The winning team traveled to Gainesville, Florida with Dr. Bogner to compete against other pharmacy schools across the nation. UConn’s winning team, Jon Blazawski, Nadine Jaber, and Rukshana Chowdhury, earned an award for quality control at the national competition.

PLS also participated in the UConn School of Pharmacy charity Trivia Night this fall. During the spring semester, PLS coordinated the Future Pharmacy Leaders course for the third consecutive year in collaboration with the Office of Undergraduate Leadership Programs. Seven first year professional pharmacy students participated in this course, each having a PLS member as their personal mentor. PLS inducted nine new student members and two new faculty members in the spring semester at a dinner reception hosting guest speaker, Angelo Defazio, owner of Arrow Pharmacy.

Kappa Psi
Nu Chapter
Jonathan Lee
Regent

this summer, effectively making this regional meeting at the University of Connecticut the last Province I meeting in Kappa Psi history. Food was supplied by UConn Catering and was a wild success. After enjoying a night in Connecticut, brothers from D’Youville, MCPHS, URI, and UNE returned to their separate homes.

Soon after the meeting, the brothers at UConn planned several philanthropy events including selling Krispy Kremes doughnuts in the School of Pharmacy and auctioning off yard work, raising a total of $1,000 for the Elizabeth Glaiser Fund for Pediatric Aids. Additionally, Kappa Psi was able to finally register as a Tier II organization under UConn’s SOLID system, allowing us to become recognized as an official UConn organization.

LKS
Lambda Kappa Sigma
Alpha Beta Chapter
Montanna Paulhus
President

LKS began the school year with our professional focus on the health initiative of Ovarian Cancer Awareness. Our chapter invited a gynecologic oncology pharmacist from Yale - New Haven Hospital, Dr. Wendelin Nelson, to give a presentation to pharmacy students about the disease in general as well as her experience working in this specialized area. Additional health initiatives we recognized included, mental illness, Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease (GERD), heart health and hand washing awareness.

Our chapter attempted to expand our service projects during the spring to reach out to new organizations. A new project we participated in was “Blessing in a Backpack.” This organization provides food to approximately 300 students in backpacks per week in Willimantic, CT that are not able to afford or have accessibility to food. We also attended the “Teal Dress Gala” at the University of Rhode Island to raise money to support the National Ovarian Cancer Coalition (NOCC).

LKS continues to maintain relationships with our alumni members and P4 sisters on rotations. Professional programs with alumni members this year included a “Time Management” discussion with our fraternity advisor and faculty member, Dr. Jill Fitzgerald, and a presentation on ambulatory care with our own Alumni Chapter treasurer and faculty member, Dr. Marissa Salvo. Two of our P4 sisters, Rachel Tatulis and Danielle Wojtaszek, joined us to share their experiences on medication safety and the process of applying for residencies. Finally, our chapter attended the annual convention in San Diego, CA.
During the 2011-2012 year, the Alpha Lambda chapter of Phi Delta Chi participated in many charitable and community service events. Our major philanthropy is St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, a non-profit organization committed to research and treatment of childhood cancer and other severe diseases. To raise money for St. Jude, we participated in a letter writing campaign and held a bar night. Phi Dex also took part in Relay for Life. Our team ranked third in fund-raising throughout the entire university. In April, Phi Dex held a bake sale and awareness event for testicular cancer. We provided handouts on signs and symptoms of testicular cancer and taught self-screenings techniques. Proceeds were donated to Relay. Finally, we participated in the James Malaney Pharmacy Fun Run, an event held in memory of one of our brothers who lost his battle with cancer.

Phi Delta Chi is dedicated to improving our campus and our community. We created a display in the Student Union to educate fellow students on proper sleep hygiene. Brothers went to two local high schools and gave presentations on both sleep hygiene and pursuing a career in pharmacy. Phi Dex participated in Guard Dogs, a student-run volunteer organization to provide safe rides home on weekends. We collaborated with Alpha Zeta Omega to host Rotations Night, an event where current P4s talk about their experience on rotations so far and provide advice to younger students.

Finally, Phi Dex took part in several activities to strengthen our bond of brotherhood. We attended the Phi Delta Chi Regional Meeting, and visited other chapters in Boston and Albany. We had an intramural volleyball team and competed in Oozeball. Alpha Lambda rewrote our chapter constitution and bylaws to better reflect our current values and goals, and launched a new and improved chapter website.

SNPhA had another successful year! The fall semester began with new member recruitment at the annual School of Pharmacy ice cream social. In October SNPhA collaborated with APhA to raise money for the American Diabetes Association. Together we raised over $1000 for the Step Out Diabetes Walk in Bristol, CT. We also took part in the on-campus flu clinics along with APhA members as part of our National Operation Immunization Initiative.

New this year, members began to volunteer at the Covenant Soup Kitchen in Willimantic. It was such a rewarding experience and we always had fun preparing meals! We held monthly Blood Pressure Screenings at both CVS and Walgreens as a part of our National Power to End Stroke Initiative. Another new event held during meetings was “Pharmacy in the News” which kept members up to date with current events effecting the pharmacy profession.
Department of Pharmacy Practice Residents and Fellows
Academic Year 2011 - 2012

Jiehyun Lee
Primary Care Resident
Burgdorf Primary Care Clinic
Preceptor: Devra Dang

Matthew Beaulac
PGY-1 Resident
Hospital of St. Raphael
Preceptor: Bahar Matusik

Brittany Larsen
PGY-1 Pharmacy Resident
Waterbury Hospital
Preceptor: Bahar Matusik

Rajbir Kaur
Outcomes Research Fellow
Hartford Hospital
Preceptor: Craig Coleman

Justine Dickson
PGY-1 Resident
Hospital of St. Raphael
Preceptor: Teresa Seo

Shawn MacVane
PGY-1 Pharmacy Resident
Waterbury Hospital
Preceptor: Bahar Matusik

Carmen Nobre
Pharmacy Practice Resident
Hartford Hospital
Preceptor: Laura Hobbs

Brian Kopczka
PGY-1 Resident
Hospital of St. Raphael
Preceptor: Teresa Seo

Samuel Aitken
PGY-1 Pharmacy Practice Resident
Yale-New Haven Hospital
Preceptor: Niyaj Memeti

Michelle Krawczynski
PGY-1 Resident
Hartford Hospital
Preceptor: Laura Hobbs

Anita Nayar
PGY-1 Resident
Hospital of St. Raphael
Preceptor: Teresa Seo

Salla Farrok
PGY-1 Pharmacy Practice Resident
Yale-New Haven Hospital
Preceptor: Niyaj Memeti

Sneha Kumar
PGY-1 Primary Care Resident
Hartford Hospital
Preceptor: Laura Hobbs & Fei Wang

Tae Eun
PGY-1 Resident
Hospital of St. Raphael
Preceptor: Teresa Seo

Lisa Kurczewski
PGY-1 Pharmacy Practice Resident
Yale-New Haven Hospital
Preceptor: Niyaj Memeti

Kirthana Raman
PGY-2 Infectious Disease Resident
Hartford Hospital
Preceptor: Laura Hobbs & Michael Nailor

Sister Michaela Serpa
PGY-1 Resident
Hospital of St. Raphael
Preceptor: Teresa Seo

Rupangi Datta
Pharmacy Practice Resident
Yale-New Haven Hospital
Preceptor: Niyaj Memeti

Tawfikul Alam
Outcomes Fellow
Hartford Hospital
Preceptor: C. Michael White

Michelle Lombardo
Pharmacy Resident
St. Francis Hospital
Preceptor: Lisa Degennaro

Niyati Vakie
Pharmacy Practice Resident
Yale-New Haven Hospital
Preceptor: Niyaj Memeti

Brendan Limone
Outcomes Fellow
Hartford Hospital
Preceptor: C. Michael White

Priscilla Rana
Pharmacy Resident
St. Francis Hospital
Preceptor: Lisa Degennaro

Sara Winkler
Pharmacy Resident
St. Francis Hospital
Preceptor: Lisa Degennaro

Soyon Lee
Outcomes Fellow
Hartford Hospital
Preceptor: C. Michael White

Michael Lombardo
Pharmacy Resident
St. Francis Hospital
Preceptor: Lisa Degennaro

SNPhA Awarded “SNPhA Ambassador” a new program for pre-pharmacy members to shadow a pharmacy student for one class to see how professional classes differ from pre-pharmacy courses. We had a speaker visit the school for Black History month. We held the annual Mock Interviews for members that applied to pharmacy school. We gave them tips, showed how to dress, answered their questions, and practiced interviews with them. We hosted our annual Gear Up Program and Unity Week which happened to land on the same week this year. Our Unity Week theme was “Oh, the Places You’ll Go: A Unique Take on Pharmacy”. There were four speakers, each with a unique career as a pharmacist; their presentations involved the path taken to their current position. Another new program our chapter did this year was “Beat the Pack” a smoking cessation project that we held at the Mansfield Community Center for four weeks. We ended the year with a member recognition banquet.
Focus on Faculty - Clinical Professors

Mental Health

Charles F. Caley, Pharm.D.
Clinical Professor of Pharmacy Practice

In professional schools, such as medical and pharmacy schools, clinical faculty members are essential to the training and education of students. These active practitioners may devote a larger percentage of their time providing direct patient care than their tenure track counterparts who may be more heavily focused on scholarly research and its publication. Clinical faculty choose to forego the certainty of academic tenure in return for more time devoted to patients and professional service.

It is the love of both service and teaching that mark the careers of Drs. Charles Caley and Sean Jeffrey, clinical faculty members in the Department of Pharmacy Practice who were recently promoted to the rank of clinical professor. Dr. Caley, a faculty member at the school since 1997, received his Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the University of Rhode Island, and completed his residency in psychiatric pharmacy at Washington State University. He previously worked in the State of Massachusetts mental health system and as a managed care pharmacist. Dr. Caley, a board certified psychiatric pharmacist, is a founding member and past president of the College of Psychiatric and Neurologic Pharmacists (CPNP).

He is currently serving as president of the organization’s Foundation Board of Directors. The group’s mission is to promote excellence in pharmacy practice, education and research to optimize treatment outcomes of individuals affected by psychiatric and neurologic disorders. Recently, in collaboration with leaders from the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), Dr. Caley and Professor Glen Stimmel of the University of Southern California, conducted the survey, “Characterizing the Relationship Between Individuals with Mental Health Conditions and Community Pharmacists.” While earlier studies surveyed pharmacists’ perceptions of their attitudes toward and the services for patients with mental health conditions, “This groundbreaking survey reports the observations of those providing services related to their mental health medications from community pharmacists. The findings identify important opportunities to expand the commitment of the pharmacy community to greater numbers of individuals living with mental illness,” said Dr. Caley.

Dr. Caley is also a well-regarded preceptor, mentoring research fellows and students on rotation at the Institute for Living in Hartford, Connecticut. He focuses on making connections with students by bringing discussions about patients and real world scenarios to the classroom. “Out in the real world is where the real learning happens,” he explained. He strives to give students the opportunities to work with patients with psychiatric illnesses that they are sure to encounter during their career. It is important for students to realize the complexities that go along with such diseases and the careful monitoring that these medications require so they are prepared to treat those “who are faced with serious and persistent mental illnesses.”

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WILLIAM L. BAKER, JR.


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Department of Pharmacy Practice


THOMAS E. BUCKLEY


KEVIN W. CHAMBERLIN


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Khanh (BEVAR) DANG


Jennifer L. Girotto


Lisa M. Holle


Lauren S. Schlesselman


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Focus on Faculty

Personalized Medicine

Dr. Theodore Rasmussen
Associate Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences

Throughout the history of pharmaceutical medicine patients and doctors have worked to find medicine and pharmaceutical agents that reveal the least amount of side effects on a specific patient. Traditionally speaking, a doctor would often prescribe a patient medicine and wait for a side effect to present itself before changing to a different version of the drug. This method of trial and error proved itself negatively on a patient’s body; the alternative option, however, involved intrusive biopsies of a patient’s organs to test for probability of side effects.

This intrusiveness is exactly what Dr. Rasmussen, associate professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, seeks to avoid with the development of personalized medicine, focusing particularly on the side effects of pharmaceutical medicine on a patient’s liver. Rather than taking an intrusive organ sample, Rasmussen works instead on seeking a simple blood or skin sample from a patient. Using a process called reprogramming, Rasmussen is able to manipulate skin and blood cells into liver cells, which are in turn easily studied for side effects that a physician can use to determine which medicine is right for a specific patient.

This manipulation of cells falls under a procedure called IPS (induced pluripotent stem cell) reprogramming. The way this works is first by obtaining a differentiated somatic cell, such as a skin or blood cell, and introducing the cell to reprogramming factors called OCT4 and SOX2. These two transcription factors are ordinarily expressed in stem cells and can, therefore, be reprogrammed into an IPS cell very similar to an embryonic cell. Embryonic cells have an interesting characteristic trait of being able to be reprogrammed into other cells in the body, so the researcher is able to turn this IPS cell into a liver cell in the lab.

Once the skin or blood sample has successfully been reprogrammed into a liver cell, Rasmussen and his researchers are able to treat the liver cells with pharmaceutical agents of interest to see if there is any reaction or toxicological side effect to the drug. Testing a sample of the liver instead of just allowing the patient to try the drug directly can help a physician understand the possible side effects of the drug on a case by case basis, ultimately allowing the physician to discover the most effective drug for each patient.

Dr. Rasmussen is specifically focusing on the effects of statins on the liver. Statins are cholesterol lowering agents, and there are a variety of different statins that have different side effects on a specific patient. “The goal here is to match each person with personalized treatment and ultimately find the very best statin for everyone,” says Dr. Rasmussen describing his research objectives. This process will all fall under the concept of personalized medicine, which will work on a much more accurate and personal level with patients by testing first to find side effects rather than using the current day


Dr. Sean Jeffery, an alumnus of UConn ‘95, earned his Doctor of Pharmacy degree from The Ohio State University in 1997. He completed a specialty residency in geriatric pharmacy at the Durham VA Medical Center & Duke Center for the Study of Aging in 1998 after which he joined the UConn faculty. Much like Dr. Caley, Dr. Jeffery incorporates real world experience into his lectures in hopes of making an emotional connection with his students. Dr. Jeffery draws from his clinical experiences as a geriatric pharmacy specialist at the VA Connecticut Healthcare System. When lecturing, Dr. Jeffery weaves foundational information with patient stories and anecdotes collected over the past 14 years. Whether funny situations or poignant cases, many of these stories are about patients that were cared for by students he precepts on his geriatric rotation at the VA. His students are integral members of the geriatric interdisciplinary team and work alongside Dr. Jeffery ensuring appropriate medication use for elderly patients. He stresses to his students the importance of geriatric pharmacy in the upcoming decades. “Eighty million baby boomers will be retiring which means a lot of medications in an at-risk population,” explains Jeffery. “Older patients are at increased risk for inappropriate prescribing, and pharmacists can play a significant role in reducing adverse medication-related events.” His students are responsible for monitoring and identifying correct dosages and medications for the patients under their care. “We try to understand each individual’s medication preferences when seeking to improve adherence, or make changes.” As Jeffery points out, “patients frequently don’t want to take medications, and that creates challenges with aligning patient goals with evidence-based medicine.” Jeffery has many examples of home-visits that uncovered stockpiles of medications that patients have just stopped taking. His students comment that participating in home visits is one of the most eye-opening and rewarding experiences they obtain. Dr. Jeffery hopes that it is experiences like these that will leave the biggest impressions on his students.

Dr. Jeffery also has a long-standing relationship with the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists. He has served as president of the Connecticut ASPC chapter, had two terms on the national board of directors and is now serving as national president. During his presidential year Dr. Jeffery will travel extensively on behalf of ASCP to promote the society’s mission and vision while seeking out UConn alumni along the way. In addition to his active practice and service to ASCP, Dr. Jeffery was the site principal investigator for a recently completed four-year, multi-site study that explored the impact of clinical pharmacists on group-interventions that improve glycemic, lipid and blood pressure control in high-risk cardiovascular patients with diabetes. This had led to participation in a second study exploring enhanced group-interventions utilizing peer-to-peer strategies. Dr. Jeffery also serves at the residency program director for a PGY2 Geriatric Pharmacy Residency sponsored by the VA Connecticut Healthcare System. He is honored to be promoted stating he has been blessed with terrific mentors a supportive administration and wonderful clinicians and pharmacy colleagues at the VA Connecticut Healthcare system.
Alumni Association Awardees 2012

The Pharmacy Alumni Association honored three alumni in academia, industry and pharmacy practice who have distinguished themselves in our profession. The awards were presented at the 42nd Annual Pharmacy Alumni Awards and Reunion Banquet.

Ronald J. Abrahams, awardee in the field of pharmacy practice, received his B.S. in pharmacy from the University of Connecticut School of Pharmacy in 1963, and was a member of the Mortar & Pestle Pharmaceutical Honor Society and president of the Phi Delta Chi student chapter. He then earned a certificate in hospital pharmacy administration from his residency at Jefferson Medical College Hospital in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Following a few years at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland, Mr. Abrahams returned to Connecticut, and has practiced in both the hospital and community pharmacy settings.

In 1990, Mr. Abrahams moved to Hartford Hospital and within a few years he became a dialysis pharmacist. In that position he was instrumental in the implementation of the first pharmacy-managed collaborative program within the state of Connecticut and at Hartford Hospital to optimally manage patients with end-stage renal disease receiving dialysis treatment.

This unique program has now been operational for the past 18 years and Mr. Abrahams has demonstrated the value and role of a pharmacist in the dialysis unit through numerous national presentations and publications.

Pharmacist Abrahams has served as a preceptor for countless pharmacy students from the University of Connecticut School of Pharmacy. He has been an adjunct instructor since 2008, and past students have enthusiastically commented on his unique clinical practice and excellent teaching style.

Mr. Abrahams has also extended his teaching to the classroom setting, developing didactic lectures that stimulate interest and discussion in the classroom. He currently participates in teaching up to 12 students for an elective course, and 100 students in the large classroom setting for a mandatory Renal Module 2-hour lecture on nephrology and dialysis. Pharmacy student evaluations of his teaching reflect his dedication to helping them understand this difficult subject matter.

In his retirement, Mr. Abrahams continues to inform others of the role of a pharmacist on the dialysis unit through continuing education for CSHP members, and recent interviews on his unique clinical role published in Drug Topics and other professional journals. He is a member of the CT Society of Health-System Pharmacists and received the Paul G. Pierpaoli Award in 2011. In addition, last year he was also inducted as a Fellow of the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists.

Dr. Robert F. Kaiko, awardee in the field of industry, is a member of the University of Connecticut School of Pharmacy Class of 1970, and received the Pharmacology Prize from the School. Following his graduation, he attended Cornell University Graduate School of Medical Sciences in New York City, where he obtained his Ph.D. in pharmacology in 1974. He then became a research associate at Sloan-Kettering Institute for Cancer Research in the Analgesic Studies Section.

Dr. Kaiko was also a postdoctoral research fellow, instructor and adjunct assistant professor at Cornell University Graduate School of Medical Sciences in the Department of Pharmacology.

In 1985, Dr. Kaiko joined The Purdue Frederick Company in Norwalk, Connecticut as associate medical director. In his 27 years with the company he has held a number of positions and is currently vice president, R&D portfolio development with Purdue Pharma L.P., located in Stamford, Connecticut.

Pain treatment, specifically, sustained analgesia, has been a focus during his career, and Dr. Kaiko holds 18 patents in this area. He has published 100 reviewed articles and almost 200 abstracts. A number of his publications were co-authored with Dr. Charles E. Inturrissi, a 1962 alumnus of the University of Connecticut School of Pharmacy, who served as Ph.D. advisor to Dr. Kaiko at Cornell University.

Dr. Kaiko currently serves as a board member for the Eastern Pain Association and is a former president of the association. In addition, he has enjoyed membership in the American College of Clinical Pharmacology, the American Pain Society, and a number of other scientific and medical societies, both national and international.

In addition to his work with various pharmaceutical companies, Dr. Kaiko has consulted for the Food and Drug Administration, the Drug Abuse Advisory Board, the Federal Trade Commission, and the World Health Organization. He was also a grant reviewer and site visitor for the National Cancer Institute and the Veteran’s Administration.

Dr. Kaiko has chaired the Cornell Fund for Underprivileged Children Task Force and served as a trustee for Central Presbyterian Church and a council member for Norfield Congregational Church.

Dr. Joseph J. Kranowski, awardee in the field of academia, is a Connecticut native, who lived in Newington and Collinsville, and graduated from Canton High School in 1958. He then attended the University of Connecticut School of Pharmacy, graduating...
in 1962 with a B.S. in Pharmacy. While at UConn he was president of the Student APhA, a member of Rho Chi Honor Society and the Mortar and Pestle Society, a member of Rho Pi Phi Pharmacy Professional Fraternity and he lettered in swimming as a member of the intercollegiate swim team.

In 1963, after obtaining pharmacy licenses in the states of Connecticut and Maine, Dr. Krzanowski entered the medical units of the University of Tennessee in Memphis where he earned his M.S. in 1965 and his Ph.D. in 1968. His postdoctoral work (1968-71) was at Washington University College of Medicine, St. Louis, Missouri, in the area of neurochemistry.

In 1971, Dr. Krzanowski was among the 14 founding faculty members of the University of South Florida (USF) College of Medicine. He rose to the level of full professor and served in many capacities, including 15 years as associate dean for research & graduate affairs. While at USF, Dr. Krzanowski conducted research in the areas of asthma, red tide toxin and cardiovascular disease. He established USF COM research day, published 14 books & book chapters, 62 articles in refereed publications and 106 published abstracts. Dr. Krzanowski retired in 2006 after 35 years on the faculty and is currently professor emeritus of Molecular Pharmacology and Physiology.

In 1963, Dr. Krzanowski married his UConn classmate, Patricia Teper, and they will celebrate 50 years of marriage this year. The couple met in a chemistry lab and often say “it was good chemistry”. They have two daughters (one is an oncology pharmacist and the other a speech pathologist) and two grandchildren.

Dr. Krzanowski earned a M.A. in religious studies from Barry University in 1987. He is an ordained deacon for the Roman Catholic Diocese of St. Petersburg, where he serves assigned to Incarnation Catholic Church. He also serves on the Bishop’s committee on Liturgy and from whom he learned. He and his wife, Susan, traveled the world to visit pharmacy museums, meet the curators and collect a large number of apothecary antiques and pharmacy-related literature. This led to associations with other collectors who learned from him and from whom he learned.

Pharmacist Viner also respected the fact that certain plants were the basis of pharmacy, and 40 years ago he began a personal herb garden with a large number of medicinal plants. This led to a 30-year membership in the Herb Society of America. He is also a member of the American Institute of the History of Pharmacy.

Mr. Viner has served the University of Connecticut School of Pharmacy as an adjunct instructor of pharmacy practice for over ten years. He is a member of the Admissions Committee of the School of Pharmacy, a member of the committee that will restore the School of Pharmacy’s medicinal herb garden, and he is proud to sponsor scholarships to upper class students in the Pharm.D. program. Most importantly, he is using his knowledge of apothecary antiques and their history to help properly date and label the many School of Pharmacy’s antiques so they may be appropriately displayed in the building.

Allan P. Viner was presented with the Exceptional Service Award. He received his B.S. in pharmacy from the University of Connecticut in 1959. While a student, he was president of Alpha Zeta Omega Pharmacy Fraternity and after graduation he was president of the Western Massachusetts alumni chapter of Alpha Zeta Omega. During his career, he worked as a community pharmacist and partner in ownership of two pharmacies in Connecticut. He also spent many years as a consultant pharmacist for long term care facilities and for Riverview Children’s Hospital and Whiting Forensic Institute, both state-run institutions.

Mr. Viner had an interest in and respect for pharmacy history and the tools and equipment used by apothecaries and pharmacists through the centuries globally. He and his wife, Susan, traveled the world to visit pharmacy museums, meet the curators and collect a large number of apothecary antiques and pharmacy-related literature. This led to associations with other collectors who learned from him and from whom he learned.
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