

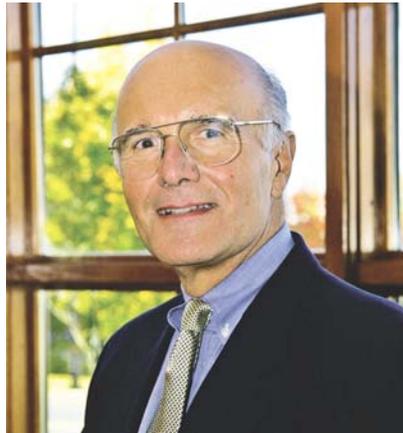
Prescriptives

School of Pharmacy News

Effort Underway to Honor Beloved Educator, Colleague, and Friend

By: Karen Logan

Dr. Robert L. McCarthy, dean of the School of Pharmacy has announced a special fund-raising campaign to establish an endowed faculty position in honor of Dr. Henry A. Palmer. A group of alumni, in conjunction with Associate Director of Development Anne-Margaret Gaffney, are spearheading the fund-raising campaign, which will run through April 2008. Their goal is to raise \$1.5 million to establish the Henry A. Palmer Endowed Chair in Community Pharmacy Practice. They have already received verbal commitments for more than \$400,000. The position will be used to recruit a



Dr. Henry A. Palmer

Hank Palmer is the essence of what we want pharmacists to be - passionate about the profession, compassionate with patients, and inspiring to peers. The way he has personally touched so many pharmacists' lives decade after decade embodies who he is. It is through people like Dr. Palmer that I gained my passion for this profession and accepted the full responsibility of my role as an educator of future pharmacists.

C. Michael White, Pharm.D. ~ Associate Professor of Pharmacy Practice

nationally renowned scholar to the Department of Pharmacy Practice. Dr. Palmer's career encompasses a wide range of pharmacy practice experience including community, hospital, and long-term care, in addition to teaching and research. He retired from the University of Connecticut School of Pharmacy in January 2000 and is now a clinical professor emeritus and serves on a part time basis as the director of continuing education.

Dr. Palmer began his tenure at the School of Pharmacy as a graduate teaching assistant in 1958. He earned his master's degree in 1960 and soon followed it with a Ph.D. in 1965. As a clinical professor and associate dean at the

School of Pharmacy, he won the esteem of both colleagues and students as he taught compounding, patient counseling, and an elective on non-prescription medication.

Over the years, Henry has received awards and honors on a local, statewide, and national level for his teaching, his service, and his dedication to the profession. He has served on elective and committee positions in professional organizations and is a past president of the Connecticut Pharmacists Association. He was named an AACP Teacher of the Year in 1999 and his students have similarly honored his teaching abilities. In many ways, he exemplifies the ideal of

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A Message From the Dean

Dear Friends:

Those of us who are academics often comment on the rapidity with which seasons and years come and go; perhaps it is the academic calendar upon which we live our lives, perhaps it is the annual arrival of young, talented, and eager new students to our campuses. Whatever the reason, it's hard to believe I am about to begin my sixth academic year in the Dean's Office. As we begin a new year, I can honestly say that I have the same enthusiasm for my work and our school and university as I did when I assumed my responsibilities in 2002. As we prepare to welcome the new first year pharmacy students (Class of 2011), let me share some news and events from the spring and summer.

The first School of Pharmacy 4K Run/Walk to benefit the Susan G. Komen Fund for a Cure was held on March 31st under sunny skies with temperatures in the upper 50s! Over 125 runners and walkers participated in this exciting event that raised \$2000. We want to express our special thanks to our friends at Walgreens, who sponsored the race so that all proceeds were able to go to the Komen Fund.

I am very pleased to announce that Dr. Urs Boelsterli has been appointed by the Board of Trustees as the first Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Endowed Chair in Mechanistic Toxicology. Dr. Boelsterli comes to us from the University of Singapore, one of the top 30 universities in the world, where he has most recently continued his cutting edge research in studying the mechanisms of drug hepatotoxicity. Dr. Boelsterli officially joined our school family in July, and will be invested as the chair on October 25, 2007.

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Food for Thought

By: Brynne Davies

The Lunch & Learn series is a great new program at the School of Pharmacy. Introduced in the fall of 2006, Lunch & Learn exposes pharmacy students to vital information from outside sources. Students may learn about summer internship opportunities, career choices, and drug information from a variety of speakers who have knowledge to share about their particular fields. In its inaugural season, Lunch & Learn presentations have included representatives from Osco/Shaws, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Lexi-Comp, Bridgeport Hospital and even the U.S. Navy. Students are able to bring their lunch and eat during these presentations or sometimes presenters will provide pizza or coffee and cookies for students to munch on.



Robert Miller of ASCP addresses students during a Lunch & Learn session.

The brain child of Elizabeth Anderson, director of the Office of Marketing and Communications, the Lunch & Learn gatherings are held every other Wednesday in the fourth floor atrium. Students are encouraged to sign up ahead of time to attend these sessions. Attendance varies, depending on student interest and the speaker, but some sessions have attracted as many as 50 students. So far, the Lunch & Learn series has been a success with positive feedback from students who found the information provided a better understanding of career opportunities and new material. 🍷



We Goofed...

In "More About Joseph Price Remington" in the last edition of **Prescriptives** our author stated, "Therefore, the oldest known pharmacy diploma in the country is located at the University of Connecticut, School of Pharmacy in the Laurence D. Runsdorf Dean's Conference room." Our diploma is not the oldest pharmacy diploma in the country, however, it is one early example signed by Remington. Come and see our piece of history when next you visit the School of Pharmacy. Thanks to our anonymous researcher who had wonderful information for us!

Also in our last edition, a typographical error stated that the School of Pharmacy opened on the Storrs Campus in 1956. According to, "The Road to Excellence - The University of Connecticut School of Pharmacy 1925 - 2000," edited by Dr. Karl A. Nieforth, "Bids were obtained during the summer of 1950 and the lowest bid was \$170,000 in excess of the appropriation. Thus a wing of the proposed U-shaped building was eliminated from the plans and a new bid was awarded in October 1950. Construction began early in 1951. Occupancy of the third floor occurred in January 1952 and the remainder of the building was occupied during the fall semester in that year." This account has been confirmed by our own Dan Leone, director of alumni relations, who was part of the class that moved here from the New Haven facility. Many thanks to our "goof patrol" who found this error. We love to hear from you, even when we've goofed. That way we know you are reading our news! Don't forget to let us know what's happening in your life by using the form on Page 8, or you can use our online form at: <https://www.pharmacy.uconn.edu/pharmacy/alumniaddress.html> 🍷

Professional Student News Briefs

Two Pharm.D. students were elected 2006-2007 APhA-ASP Regional Officers:

Aaron Burton was selected Region 1 Delegate and **Andrew Bzowyckj**, Region 1 Member-at-Large. Aaron, Andrew, and several dozen other students attended the 2007 APhA Annual Meeting in Atlanta, GA where the School of Pharmacy hosted its annual dessert reception.

Several baccalaureate and Pharm.D. students were honored in April for their work as honors scholars. Honors Scholars are required to produce an honors thesis, enroll in a minimum of 12 honors credits in the major, and attain a GPA of at least 3.2. Pharm.D. graduate **Crystal Bissonnette's** thesis was entitled, "Does Appropriate Antibiotic Therapy Affect Hospital Duration for Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus Infections in Children?" Her advisor was Dr. Gerald Gianutsos. Pharm.D. graduate **Jennifer Voisine's** thesis was entitled, "Investigation of In Vitro Testing and Stability of Microsphere Formulations." Her advisor was Dr. Diane Burgess. The following B.S. in Pharmacy Studies graduates were also honored:

Sarah Hooker's thesis was entitled, "Survey Evaluating Education and Self-Efficacy of Community Pharmacists in Connecticut: A Pilot Study." Her advisor was Dr. Jennifer Ellis. **Sagar Makanji's** thesis was entitled, "Effect of ACE Inhibitors or Angiotensin Receptor Blockers on the Frequency of Post-Cardiothoracic Surgery Atrial Fibrillation." Sagar's advisor was Dr. Craig Coleman. **Jennifer Prushko's** thesis was entitled, "In Vitro Effect of Calcium Dose and Bicarbonate Secretion Rate on Intestinal Calcium Precipitation." Her advisor was Dr. Robin Bogner. **Atula Tarpada's** thesis was entitled, "Dynamics of Synaptic Maintenance and the Controversial Role of Cathepsin D." Atula's advisor was Dr. Ben Bahr. 🍷



University of
Connecticut

Contributors:

Elizabeth Anderson, Kathryn Bidwell, Tom Buckley, Daniel Buttrey, Barry Costa, Brynne Davies, Kaitlin Hurd, Beth Krane, Daniel Leone, Karen Logan, Robert McCarthy, Jacqueline Murphy

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.

Dean's Message...

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For the first time in the school's history, we have provided \$100,000 in scholarship support to Pharm.D. and graduate students this year. I was pleased to announce this milestone at this year's Scholarship Convocation at which Joseph Papa, former Advisory Board chair, alumnus, scholarship sponsor, and "pharmacy dad" was the featured speaker.

Efforts continue toward the establishment of the Henry A. Palmer Endowed Chair in Community Pharmacy. As of this writing, approximately \$400,000 in gifts and pledges have been received. Significant gifts are still vitally needed if we are to reach our \$1.5 million goal. If you are interested in contributing, please contact Anne-Margaret Gaffney at 860-486-9342 or agaffney@foundation.uconn.edu.

Dr. Devra Dang continues to work with the Schools of Medicine and Nursing to develop an urban service track for our health professions students. The goal of the program is to develop health care professionals who are prepared and committed to working in urban environments, where their expertise is desperately needed, after graduation.

Our second annual Unity Week, the School of Pharmacy's celebration of diversity in the health professions was sponsored by SNPhA. Under the careful direction of pharmacy student, Jennifer Scholle, the week was filled with special programming, lectures, and an art show. The week concluded with a "What Not to Wear" program, sponsored by the student CT-ASCP chapter. The program was conducted by staff from Nordstrom's who shared their tips about dressing professionally.

As part of our effort to offer international opportunities for our students and faculty, I was privileged to lead a delegation to China in May along with Drs. Diane Burgess and Philip Hritcko and Study Abroad Director Dr. Ross Lewin. This busy, interactive 10-day visit included stops in Beijing, Shanghai, and Hong Kong. I am very pleased to announce that we signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Peking University in Beijing and have one pending with Fudan University in Shanghai. In the next year, we hope to offer our students both a traditional Chinese medicine

course and the opportunity to complete advanced pharmacy practice experiences (APPEs) there.

For the first time in memory, the School of Pharmacy held its own Commencement Ceremony in May. The school, along with the Schools of Education and Fine Arts, is experimenting with a decentralized format, which could become university-wide in the future. Since the school already held a Commencement Day Brunch and Hooding Ceremony, the presentation of diplomas and conferral of degrees was a natural fit. Students and families were quite excited about the change that allowed easy access to the graduates for watching and taking pictures of this special moment.

This past semester, Dr. Charles Caley of the School of Pharmacy, and Paula Holmes and Donna Webber, APRNs at Student Health Services, participated in a unique, collaborative initiative, entitled "UConn SHS/SOP Collaborative Psychiatric Pharmacy Consultant Project." For several months this academic year, Dr. Caley maintained office hours at the Student Health Services and worked with the clinical staff in the psychopharmacology management of students.

In May, Dr. Robin Bogner served on the planning committee for the Women in Math, Science, & Engineering (WIMSE) Program "Negotiating Your Way to Success." The School of Pharmacy was well represented with Associate Dean Andrea Hubbard and Drs. Marie Smith, Sneha Baxi, Megan Ehret, Olga Vinogradova, and Fei Wang in attendance.

Educational Outreach Coordinator Peter Tyczkowski, Associate Dean Andrea Hubbard, Larry Beninati (Walgreens), and Michelle Benish (Yale-New Haven Hospital) participated in a session entitled "Partnering to Improve Diversity Within the Profession of Pharmacy," focusing on our partnership with the New Haven Public Schools, in June as part of the 2007 Connecticut Association of Latinos in Higher Education (CALAHE) Annual Conference on the Storrs campus.

Beginning with the class entering this fall, all new PI students will be assigned a volunteer student mentor. Associate Dean Andrea



The winners of the Phirst Pharmacy Pfun Run [From Left] alumna Jill Fitzgerald – Women Over 30, faculty member Dr. David Grant – Men Over 30, friend John Kelly – Men Under 30, and Pharm.D. student Sarah Hooker – Women Under 30

Hubbard was delighted that several dozen "rising" P2 and P3 students answered her call to participate in the new program. We hope that these student mentors, which have been employed very successfully at other schools of pharmacy, will ease the new student's transition into our professional program.

We continued our efforts to "go where the alumni are" by holding our first New Jersey reception. We are very grateful to Nancy & Joe Papa for hosting the very successful event. We are currently planning an event in Maine; watch for us, we could be in your area next!

Finally, please join us at the Homecoming Game on October 19th at Rentschler Field where UConn will take on Louisville. We have a limited number of excellent seats available so send in your form [found on the back page] as soon as possible. I look forward to seeing you at the Pharmacy Tailgate Tent before the game! 🍷

Images of Hank...

Throughout this issue you'll find Images of Hank provided by friends, colleagues, and former students. If you have a memory to share, send it to us at pharmacymco@uconn.edu. We'll make sure to pass it on to Hank!

Second Annual Unity Week

By: Brynne Davies

The School of Pharmacy's second annual Unity Week was held during the first week of April. Unity Week began last year as an effort to celebrate diversity in health care. It was the brainchild of two pharmacy students who had attended an event on diversity elsewhere and felt that there was a need for more diversity-awareness here at UConn. Organized by SNPhA, this year's theme - the evolution of pharmacy - was chosen because the field of pharmacy and the way it is practiced has changed so much in the past several years. Pharmacy has evolved to promote increased patient counseling and afford greater opportunities for women and individuals of diverse backgrounds. These changes are part of what was discussed and embraced during the week-long celebration.

Unity week was comprised of three, informative and entertaining events, beginning April 1st. Kicking off the week was an art show and pot luck dinner with items contributed by members of the pharmacy professional organizations, university students, pharmacy students, faculty, and staff. This year the art show contained a wide array of pieces that sparked debate about issues faced by health care professionals everyday. The pharmacy-related artwork was displayed for all to see in the Morosko Student Lounge. Students and faculty proved their creativity with posters of the "evolution of UC Rx education," a computer screen-robot dressed as a pharmacist with a wig and white coat and complete with a dispensing arm, a mixed media mobile with a "now and then" theme which showcased pictures of past and present pharmacy classes, drug stores, and the required academic standard for pharmacy students (which was a 2.7 GPA in all required math and science prerequisites for guaranteed admission but now is a 3.5), a quilt that showed the invention of coca-cola by a pharmacist, and even cross stitch! Most of the art stressed the idea that art is an important complement to the fields of science and medicine.

In addition to the art show, the pot luck dinner was enjoyed by all. Following the supper, Dean McCarthy provided a history and demographics of pharmacy and then gave a preview of the profession in the future. After this, Dr. Marie Smith continued with a discussion on the role of e-health in pharmacy and the new development of electronic communication in the prescription process. She stressed that the field of pharmacy could benefit from the use of electronic medical records and that future pharmacists should work to promote their use.

On Wednesday of Unity Week, the students were happy to host Dr. Taylor, past president of the National Pharmaceutical Association, who flew in from Maryland to speak about his experiences in the changing field of pharmacy. Dr. Taylor has seen many changes in his lifetime and was able to add his experiences to the ongoing discussion of the evolution of pharmacy. 🍷



Claire and Pauline [front center] with members of the School of Pharmacy faculty and staff.

During the spring 2006 semester, the School of Pharmacy welcomed two exchange students, Claire Le Mons and Pauline Masson, from the University of Rennes in western France. In their fifth year of pharmacy school, they have chosen to spend their second rotation here at the University of Connecticut. The French students were warmly welcomed with a pizza lunch held in the Morosko Student Lounge on February 1st. Claire and Pauline were introduced by Dr. Phil Hritcko, director of experiential education, who welcomed them

Bienvenue aux Etats-Unis Claire et Pauline!

By: Brynne Davies

to the University of Connecticut's School of Pharmacy and presented them with SOP tote bags as mementos of their visit. He then introduced Dean Robert McCarthy who echoed his welcome and further noted that Claire and Pauline are a part of a larger effort by the School of Pharmacy to provide international access and academic experience to UConn students. He hopes that pharmacy students will be able to participate in rotations in other universities, like the University of Rennes.

The lunch was a success and both Claire and Pauline expressed their gratitude and surprise at the welcoming that they received. "This would never happen in France," says Pauline about the pleasantly unexpected lunch. Out of 100 students from their class, Claire and Pauline were 2 of 11 who were chosen based on their "marks," to receive a letter of motivation and the opportunity to study outside of their country. Some of their peers chose such places as Australia, Spain, Canada, and Vietnam to study, but for Claire and

Pauline, America was their first choice. Both were astonished by the ready access of over the counter drugs in U.S. supermarkets. In France, OTC drugs are only sold by pharmacies.

During their stay, Claire and Pauline spent their time on a rotation at the Yale - New Haven Hospital. They were excited about the prospect of learning and practicing different methods of pharmaceutical care. They expressed their surprise at the idea that pharmacists were included on every floor of the hospital, unlike France where they are mostly found in the basement with little to no interaction with patients. Claire and Pauline list improving their English, traveling (especially to New York City,) and meeting new people as goals they would like to accomplish, as well as learning new methods of practicing pharmacy, while they are in the U.S.

Claire and Pauline were as excited to be here, as we were to host them. Bienvenue et bonne chance, Claire et Pauline! 🍷

Pinning Ceremony Reinforces Professionalism

By: Kathryn Bidwell

On April 18, 2007, P2 students were honored for their hard work and dedication to pharmacy during a Pinning Ceremony. Associate Dean Andrea Hubbard and Dean Robert McCarthy addressed the crowd of students gathered for the celebratory breakfast in the Morosko Student Lounge.

Dr. Hubbard explained that professionalism is a quality that is stressed throughout pharmacy school. The school even has a Professionalism Coordinating Committee comprised of faculty, staff, students, and alumni. In the P1 year students develop and administer their own oath of professionalism at a special ceremony held in the fall. P3 students don their white coats and take the "Oath of a Pharmacist" at an event prior to beginning their practice lab. As part of the School of Pharmacy Hooding and Commencement Ceremony, Pharm.D. graduates once again recite the "Oath of a Pharmacist" and are charged by the dean to uphold their standards of professionalism and patient care. Dr. Hubbard, therefore, felt there was a need for P2 students to renew their commitment to professionalism prior to receiving their B.S. degree in Pharmacy Studies.

During the event, Dean McCarthy discussed the importance of a pharmacy degree, especially a pharmacy degree from the University of Connecticut. He explained that there is a certain standard that the community has for the University of Connecticut pharmacist. He encouraged the students to nurture the "caring" side of the pharmacist. He stressed that pharmacy students, and other students in the healthcare field, should recognize that they can really change lives as healthcare professionals. In healthcare, the primary responsibility of the pharmacist is the patient. Dean McCarthy hopes that students will remember that high quality, integrity, knowledge, and caring are essential to a successful pharmacist. After the dean's speech, the students received a card containing a memorable quotation as well as a School of Pharmacy pin that they will wear during their bachelor's degree commencement ceremony. 📖



P2 students choose their favorite quote at the Pinning Ceremony in April.

A Pediatric Residency

By Kathryn Bidwell

When Renee St. Germain, Pharm.D. heard about the Pediatric Infectious Disease fellowship at the Connecticut Children's Medical Center, it was a dream come true. Ever since Dr. St. Germain was a senior in high school, she knew that she wanted to pursue a degree in pharmacy, specializing in pediatrics. Her interest was sparked by a family friend who was a pharmacist at CVS. The Pediatric Infectious Disease fellowship at the Connecticut Children's Medical Center was a perfect match for Dr. St. Germain.

To apply for a fellowship the applicant submits a transcript, curriculum vitae, and three letters of recommendation. An on site interview is an essential part of the selection process.

Dr. St. Germain graduated from the pharmacy program at the University of Rhode Island in 2005. She was an active student and member of organizations including Rho Chi, Phi Lambda Sigma, Golden Key, and the National Society of Collegiate Scholars.

The Pediatric Infectious Disease Fellowship is an intensive two-year program. During one year of the fellowship, Dr. St. Germain completed clinical work while the second half of her time was devoted to research. For six months at the Connecticut Children's Medical Center, Dr. St. Germain focused on pediatric infectious disease. Dr. St. Germain also practiced in pediatric general medicine, infectious disease, and neonatal work during her clinical rotations. She spent two days each month working at the pediatric HIV clinic while also managing teaching responsibilities.

Dr. St. Germain praised the Connecticut Children's Medical Center Fellowship for its strong focus on clinical and research studies. She notes that UConn is one of the few universities that offer a fellowship program that incorporates both clinical and research work for pediatric infectious disease.

Upon completion of her fellowship at the Connecticut Children's Medical Center, Dr. St. Germain will join the Maine Medical Center in Portland as a pediatric clinical specialist. 📖

SOP Blogger Fall 2007



In our last edition of **Prescriptives**, we profiled student Kristy Daub's experience as an official UConn blogger. Incoming P1 student Justine Dickson will be blogging her experiences this fall. Check out her blog at:

<http://blogs.uconn.edu>

Effort Underway to Honor Palmer

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the caring pharmacist, nurturing teacher, and good neighbor. He shares his multi-faceted talents with all and gains equal enjoyment out of teaching and learning — both in the classroom and out.

While humbly accepting the accolades, Palmer is quick to point out the ultimate benefits of the new faculty position, “More important than personal honor is what this chair means to the School of Pharmacy and how it will impact on pharmacy practice. Candidates for this 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.”

There is, perhaps, no greater honor in academia than to name an endowed chair for a person. Typically, endowed chairs are funded by a single individual or a corporation. The creation of this endowed chair in community pharmacy practice through the generosity of the pharmacy community is a unique appeal attempted by very few institutions. Dean McCarthy notes, “That our alumni wish to honor Hank in this way is a true testament to his great success as a pharmacist, professor, and colleague.” The dean continues, “It is also an indicator of the collegial strength of the profession of pharmacy in the State of Connecticut.” Whatever the challenges that await the individual who is eventually named to this position, their most difficult job will be to live up to the legacy of Henry A. Palmer. 📖



[Above] Pharm.D. students take Jonathan’s blood pressure during a basketball game at Gampel Pavilion as part of the Red Dress Campaign.

Images of Hank...

When someone asks if I know Henry Palmer, it makes me smile, for this tells me that this is another person who has been touched by this fine man. And it tells me that I will most likely share in some delightful memories about Hank. I have known Hank since the early seventies — first as a teacher and then as an adviser and friend. In my college years Hank could be found at most of our functions, public and private. I remember quiet evenings spent sharing in good conversation with all in attendance.

I have known Hank only to be positive about life and he has always set the best example as a professional and as a friend. That is what life is all about. That is what Henry Palmer is all about.

Barry Cerreto, Drug Control Agent, Drug Control Division, Department of Consumer Protection, State of Connecticut

Look for more about Images of Hank throughout this issue.

Hank is the heart and soul of the School of Pharmacy. No matter where I travel, UConn graduates always ask about Hank. He made a huge impression on everyone who walked into the school. As the current course coordinator for the practice lab, I am always striving to fill his shoes.

Lauren Schlesselman, Pharm.D., Director of Assessment and Assistant Clinical Professor of Pharmacy Practice, School of Pharmacy

Hank was the unofficial guidance/career counselor for pharmacy students during school and after graduation. I called him many times over my career to seek his wisdom, experience and direction.

Greg Gousse, M.S., R.Ph., FASHP, Implementation Manager, Supply Chain Custom Services, VHA, Inc.

Several years ago, Hank and Janice would invite a number of pharmacy students over to their home in Mansfield for an Italian dinner. Hank is a wonderful cook! No one left hungry and I’m sure it was the only good food the students had all semester!

Andrea Hubbard, Ph.D., Associate Dean, School of Pharmacy & Associate Professor of Pharmacology & Toxicology

The opportunity to work with Henry, has been an incredible learning experience. His knowledge, history and love for the school speak volumes. It amazes me how many people know him and look forward to seeing him at our continuing education events.

Meg Tartsinis, B.S. Business Management, Administrative Services Specialist II, School of Pharmacy

After graduating from UConn School of Pharmacy, I left Connecticut yet always kept in touch with Dr. Palmer. I would see him at national meetings, chatted with him with each UConn basketball victory, and we eventually discovered we shared a passion for food and cooking. Often we traded recipes and I so looked forward to his homemade biscotti and Italian cookies. One of the best things about joining the UConn faculty was having the pleasure of seeing and working with Hank more than once a year.

Marie Smith, Pharm.D., Head, Department of Pharmacy Practice & Clinical Professor of Pharmacy Practice, School of Pharmacy

Henry not only teaches the students well; he also teaches the teachers. Henry encouraged me to utilize my pharmaceuticals experience to teach and become more involved in pharmacy compounding. He made sure that his dedication to compounding would be maintained for years after his formal retirement from teaching. For this and so many other things, I am indebted to Henry Palmer.

Robin Bogner, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Pharmaceutics, School of Pharmacy

Shirley Ableman '50 was featured in an article in the winter 2007 edition of Greenwood House –Tree of Life newsletter. Shirley is a resident of Greenwood House in Ewing Township, NJ. The article highlighted her success as a woman and as a pharmacist. She was the first woman president of the UConn Pharmacy Alumni Association and the first woman drug control agent in Connecticut. The article noted her involvement in charitable activities at Greenwood House and her enthusiasm for helping people in need.

Marc Caouette '86 of the United States Army Medical Service Corps writes that, shortly after his commencement exercises with the Class of 1986, he went to Officer Basic School with the U.S. Army and has been selected for promotion to the rank of colonel. Marc was awarded the Bronze Star at the completion of his deployment to Iraq and was the senior pharmacy staff officer and Pharmacy Consultant for Multi-National Corps – Iraq, a coalition of forces from approximately thirty nations responsible for the security and rebuilding of Iraq. He was deployed to Iraq from July 2004 to August 2005, during which time he oversaw and coordinated pharmacy services and medication management operations for a force of 150,000 military personnel.

Marc currently serves as the chief of the Pharmacy Branch at the U.S. Army Medical Department Center & School, Academy of Health Sciences located at Fort Sam Houston, Texas. In this position he is responsible for directing all pharmacy education and training provided to both officers and enlisted medical personnel in the Army Medical Department. The recent Base Realignment & Closure Commission (BRAC) recommendations approved by Congress directed the consolidation of all medical education programs for the Military Departments on Fort Sam Houston and Marc's staff coordinates very closely with counterparts in the Navy and Air Force on plans to merge their training programs. Marc reports that this is a very exciting and rewarding challenge that will shape pharmacy education for the military services for the next fifty years.

His staff has also been collaborating with the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) to develop web-based, distributed learning

programs for training pharmacy technicians. This \$4 million project will provide highly interactive, professional education for the VHA, the Department of Defense and the U.S. Coast Guard. Other federal agencies may also benefit from this effort in the future.

Marc earned his M.S. in Pharmacy Administration from the University of Texas at Austin in 1990, and his Pharm.D. from the University of Texas Health Science Center - San Antonio in 1994. He lives on Fort Sam Houston with Melanie, his loving wife of 28+ years. They have two grown daughters — Stephanie and Sarah.

Fred E. Coleman III '57 reports that after a 26-year career in the U.S. Air Force, including 7 years as Air Force Chief Pharmacist, he held the position of Director of Pharmacy at the 550-bed Medical Center of Central Georgia in Macon, GA for 15 years. He served as president of the Georgia Society of Hospital Pharmacists and the Southeastern Society of Hospital Pharmacists. He then retired to Florida and successfully sat for the NAPLEX exam in 2004 and worked part time in a CVS pharmacy. He recently moved back to Macon and will again work at some licensed position. Fred attended the 50th reunion of his School of Pharmacy class in April.

Michael Rubino '75 has been appointed director of pharmacy at Hartford Hospital. He has had 30 years of experience in health system pharmacy, including directorships at the UConn Health Center and St. Vincent's Hospital in Bridgeport. He has held clinical faculty positions with the UConn School of Pharmacy and serves as a consultant for Cardinal Health and Johnson & Johnson. Mike has been an active member of CSHP, serving as president and chair of various committees and is a state delegate to ASHP.

Barbara Deptula '78 has been named one of the Best 50 Women in Business in Pennsylvania. She is the vice president for development for Shire Pharmaceuticals, a growing global specialty pharmaceutical company founded in 1986, that is now the third largest pharmaceutical company in the UK.

Lydia Mis, Pharm.D., B.S. Pharm. '82, was awarded the 2006-2007 Preceptor of the Year Award in grateful appreciation for commitment, support, dedication and time by the Duke University Hospital pharmacy residents.

Katherine Kennedy Kelley '83 received a Masters in Public Health degree with a concentration in epidemiology in May 2007. Since 1999, she has been working as a research pharmacist at the Slone Epidemiology Center at Boston University.

Mukhtar Shihabeddin, Ph.D. '84 writes that he is currently a pharmaceutical technical consultant in Amman, Jordan. Following his graduation in 1984, he worked for Wyeth Laboratories until 1987, then for Hikma Pharmaceuticals in Jordan until 1996. He was employed by Gulf Pharmaceutical Industries (Julphar) in the United Arab Emirates until 2004.

Judith Pepin, Ph.D. '87 has been named administrator of development for the American Medical Writers Association. She is a senior scientist with Procter & Gamble Pharmaceuticals Scientific Writing and Editing Section. She now lives in Mason, OH.

Dinesh (Dan) Singh '93 and his wife, Parminder, have two daughters, Priya [age 5] and Serena [age 3.] After working in independent pharmacy in Connecticut for eight years and then for chains in Virginia for five years, holding positions from staff pharmacist to district manager, Dan opened Dan's Wellness Pharmacy in Stafford, VA on March 14, 2007. It is a full service pharmacy with non-sterile compounding capabilities, a good selection of HHC and DME supplies, quality herbal products and a library of reading material to read and for sale. He also has a private area for consulting and fitting of stockings and therapeutic footwear, and an aisle and freezer of gluten/wheat/allergen free foods that is very popular with the community.

President's Message ~ Jacqueline Murphy '78



I am honored to be serving as president of the School of Pharmacy Alumni Association. I think that when most people think of the association, it brings to mind the annual banquet. During my years on the Board of Directors and as an officer, I have found that the Alumni Association is more than just an annual dinner.

When I started thinking about what to write, I kept going back to the changes – both physical and philosophical – that have occurred in the profession of pharmacy since I graduated. The practice has gone from its young days of compounding secret formulas physicians write in illegible handwriting, to counting/pouring/licking/sticking, to sitting down face to face with our patients to discuss their disease states and medications. We now promote and encourage the public to talk to us, ask questions, and use our education to manage their disease states. In many instances we now are being paid for this service.

As a result, the educational process has also changed – from 4 years, to 5 years, to 6 years and from B.S. Pharm. to Pharm. D. As alumni, it is our charge to help and encourage current and future students to honor pharmacy's rich history and embrace its future.

A little about the Alumni Association: Created in 1971 to assist the School of Pharmacy in many ways, the Alumni Association has bought furniture and laboratory equipment, and funds and grants scholarships to help future pharmacists continue their education and graduate without insurmountable debt. Every year the association honors members of the pharmacy community with Outstanding Alumni Awards, and Honorary Alumni Awards (for non-UConn pharmacists or non-pharmacists that encourage the growth of the profession of pharmacy.) Recently the association has established the Distinguished Alumni Honor Roll "Wall of Fame" located in the new School of Pharmacy.

The association, with the school, also promotes Homecoming Weekend. This is the second year that we will offer those hard to get tickets for the Homecoming Football game at Rentschler Field. There are also UConn-wide events throughout the weekend to encourage everyone to go back to the Storrs campus. I strongly urge you, if you have not been on campus in the past

5 years, to go back and explore. You will be amazed how the campus has changed and grown, and the new School of Pharmacy is exquisite. Be sure to get a tour while there.

What keeps the Alumni Association going is its members. While membership is open to all who graduated from the school, regardless of year, a large percentage of graduates do not become dues paying members. As members, I ask you to encourage your colleagues to join. The association is only as strong as its members. And once you join, I encourage you all to participate in the activities the association offers. This past spring we attempted to sponsor a cruise to Alaska, complete with continuing education credits. Unfortunately not enough people signed up to go and it was cancelled.

I said at the outset that the Alumni Association used to mean an annual dinner and meeting up with fellow alumni. Now the association encourages me to interact with students, be involved with the school and continue to evolve, change, and grow with the profession. I encourage all of you to become active in the association – attend the events and come to the school. Like any organization, the Alumni Association is only as active as its members allow it to be. If you have any suggestions for activities, any comments or ideas, please email them to me at: diabrph@yahoo.com. Help your association work for you! 

What's New With You?

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

Dr. Mr. Mrs. Ms. Other _____

Name: _____ Class Year: _____
Maiden/Former Name: _____ Spouse Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Home Phone: () _____ Work Phone: () _____
E-Mail Address: _____
Employer/Business Name: _____
Title: _____
Business Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
News: _____

Alumni Update

Continued From Page 7

Cynthia Prager Parenteau '97 and her husband Joshua, BUS '96, announce the birth of their third child, Lucas Lee, on March 12th.

Tiriza Saziru '05 and her husband, Raja, announce the birth of a son, Azad Rajea, on December 21, 2006. They reside in Austin, TX.

Sarah McCabe '06 is a drug development fellow at Novartis Pharmaceuticals in New Jersey. Sarah and fiancé Timothy Thompson are planning a September 2008 wedding. 

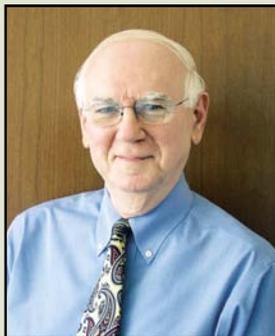
UCONN PHARMACY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Mark Your Calendar for the School of Pharmacy

Homecoming Game and Tailgate Party
at Rentschler Field



October 19, 2007



Another very successful annual awards and reunion banquet took place on April 14th of this year. Over 225 alumni, students and guests attended and had a great time. The event was an opportunity for alumni to mingle with students, for the association to honor three distinguished alumni, and to award two honorary alumni memberships. The evening was topped off by music and dancing. We are already planning for the 38th annual banquet which will be held in the spring. Further information will be sent out after the first of the year. If you have never attended this event, you are really missing a very enjoyable time. On a disappointing note, we had to cancel the Alaska cruise which we had scheduled for August because of low registrations. We are sorry that the information was sent out with a very short registration date. We think that is the main reason why it was not successful.

We would like to hear from you about the cruise and other alumni events. Give us your opinion about our events and what you would like to see us sponsor. Send me an e-mail at daniel.leone@uconn.edu or fill out the "What's New" form.

At the annual meeting held during the Awards and Reunion Banquet, the following officers were elected: President Jacqueline Murphy '78, Vice President Ellen Konspore '79, Secretary Donald Zettervall '79, and Treasurer Austin Bebyn '86. Re-elected to serve a 3-year term on the Board of Directors were Martha L. Asarisi '81, Thomas Buckley '82, Margherita Giuliano '75, V. Michael Guertin '66 and Jennifer Judd '04. Elected to their first 3-year term were Karen B. Rubinfeld '87 and David St. Germain '98 '03. If you are interested in serving on the board, send me an e-mail.

Have you looked at the updated School of Pharmacy web page? All the information you need to know about the school is there. Go to pharmacy.uconn.edu then to go to

the alumni section, click on 'alumni and friends' and then go to the other pages. Information about our events will be posted on the webpage. We also have a page where alumni can list their e-mail addresses if they wish to be contacted by other alumni. Just send me an e-mail with your name, class year, address, e-mail address and phone number and a request that your email address be posted on the webpage. Only your name, e-mail address, city and state will be posted.

Dues bills for 2008 will be sent out later this year. We appreciate those alumni who pay their annual dues or become life members. Your dues payment helps support the association's activities and provides funds that are used to support the school and the students. While annual reports and newsletters will continue to be sent to all alumni, we are discussing a policy whereby annual dues paid and life member alumni will receive a discounted fee for pharmacy alumni events.

Our next event will be the Homecoming football game with Louisville on October 19th at Rentschler Field. As we did last year, we will have a limited number of football tickets available for purchase. Look for the registration form in this newsletter. We are also trying to obtain some basketball tickets so that we can combine a basketball game with a CE program. Keeping checking our website for updated information about upcoming events.

I am happy to report that the association's board of directors has renewed its agreement with me to serve for another two years as Executive Secretary of the association. I look forward to working with the board, Dean McCarthy and all alumni to continue to serve the school, students and alumni. Thank you for your continued support.

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 2008

Edgar Albuja '93
Robert J. Bianchi '61
John Capuano '73
Alicia A. Gudaitis '01
Mary Ryan Norbut '92
George J. Perchak '81
Kathleen Wozniak '92

TERM EXPIRES MAY 2009

Robert Dana '63
Sherman R. Gershman '51
Keith Lyke '92
Edward Sklanka '74
Peter Tyczkowski '78
Elliott Tertes '62
Christopher Weimer '94

TERM EXPIRES MAY 2010

Martha L. Asarisi '81
Thomas Buckley '82
Margherita Giuliano '75
V. Michael Guertin '66
Jennifer Judd '04
Karen Rubinfeld '87
David St. Germaine '98 '03

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

Nicole Manfria '08
Kristin Zimmerman '08

Offices:
69 North Eagleville Road, Unit 3092
Storrs, Connecticut 06269-3092
Phone 860-486-0244 ~ Fax 860-486-2076
E-mail: daniel.leone@uconn.edu



Alumnus Takes on Thailand

By: Brynne Davies



School of Pharmacy alumnus Tom Buckley in Mae Sot, Thailand fulfilling his dream of helping those in need.

Many people dream of epic journeys like those found in *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey* or fantastic adventures like the ones had by Harry Potter, but few of us actually get to make them. Those who are lucky enough to make these journeys are often rewarded by them. Such is the case with University of Connecticut alumnus, Thomas Buckley, who recently returned from a six - month global health fellowship in Thailand.

From early on, Tom Buckley always knew that he wanted to help people, a compassion which started when he was young and his father suffered a heart attack. He remembers wondering why it happened to his father (who was healthy and an avid runner, just as Tom is today) and how it could have been prevented (little was known then about cholesterol or its harmful effects.) With a passion for helping people, Tom pursued his interests and graduated from UConn in 1982 with a Bachelor of Science degree from the School of Pharmacy and a Masters degree in Public Health from the School of Medicine. He began his career in healthcare as a clinical pharmacist at a hospital where he practiced for 18 years before he accepted his current position at Pfizer as a clinical education consultant. It is through his work at Pfizer, that Tom was presented the opportunity for the ultimate journey to a foreign country, to do something that he has always wanted to do: help people.

Tom applied for the Global Health Fellowship position after his fifth year (which made him eligible) at Pfizer. The actual application process took six months, during which Tom had to write essays, get reference letters, and be interviewed. Pfizer selects between 20 and 30 people from a competitive pool of applicants including scientists, doctors, nurses, information technology specialists and communicators, for three to six month assignments in Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe and Latin America. Once assigned, these talented colleagues help support nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) fighting HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and other public health threats in developing countries. From this

competitive process, Tom was accepted for three positions with different NGOs from Kenya, India, and Thailand. When deciding which country to choose, Tom admitted that the Kenya position seemed too dangerous, (as Tom would have to have an armed guard with him at all times) and the India position was in a hospital training clinical pharmacists, which Tom had already done. The Thailand position, however, was working in a clinic with refugees, which interested Tom. He was also inspired by Dr. Cynthia, the woman who founded the clinic and he admits it was meeting her that eventually turned the tides and made him decide to go to Thailand. After receiving support from his wife, Tom accepted the Thailand position and was on his way to a 6 - month assignment with the International Rescue Committee, his NGO partner in Mae Sot, Thailand. Stationed directly on the border of Burma and Thailand at the Mae Tao clinic, a medical clinic for the Burmese migrant community, Tom's broad focus was on improving their clinical pharmacy service and educating the existing pharmacy and medic staff over the course of his 6 - month stay.

Tom spent his first two months in Mae Sot becoming acclimated to the country, the culture and its people. The last thing that he wanted to do was to force his beliefs or

ideas on the natives who already had a low trust level for anyone foreign, due to the strict military rule under which they live. "Burma right now is really like George Orwell's 1984 —" Tom confides, "it is a big brother regime — there's no freedom of speech, there's no freedom of press... and they are under complete military rule... there were spies in the town that I was in so often, I was advised to be careful of what I said."

Since 1947, there has been a civil war in Burma with the worst of the fighting taking place along the then geographic border (where only a river separates the two countries), right where Tom was stationed. This set Tom deep in the conflict since the Mae Tao clinic was actually an unregistered entity in Thailand for Burmese refugees. Tom explained that the clinic is considered illegal, "in the sense that all the people that work there are illegal migrants—they are not registered refugees—and if they are registered-they can't leave the camp-(many are waiting for resettlement)." There are so many illegal unregistered Burmese migrants in Thailand that Thailand is forced to tolerate it.

Aside from the conflict, Tom also endured the natural boundaries and obstacles that anyone would in an area that is as culturally and ethnically diverse as Mae Sot. Tom didn't know which language to speak because there were so many different groups that each spoke a different one. He also endured the effects of a third world country and even a fourth world country, as Tom called Burma — the country that was ranked 192 out of 193 countries for healthcare. The most common diseases and ailments were Malaria, Dengue Fever, and respiratory problems, like pneumonia, as well as night blindness due to lack of Vitamin A and diet deficiencies, HIV, TB, Diabetes, and malnourished children. The clinic also treated at least three or four cases of landmine injuries a day. Landmines are a reminder of the conflict going on in this country. The Burmese use landmines to get rid of the Karen - the largest ethnic group in Burma. They are still fighting for their freedom which was once promised by the British for supporting them against the Japanese during WWII.

Tom worked on several projects over the span of his six months in Thailand and helped the clinic improve their pharmaceutical care and skills. Tom helped develop the Universal Precautions Program for the entire clinic, which focuses on infection precautions taken to prevent transmitting bacteria. Tom taught them about wearing gloves, throwing out dirty needles, washing their hands, and enforced protecting yourself, the patient, and the community. In order to make sure that the clinic was carrying out these procedures, Tom created infection control teams that performed monthly inspections in which they observe infection control techniques and report on them. Tom realized a cultural sensitivity issue when the infection control teams were perceived to be inspection police which made their role difficult. He had to overcome the cultural boundary and try to make them understand that they were doing this for their own safety and not to punish or shun anyone who didn't follow the procedure. Tom believes that the Universal Precautions Program is one of the most important programs he developed for the clinic and he hopes that it will make the most lasting difference for the future of the clinic to be an overall safer and healthier place. Tom continues to keep in touch with the clinic by e-mailing and reminding them about this procedure to make sure that they are following it.

different people from 12 different countries and all with their own medical guidelines. Eventually, they came to a consensus and the finished guidelines were published. It included a drug dosage chart and a systematic way of "rationing healthcare," in a system with limited access to different types and quantities of drugs. These updated guidelines were to be used over the border, in refugee camps, and in the clinic.

Tom was also inspired by an incredibly heroic effort, started by Dr. Cynthia, of the Backpack Medical Team. The Backpack Medical Team consisted of teams of 2 people who would carry 200 pounds of medical equipment, undercover, across the border for 6 months at a time, delivering primary healthcare to those in need that couldn't make it to the clinic. These teams risked their lives, braving the threat of landmines and gunfire, to give people medical attention. Tom worked with some of these backpack medics on protocols for malaria, the best utilization of mosquito netting and drugs, and procedures for field surgeries.

One surprising phenomenon that Tom saw from the Burmese citizens was their fierce loyalty to their country. Tom saw many people that were excellent medics, one in particular who wanted to be resettled and was interested in getting another degree in America. "She already had her bachelors from Burma and she was fantastic as a medic, I would trust her treating my diabetes, my heart failure, certainly my malaria," Tom states. But when asked what she wanted to study in America, she said political science. "Because they all want to go back to their country and change the whole political situation in Burma," Tom found. He saw an overwhelming sense of pride in the Burmese citizens and a genuine desire to see their country free.

His experience in Thailand has been humbling for Tom. He learned that as Americans, we do not need as much as we have or think we need, and he vows to live a simpler life-style. (When he was in Thailand he rode his bike everywhere and lost weight in doing so.) Although he had little, Tom had what he needed—the internet and e-mail to connect with the outside world, a local running club, and a nice apartment. His



Vaccine Day

wife was even able to visit—then Tom really had it all—and she even provided diabetes education at the clinic during her stay. Tom leaned on his resources to provide for needs he couldn't meet alone, which proved to come in handy. He joined a local running club called the Moei River Runners. When he realized his running buddies were wearing tattered, worn, second-hand knock-offs, he asked his American running club and work colleagues at home for sneakers, and eventually 150 pairs were donated. He also used his resources with his good friends at the UConn School of Pharmacy for information on certain healthcare education projects. Professors sent their slideshows on specific topics for him to use when educating the clinic.

Tom's trip allowed reflection and a broader perspective on how he lives his life. He plans to continue working more with refugees and going back to the clinic to volunteer. Tom also promised to tell their story. He believes that America should take more of a human rights interest or concern in Burma. Tom says that he has learned a great deal about his own country from living in Thailand. He recognizes how sheltered America is and how internally focused we are compared to the rest of the world. He believes that we've become a smaller world through improved travel and technology such as the internet. While he has seen the world's perception of America weakened during his time abroad, he believes that individually Americans can, and should, make a significant impact on improving the world's health care. Ideally, Tom would love to continue his work in educating people in Southeast Asia by spending more time with the refugees there. For him, and the people around him, his work is truly rewarding and fulfilling and his childhood dream of helping people has become a reality. 🍹

Buckley used his resources with his good friends at the UConn School of Pharmacy for information on certain healthcare education projects.

Another major project was working with the pharmacy in the clinic to make sure their ordering system was complete. They already had a donated drug list but it needed to be updated and extended. Tom was among those that helped revise the Burma Border Guidelines, which is like a "cookbook formula" on how to treat and diagnose different diseases. A group of twenty-five, including Tom, the only pharmacist on the committee, came together to revise and update these guidelines and eventually publish them. The medical committee, (including representatives of the UN), addressed such issues as education, sanitation, and safety. However, it wasn't easy to come to a conclusion with 25

Alumna Names Space in Honor of her Brother

By Kathryn Bidwell



Alumna Deborah Faucette '80 and her father, Joe, visited the James M. Faucette Memorial Rooftop this summer.

The University of Connecticut's Pharmacy-Biology Building was completed in June 2005 and officially dedicated in October 2005. Numerous alumni have generously contributed to this effort. Conference rooms, offices, lounges, and other various spaces in this beautiful, state-of-the-art building have been named by individual and corporate donors.

Deborah Faucette, R.Ph., vice president, industry relations for Catalina Health Resource, is a proud alumna of the Class of 1980, donor, and a founding member of the School of Pharmacy Advisory Board. She completes her term on the board in October, passing the reins as chair to Joseph D. Palo.

Although Faucette was a native of Massachusetts when she came to UConn, she currently resides in Florida. She visits UConn whenever she is in the northeast, and notes that it "feels like coming home" when she steps foot onto the Storrs campus. "There is a strong sense of community and belonging here," she says while noting she's proud to be an alum and feels welcomed whenever she visits her alma mater.

Faucette's younger brother inspired her to become involved in the medical field at an early age. She witnessed James' struggle with leukemia and hoped for breakthroughs in treatment or medications would ease his suffering. This formative experience led her to a career where she could affect positive change and help people.

In 2000, she established an endowed scholarship in her brother's name, the James Faucette Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship is awarded annually to a female student in the third or fourth year of the pharmacy professional program, who exhibits leadership ability and community involvement. The student must also be pursuing a career in the pharmaceutical retail industry. In addition to the scholarship, Ms. Faucette was moved to donate money for the rooftop terrace and outdoor furniture. She has named this space the James M. Faucette Memorial Rooftop Terrace.

An avid Husky fan, Ms. Faucette believes that each person has a responsibility to give back to their community. She values the high quality education she received at UConn and sees her support for the school and the students as an investment in the future of the profession. She notes that people can give back to the University of Connecticut in various ways besides monetary donations. Serving on the School of Pharmacy Advisory Board is just one of the many ways to support the university. Ms. Faucette does not have any children of her own. She notes, however, that the money she would have spent on their education is instead being donated to UConn's School of Pharmacy. Ms. Faucette supports the University of Connecticut and believes that the greatest reward is just hearing, "thank you." 🙌

In Memoriam

Thomas B. Esposito '60
August 11, 2006

Richard R. LaVallee '59
December 24, 2006

Frederic L. Cagan '69
February 23, 2007

Richard P. Gailunas '61
March 8, 2007

Coe G. Hubert '63
March 22, 2007

Dawn Croce Peragallo '88
April 6, 2007

Richard W. Franklin '66
April 11, 2007

Margaret Dziubinski '96 Hon
June 18, 2007

Marilyn Keefe Conlon Powers '53
June 19, 2007

William Eugene "Gene" LaFleur '45
June 25, 2007

Bonnie Schnieder
Beloved wife of Dr. Paul Kramer
July 19, 2007

Richard T. Carbray, Sr.
Father of alumnus Richard T. Carbray, Jr. '75
July 22, 2007

Hait Family Rewards the Entrepreneurial Spirit

By: Brynne Davies

Adam Hait '93 had an idea. When he approached his dad in 1994 requesting seed money for an internet drug business, Bill Hait '65, had to think twice. The internet was a rather new distribution vehicle and the Hait family had built a good life around the traditional community pharmacy they owned and operated in northern New Jersey.

One of Bill's fondest childhood memories is being sent to spend time in his father's pharmacy to get him out of his mother's hair. It was only natural, therefore, for him to follow in the footsteps of his father and pursue a degree in pharmacy - but first he had to choose a school. When an aunt suggested UConn, he interviewed with then Dean Harold Hewitt, who was impressed but couldn't accept him because he was an out-of-state applicant (which were only allotted a very few coveted spots). When the National Merit Scholarship Exam results were announced, Dean Hewitt changed his mind and made him a part of the class of 1965.

As part of the first five-year class at the School of Pharmacy, Bill excelled as a student and received the Rexall Mortar and Pestle award for being the outstanding all around student, in both 1964 and '65. After graduation, he went into retail pharmacy with his dad at the family's community pharmacy. Together they doubled the size of the store and made it one of the best single store pharmacies in New Jersey. For 30 years Bill lived a comfortable life with his wife and three sons. He was able to provide nicely for his family and put his sons through college. Now here stood the free spirited Adam, asking him to try something radically different.

Adam had embarked on an undergraduate career at the University of Arizona but illness sidelined his education. After recuperating, he decided that he wanted to go back to school and become a pharmacist. That is when Bill Hait turned to UConn and asked if they would meet with his son. The Dean at the time, Dr. Karl Nieforth, saw potential that belied the spotty transcript. His acceptance was conditional on strict and specific academic goals. Adam surpassed these guidelines and graduated near the top of his class.

After graduation Adam joined his father and grandfather in the family business, but the pioneering spirit called him. That is when he approached his father with the request to build a website for selling infertility drugs. Bill convinced his own father that it might be a good idea and to give Adam a chance. It turned out that the investment in Adam's idea was a very wise decision.

As an entrepreneur, Adam recognized the need for a discreet market for infertility drugs supported by highly trained professionals. In 1994 the concept of niche marketing in pharmacy was in its infancy. Although it was Adam's entrepreneurial spark that launched the idea, it was the entire family that built the business.

When Walgreens came to the realization that they couldn't create a business to rival the Hait operation, they proposed a purchase. The family negotiated with Walgreens and in 2005 sold the rights to their infertility drug business. Today, Bill and Adam are vice-presidents of Schraft's a Walgreens Specialty Pharmacy. Schrafts supplies patients in all 50 states and is presently the second largest retail distributor of fertility drugs in the US.

The Hait family decided it was time to follow the traditional values learned from Bill's father and give back to the community. Bill and Adam donated \$100,000 to establish the Hait Family Computer Lab in the new Pharmacy-Biology Building. After hearing students speak at a School of Pharmacy Advisory Board meeting, Bill was moved to endow a scholarship. The William and Adam Hait Scholarship was established to provide support for a student who has demonstrated an ability to think creatively and innovatively, and who has demonstrated leadership skills. Bill hopes this scholarship will support students like Adam, who may have struggled at first but ultimately have an entrepreneurial spark which drives their creativity. He would love one of the scholarship winners to come to him with an idea for a new business model like Adam did years ago. Bill feels that the future of pharmacy lies with these talented thinkers and he wants to cultivate and encourage innovation. Bill credits Adam's entrepreneurial spirit with the success of the business and ultimately, the family's ability to give so generously to the school. 🍷



Bill Hait '65 presents the first William & Adam Hait Scholarship to Kim Gilligan at the School of Pharmacy Scholarship Convocation in March.

Images of Hank...

Look for more about Images of Hank throughout this issue.

I am honored to provide my reflections on Dr. Henry Palmer and his career. Henry was one of the first within pharmacy academia to fully grasp the importance of self-care and nonprescription products. As an early leader in this field, he served as an inspiration and mentor to those who embraced the specialty.

Dr. Palmer and his lovely wife Janice are unfailingly hospitable to my wife and me, and a visit to Connecticut is an absolute joy. When I was authoring textbooks, Dr. Palmer served as a reviewer, improving delivery and ensuring accuracy. He continues to share insights that help me stay abreast of current events. In the same way, Dr. Palmer has also provided vision, guidance, and assistance to uncountable colleagues and students. His influence will extend for years as those he has mentored strive to emulate his high ideals and live up to the example he sets. He is the rare professor: patient and kind, wise without arrogance, and always a true gentleman. Connecticut was blessed when Dr. Henry Palmer and Janice made it their home.

Steve Pray, Ph.D., R.Ph., Bernhardt Professor of Nonprescription Products and devices, School of Pharmacy, Southwestern Oklahoma State University

Dr. Diane Burgess was elected as an officer of the Controlled Release Society. She will serve as vice president in 2007-2008, president elect in 2008-2009 and president in 2009-2010.

Dr. Robin Bogner was voted 2007 School of Pharmacy Teacher of the Year by the Doctor of Pharmacy graduating class. Dr. Bogner gave the keynote address at the School of Pharmacy Commencement Ceremony held in May.

Dr. Kevin Chamberlin was selected by the housestaff of the UConn Health Center's Categorical Internal Medicine Program to receive the 2006-2007 Teaching Award.

Dr. Bodhi Chaudhuri joined the University of Connecticut School of Pharmacy as an assistant professor of pharmaceutical sciences in the spring 2007 semester. Trained as an engineer, Dr. Chaudhuri is an expert in the field of powder technology, the engineering aspect of manufacturing medications. He states that the most common ingredient besides water in all processing industries is powder. The engineer's job is to know how to transform the powder into tablets or capsules. The importance of powder technology is especially evident in the field of pharmacy. It is vital to know about the interactions between various medications. Dr. Chaudhuri's expertise in powder technology includes granular, as well as fluid mechanics.

Dr. Chaudhuri received his bachelor's degree in chemical engineering at Jadavpur University in India and his master's degree in chemical engineering at the Indian Institute of Science. Dr. Chaudhuri then earned his doctorate in mechanical engineering from the New Jersey Institute of Technology in 2000. He was a research associate for four years at Rutgers University where he focused on pharmaceutical engineering, specifically interactions between medications. He is currently working on an internal grant proposal within the school as well as assistant teaching a course on Dispersed Systems of Pharmaceutical Dosage Forms. With his extensive knowledge and research in the field of engineering, Dr. Chaudhuri is a welcome addition to the School of Pharmacy and its students.

School of Pharmacy Librarian **Sharon Giovenale** was honored during commencement with the Faculty Service Award for her ongoing contributions in overseeing library operations as well as her outstanding work as the coordinator of the pre-pharmacy First Year Experience course. Sharon also assumed office as chair of the Libraries/ Educational Resources Section at the 2007 Annual Meeting of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) in Orlando.

Dr. Sean Jeffery serves as chair-elect for the AACP Geriatrics SIG and **Dr. Philip Hritcko** was selected as chair-elect of the AACP Professional Experiential Program SIG.

Associate Dean **Andrea Hubbard** was accepted into the selective HERS Summer Institute at Bryn Mawr College for three weeks this summer. The institute offers women administrators and faculty intensive training in education administration. The curriculum prepares participants to work with issues currently facing higher education, with emphasis on the growing diversity of the student body and the work force. Dr. Hubbard was one of only two UConn faculty nominated by Provost Peter Nicholls.

Provost Peter J. Nicholls named **Dr. Robert McCarthy** as the University of Connecticut representative to the Department of Higher Education Advisory Committee on Accreditation beginning in September 2007.

Technology Coordinator **Doug Willour** has been named the school's new webmaster. This addition to Doug's portfolio means that all of our IT needs will be in his capable hands. 🙌



No one word can adequately describe how Dr. Palmer has impacted the profession of pharmacy. He has been a truly inspirational colleague and friend with a heart of gold. His professionalism, dedication, intelligence, consideration, humor, and his gentle manner are reminders of what a GREAT person he is and how lucky we are to know him.

Fei Wang, Pharm.D. ~ Assistant Clinical Professor of Pharmacy Practice

Hank has had a significant influence on my 33- year pharmacy career. He (has) been responsible for my development and success as a pharmacist in Connecticut.

Andre LaCombe, B.S., Experiential Education Field Coordinator, School of Pharmacy

There are a few people in everyone's life who cause the path / course of your life to become clear....for me, Hank Palmer was one of those people. When I had my first class on OTCs I knew that this was going to be the direction of my career! I can still see Hank holding up a full page ad for the "coming soon" Rx-to-OTC switch of Tavist and thinking "wow how exciting to move drugs across classes and into open consumer access!" Well that began an 18 year career in OTC/Self Care marketing with some of the greatest healthcare companies. I have pursued my passion and am now writing a book on personal growth and transformation called "Open up and say aaah !"Thanks Hank!

Erica Peitler, former Senior Vice President of Global Strategic Initiatives, Bayer Consumer Care Division

Look for more about Images of Hank throughout this issue.

[Left] Pharm.D. graduates received their diplomas at the School of Pharmacy Commencement Ceremony.

Kristyn Greco ~ A Woman of Innovation

By: Brynne Davies

On January 25, 2007, Kristyn Greco, a third year graduate student in pharmaceuticals at the School of Pharmacy, was announced as one of the winners for the Women of Innovation Awards in the category of Collegiate Innovation and Leadership. Sponsored by the Connecticut Technology Council, the Women of Innovation Awards is an annual event, in its third year, which recognizes women for their accomplishments in eight different categories. Women from across Connecticut, and the men that support them, were present for this event which acknowledges and exemplifies women's roles as leaders and innovators in the fields of science, technology, and engineering. Along with the recognition of these outstanding women, the hope for this event is to inspire other women in Connecticut to pursue math and science. Awards were presented for innovation and leadership in Academic, Collegiate, Community, Entrepreneurial, Large Business, Small Business, Research, and Youth categories.



Kristyn Greco in her lab.

Dr. Robin Bogner, associate professor of pharmaceutical sciences, states that upon learning of the addition to the Women of Innovation Awards of the new category, "Collegiate Innovation and Leadership," she immediately thought of Kristyn for nomination. Kristyn was a clear choice because she displays leadership skills as the vice-chair of the student chapter of the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists, where she is involved in inviting speakers and planning functions. In addition to her leadership skills, Kristyn demonstrates innovation in her research as a graduate student.

After graduating magna cum laude from Northeastern University with a B.S. in chemical engineering, Kristyn worked as a research engineer at a small drug company called Alkermes. During her tenure there, Kristyn realized her interest in pharmaceuticals and decided to pursue a graduate degree in the field. Once at the School of Pharmacy, Kristyn was introduced to an idea that Dr. Bogner had for a dissolution apparatus or a device that allows screening of potential drugs and the opportunity to see how they dissolve. Kristyn took on the project because she was interested in how it combined pharmaceutical sciences and engineering.

Now almost two years into the project, Kristyn has seen tremendous success in her research. She has developed a microscopic device that allows the observer to watch the drug dissolve during the experiment! The apparatus is also more efficient, as it uses ten times less of the drug being tested than normal, which saves money. This device has the potential to be useful for many drugs that are difficult to dissolve and has been successfully tested with such drugs as triamterene (found in Dyazide®).

Because of the success of Kristyn's project, the university has filed a patent on the research and there are even negotiations with a company to license the patent. If it goes through, this will be Kristyn's second patent.

Of the event, Kristyn says that she was unsure of what to expect. To her delight, it was a beautiful evening with a group of impressive women with whom she felt honored to be included. The evening began with a dinner and then a few short speeches and a key note address by Rebecca Rhodes, chief information officer for Raytheon, who impressed both Kristyn and Dr. Bogner with her wit and acuity. Of the award, Kristyn humbly says, "it was just nice to be honored for my everyday activity and something that I have always been interested in." 

Graduate Student News

Sarah Barnes was selected as a graduate student mentor for the 2007 Northeast Alliance Summer Research Program for Minority Students led by Drs. Ruth Washington and Lee Aggison. This mentorship is accompanied by a fellowship funded by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Fund for Innovative Education in the Sciences and by the Graduate School. The program ran from June 4th through August 10th and paired Sarah with an undergraduate student who worked with her in the laboratory.

Kristyn Greco was selected as the recipient of the 2007 Women of Innovation Award in the collegiate category. This award, presented by the Connecticut Technology Council, recognizes outstanding women leaders in technology, science, and education from across the state.

Our excellence in graduate pharmacy education was exemplified once again with the selection of **Igor Gurevich** (for the second time,) **Shumet Hailu**, and **Tzipporah Kertes** as 2007-2008 American Foundation for Pharmaceutical Education (AFPE) Pre-Doctoral Fellows.

Adora Padilla received the 2007 PhRMA Foundation Award to support her thesis research.

Atul Saluja and **Charudharshini Srinivasan** were recently honored at the 2007 American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists [AAPS] National Biotechnology Conference in San Diego, CA. These students were among only four Ph.D. candidates chosen to present their studies in the fields of pharmaceutical biotechnology at the conference's Graduate Student Symposium, sponsored by Eli Lilly and Company, on June 28th. Atul and Charu were chosen from a large field of qualified applicants and received free registration and travel to the conference as well as a cash award.

Charudharshini Srinivasan also received the 2007 Schering-Plough Award in Pharmacy/Pharmaceuticals. The award was established by Schering-Plough to recognize and promote academic excellence in the area of pharmaceuticals and honor students who will be future leaders in the industry or academia.

Are you ready for some football?

A limited number of tickets are available through the School of Pharmacy for the October 19th homecoming game at Rentschler Field. Join us at the School of Pharmacy tailgate tent and the game. **Chairback seats! Hurry before they're gone! First come ~ first served!**

Tailgate Tent & Ticket # _____ x \$55.00 = _____ Tailgate Tent Only # _____ x \$20.00 = _____

Name: _____

Spouse/Guest Name[s]: _____

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City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: (____) _____ Work Phone: (____) _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Make checks payable to the UConn Pharmacy Alumni Association and mail to:

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Pharmacy Alumni Association
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Storrs, Connecticut 06269-3092

Tickets and tailgate passes will be mailed to you. Prices do not include parking at Rentschler Field.

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