Dr. Jack Bend: Our Alumnus of Distinction 2014

On September 19, 2013 the Faculty of Pharmacy Outstanding Alumni Award was presented to John R. “Jack” Bend. Dr. Bend is originally from Stonewall, Manitoba and is the son of R.W. “Bobby” Bend, a former Health Minister and Education Minister and one-time leader of the Liberal Party of Manitoba. He is also cousins with the famous National Hockey League family the Hextalls. Rather than pursuing politics or hockey as a career, Jack received a BSc. (Pharmacy) in 1964 from the University of Manitoba Faculty of Pharmacy as well as the Manitoba Pharmaceutical Association and the University of Manitoba Gold Medals in pharmacy. He was a National Research Council of Canada Fellow and also received his MSc. (Pharmaceutical Chemistry) in 1967 from the University of Manitoba, Faculty of Pharmacy. Dr. Bend was awarded a British Commonwealth Scholarship and received his Ph.D. degree in Pharmaceutical Chemistry - Drug Metabolism from the University of Sydney, Faculty of Pharmacy in Sydney, New South Wales, Australia in 1971 where he was also the Captain of the Australian Ice Hockey Team.

Dr. Bend was a scientist at the United States National Institutes of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS/NIH) from 1970-1986 and served as Chief of the Laboratory of Pharmacology at NIEHS from 1980-1986. He has also received the National Institutes of Health Directors Award in 1986. He served an Adjunct Professor, School of Agriculture and Life Sciences, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, and School of Medicine, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, North Carolina. Dr. Bend was appointed Chair of the Department of Pharmacology & Toxicology in the Faculty of Medicine at University of Western Ontario in 1986 and served in this role until 2000. Dr. Bend also held the position as the Associate Dean, Research at Schulich from 1999-2007.

Dr. Bend is internationally known for research which focuses on molecular toxicology, pharmacology, and environmental toxicology, including studies of aboriginal community health risks from environmental contaminant exposure. This research includes mechanisms by which drugs, endogenous chemicals and environmental contaminants cause toxicity and contribute to the disease burden by oxidative and nitrosative stress. Professor Bend is the co-author of more than 400 peer-reviewed articles, abstracts, book chapters and proceedings describing original research findings in the areas of molecular and environmental pharmacology and toxicology. Dr. Bend’s research has been funded by the National Institutes of Health, the Medical Research Council / Canadian Institutes of Health Research and other agencies. Dr. Bend has been an advisor to more than 30 post-doctoral scholars, 15 Ph.D. students, and 10 master’s students during his distinguished career.

As the co-director of the Ecosystem Health Program in the continued on p.3

What’s in our

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Amongst the many things I have enjoyed during my tenure as Dean is having met with so many outstanding pharmacy alumni. At Homecoming 2014 we hosted reunions for the Classes of 1964, 1974, 1984 and 2004 and presented a new Alumni of Distinction award to Dr. Jack Bend who has had a very remarkable career as a pharmacist, researcher, and educator.

After four years as Dean I look at all of you the “Bison Nation” herd as part of our family away from home. I especially enjoy meeting bright pharmacist alums on my travels that have matured into outstanding practitioners. I have now toured more than 80% of the pharmacies in our province so far, and I’m proud to see our expanded scopes being practiced under the new act and regulations. (You can see a map of the tour progress on our Pharmacy homepage at (http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/pharmacy/pharm_locations.html)

In the Faculty we are in the midst of another special Grand Rounds seminar series involving some of our alumni entitled: “Return of the Pharm.D.” It has been my pleasure to interact with our pharmacist alumni who are outstanding scholars, teachers and clinicians and agreed to return to their alma mater to share their experiences. Many of you have demonstrated the ability and desire to become leaders in the profession and we in the Faculty are proud of your accomplishments.

As you will see in this edition of PharmaNews we have had an exciting and productive year in the Faculty of Pharmacy. We have now hired all vacated positions with two new professors Drs. I Fan Kuo and Casey Sayre to assist us as we move forward in the development of the program. We are continuing the responsibility to provide students with opportunities and support to develop their clinical and research skills. I could not be more proud of our students as they continue to enhance the reputation of our Pharmacy program on an international basis. Heidi Marschall, the Canadian Pharmacy Patients counselling winner from the Class of 2014, represented us at the World Pharmacy Patient Counselling Competition in Portugal and did exceedingly well.

Upon her passing Irene Lewis left a significant legacy with a new Scholarship dedicated to her brother Dr. Roy Bilous, a pharmacist alumnus BSc.(Pharm) 1943 and MSc. 1967 and much beloved professor of Pharmacy. As always our students and Faculty value and respect your ongoing backing. University budgets are tightening and indeed we were faced with a small cut in our budget this past year and expectations are that we may see significant budget cuts over the next couple of years. Whether you consider donating to support the Faculty of Pharmacy to memorialize a lost loved one, create a better tomorrow for the next generation of pharmacists, or for another personal reason the end result is the same: a prescription for a brighter pharmacy future at the University of Manitoba and beyond. We appreciate your continuing support.

Thank you for having me as your Dean. - Go Bisons! Go Pharmacy!

Sincerely,
Neal Davies BSc.(Pharm), Ph.D., R.Ph. Dean and Professor

New Assistant Professors join Pharmacy

Dr. Casey Sayre joined the Faculty of Pharmacy in August 2014 as an Assistant Professor. He graduated from Brigham Young University with a Bachelor of Science in Biology in 2006. He continued his studies at the Idaho State University College of Pharmacy, completing a Doctor of Pharmacy degree in 2010. He commenced pursuing a PhD in Pharmaceutical Science at Washington State University with Dr. Neal Davies and relocated to the University of Manitoba to finish in 2014. His research interests are in optimizing and individualizing currently used pharmacotherapy with pharmacogenetic, pharmacokinetic and pharmacocinetic analysis and experimentation. He has published 12 peer reviewed articles 4 as first author and 5 book chapters 1 as first author. He has also practiced pharmacy part time in hospital, community, and long term care settings.

Dr. I fan Kuo joined the Faculty of Pharmacy in August 2014 as an Assistant Professor. She graduated from the University of British Columbia (UBC) with a Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy (2004), and subsequently completed a hospital pharmacy residency at Providence Healthcare in Vancouver (2005). She practiced as a clinical pharmacist in the cardiac surgery for two years before returning to UBC to pursue a Doctor of Pharmacy degree (2009). After practicing as a clinical pharmacy specialist in cardiology at St. Paul’s Hospital, Dr. Kuo received a 3-year postdoctoral fellowship award from the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada (HSFCC) and Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) to pursue further training in health research. She successfully completed the post-doctoral training and a concurrent Master in Science degree with the Collaboration for Outcomes Research and Evaluation (CORE) group at the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, UBC (2014).

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Homecoming 2014

Homecoming was very busy in Pharmacy this year. Our Alumni were out in full force for a variety of events hosted at the Apotex Centre and throughout Winnipeg. A special thank you to the Class of 1964 and 1974 for making us part of your 50th and 40th Reunion celebrations.

The Alumni of Distinction lecture, given by Dr. Jack Bend (Class of 1964) was attended by alumni, staff, faculty and students; a true intergenerational event (see story on page 1). Dr. Bend’s lecture, “The Last 54 Years-from Pharmacy to Public Health Research,” had something for everyone and the reception afterwards had many lively discussions on the topics presented.

Dr. Neal Davies hosted four tables at the Homecoming Dinner and Concert with alumni from 1964 and 1974. The Manitoba Room in University Centre looked amazing and was the perfect venue for such a prestigious event. Dr. Davies also hosted a tour of the Apotex Centre as part of Homecoming. Many alumni had never seen the beautiful new building which opened in 2008.

Additionally, the Classes of 1974, 1984 and 2004 organized more personal reunion events. With pharmacy alumni spread across the entire country, reconnecting at the University of Manitoba is a pleasure. We welcomed alumni from British Columbia, Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec.

If you’d like to reconnect and reminisce with your classmates during Homecoming 2015, please contact Angela Shank at 204-474-8794 or angela.shank@umanitoba.ca to arrange your own reunion with us!

Alumnus of Distinction from p.1

Department of Pathology, Schulich Medicine & Dentistry, he was actively involved in multi-disciplinary community based collaborative ecosystem health projects with the Walpole Island, Chippewa of the Thanes, and Oneida First Nations in Canada and Egerton University at Lake Naivasha in Kenya. He is a member of the Food and Agriculture Organization-World Health Organization Joint Expert Committee on Food Additives; and the Ontario Pesticide Advisory Committee; and of the Chemicals Management Plan Challenge Advisory Panel, which advises Health Canada and Environment Canada with regard to the toxicity of industrial chemicals. He previously served as the President of the Society of the Toxicology of Canada and as the Chair of the Canadian Council on Animal Care.

Dr. Bend is a fellow of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences and is currently an Associate Scientist at the Child Health Research Institute and a Distinguished University Professor Emeritus of the Departments of Pediatrics, Pathology, Physiology and Pharmacology, Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry, University of Western Ontario in London, Ontario, Canada.

Congratulations Dr. Bend we are proud to have you as a distinguished alumnus of our pharmacy program.

Alumni of Distinction Call for Nominations

Each September we bestow the title ‘Alumni of Distinction’ on a former student of Pharmacy. Nominees must be a graduate of the B.Sc. (Pharm) or a post-graduate program of Pharmacy at the University of Manitoba. The nominee must have served the profession or community in such a way as to have distinguished themselves and, directly or indirectly, brought distinction and honour to the Faculty and the profession. If you would like to nominate someone for this award contact Angela Shank at angela.shank@umanitoba.ca or (204) 474-8794 for more information.

Nominations are due by May 1st annually.
White Coat Ceremony welcomes new Pharmacy Students

Faculty, staff, and members of the pharmacy profession were on hand in the Brodie Centre atrium to welcome fifty-four new student pharmacists into the pharmacy program, supported by an audience of their family and friends on September 22nd, 2014. Outstanding achievements of students throughout the professional pharmacy program were recognized in addition to faculty members and preceptors. Dr. Neal Davies, Dean of Pharmacy, served as the Master of Ceremonies and Mr. Ronald Guse, Registrar of the College of Pharmacists of Manitoba, was invited as a guest speaker. Students from all four years of the program were presented with awards, including the Summer Student Research Awards. White coat ceremonies are a relatively new ritual and were introduced in Canadian Pharmacy programs in the late 1990’s. These ceremonies formally welcomed the students, and instilled a sense of pride and belonging in the profession of pharmacy. The presentation of the white coat symbolizes the hope, healing and dedication to patient care in the profession of Pharmacy. Dr. Dennis Cote invited Barbara Cinnamon, Wayne Couling, Dr. Gordon Krip and Phillip Young from the Class of 1964 and Dr. Keith Simons from the Class of 1966 to the stage to present each first year student with a white coat. However, before they did, Mr. Ronald Guse presented a personalized white coat to each of the Golden graduate alumni drapers with their name and year of graduation. Junior co-stick, Maira Ahmed welcomed the first years to the stage to be coated. Ms. Drena Dunford led the first year students in reciting the Pledge of Professionalism, publicly acknowledging their commitment to professionalism, integrity, and ethical conduct. Senior co-stick Riley Love addressed the first year students before Dr. Davies invited all the guests to the Apotex Centre for a reception.

Drapers from the Class of 1964 with first year Pharmacy Students. From left to right: Dr. Keith Simons (standing in for Barry Duncan), Philip Young, Dexter Boyd, Barbara Cinnamon, and Dr. Gordon Krip
International Pharmaceutical Students` Federation (IPSF) World Congress

By Heidi Marschall, Class of 2014

In August 2014 I attended the International Pharmaceutical Students` Federation (IPSF) world congress held in Porto, Portugal. This annual conference brings together pharmacy students from around the world to discuss current issues relating to pharmacy practice, new advancements in health care, and of course to socialize, meet new people and have fun!

The conference was ten days long. During the day, we attended workshops, symposiums and competitions. The main theme of the symposium was translational medicine which focuses on ensuring that strategies for disease treatment and prevention are actually implemented in communities. It was interesting to learn how important this field is to advancing health care. Some other focuses of the symposium were gene therapy and interprofessional health care and how they both will affect pharmacy practice globally.

There were also many small workshops to attend comprising various current topics, including veterinary medicine, pharmacy management and nanotechnology.

The congress also held numerous competitions regarding pharmaceutical matter that all students could enter. These included the individual clinical skills event, similar to a written exam, and a team clinical skills event during which we were given a case and had to identify and solve all the drug related problems. There was an advanced counselling event, compounding competition and team jeopardy.

I placed first in the individual clinical skills event and the team clinical skills event, and I was one of four finalists in the advanced counselling event. It was exciting to do so well in at a large world-wide conference while representing the University of Manitoba Faculty of Pharmacy and Canada!

In addition to the academic portion of the conference there was a different social event planned each evening. There were club nights, pool parties and numerous cultural nights. My favourite event was International Night where each country boasted the highlights of their nation by bringing cultural food or drink or performing a dance. It was exciting to learn about other countries and was a great way to meet new people.

Meeting so many people from all around the world and learning about pharmacy on a global level made this conference so special. I would like to thank the profession and Faculty for the support that allowed me to participate. I greatly enjoyed my experience at the conference and would highly recommend other students to attend in the future.
In 4th year Pharmacy, students participate in an Elective Project course. They select an area of pharmacy that interests them personally and are responsible for finding a location to study this. During the 7 weeks, students will work on their project under the supervision of a preceptor and produce a paper. Many students travel for their Elective Project. Here is the story of one group of students who chose to study in New Zealand.

More than an Elective

Our elective project was conducting a research project entitled “Analysis of Medications Returned to a Dunedin Pharmacy” at the University of Otago in Dunedin, New Zealand. We collected the unused medications that patients brought back to the pharmacy for disposal and had the patients complete an optional questionnaire. We explored the consequences of unused medications in the community; these included economic concerns, environmental concerns and patient safety concerns. In our analysis, we quantified each medication by volume (# of tablets, capsules, etc) and value (NZD as per formulary) and compiled the questionnaires. Our goal was to find out the most common reasons for the return of unused medications and find ways to reduce medication waste.

The reasons for return of unused medications included improvement/resolved condition, passed expiry date, excess quantity prescribed, change to other treatment, bereavement, and understanding why the medication was prescribed. Based on these responses, we found that there is a need for pharmacists to be involved in reducing medication waste. Patient counselling should always be provided so patients know why they are taking a medication and pharmacists should provide appropriate monitoring parameters and follow up to ensure that a condition has been resolved. Pharmacists can also discuss the appropriate amount of medication to fill. We found that paracetamol (acetaminophen) was the most commonly returned medication by volume (1538 tablets), and sunitinib was the highest valued medication returned.

We also had the opportunity to gain understanding of pharmacy practice in New Zealand by spending a day in both a community and hospital pharmacy setting. As a result of our research we learned more about New Zealand’s nation-wide formulary. PHARMAC is the government agency that negotiates with drug companies to be the sole provider of a certain medication for a fixed term. Interestingly, these strategies have proven to be very effective and led to the savings of billions of dollars, however problems do arise when drug shortages occur.

Of course, we found time to explore the beautiful and exciting country of New Zealand. We went on many hikes including to the Haruru waterfall, Routeburn key summit, and the Tongariro Crossing, a 19.4 km hike between active and inactive volcanos (also the location of Mt. Doom in the Lord of the Rings movies). We went on an exciting kayaking tour in Bay of Islands (in the rain), as well as both white water and black water rafting. We visited various eco-sanctuaries to appreciate the conservation efforts to preserve the unique wildlife and vegetation that calls New Zealand home. We had the opportunity to see royal albatross, blue penguins, yellow eyed penguins, seals and much more! We also enjoyed learning about the history of New Zealand and the culture of the Maori people. There are many influences of Maori culture such as names for cities, Maori landmarks and stories, and some Maori words or phrases are still used in conversation today.

We had an amazing time in New Zealand conducting our research project and exploring the country. We would recommend any students who are interested in travelling for their elective or finding their own project/placement to go for it - the experience is unforgettable!
Mrs. Irene Lewis and Dr. Roy Bilous’ Legacy

Dr. Roman (Roy) Bilous, son of the late Aptanazia Thomas and Genevieve Bilous, passed away in Winnipeg on February 17, 2007. Roy was born in Winnipeg in 1919 and raised on Selkirk Avenue in the North End. He attended the University of Manitoba where he graduated with the Gold Medal in pharmacy in 1943, as well as the Flexon and Manitoba Pharmaceutical Association Silver Medals. In 1967, he received a Master of Science degree in Pharmacy from the University of Manitoba. He was awarded his doctorate in Pharmaceutical Chemistry from the University of Wisconsin in 1972 for a Ph.D. thesis entitled “The Determination of Liothyronine and Throxine in Dried Thyroid By Gas-Liquid Chromatography.” Dr. Bilous was hired by his former professor Dr. Dougal McDougall as a special lecturer in 1957 and in 1977 became a professor of pharmacy up until his retirement from teaching in 1987 instructing such subjects as pharmaceutics, pharmaceutical manufacturing, pharmaceutical analysis, inorganic chemistry and physical chemistry. Dr. Bilous was a local pioneering trailblazer in the generic drug manufacturing industry. He also served as acting Dean of Pharmacy from 1986 to 1987 and retired in January 1988. His sister, Irene Marie Lewis (nee BILOUS) passed away in 2013 at Burnaby General Hospital, aged 91 years. Irene was born in Okno, MB on June 12, 1921, a few hours after her twin sister, Anne. As a soloist, she won the Tudor Bowl at the 1940 Winnipeg Music Festival. Along with her two sisters (Anne and Emelie) she performed and recorded as The Bilous Sisters Trio for many years. Mrs. Lewis obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree at the University of British Columbia and she taught in the Burnaby School District for over 25 years, retiring reluctantly at age 65 fighting all the way to the British Columbia Supreme Court against mandatory retirement. (see Lewis v. Board of School Trustees, 1992 839 (BC SC)). In 2002, Irene was pleased to establish and fund the Dr. Roman (Roy) Bilous Scholarship Fund at the University of Manitoba, Faculty of Pharmacy, as well as the Dr. Roman Bilous Graduate Study Room in the Apotex centre. In recognition of her brother’s contributions to pharmacy education in Manitoba, Mrs. Lewis upon her recent passing also left a legacy of $600,000 from her estate to the Faculty of Pharmacy to three quarters of a million dollars to be directed to the Dr. Roman (Roy) Bilous Scholarships.

Our History

Miss Annie Simpson was the first female pharmacist in Western Canada. Annie was licensed as an apprentice on April 6, 1892 at Apothecaries Hall, a frame building on Rosser Avenue and Eight Street which served as the city of Brandon’s first drug store. It later became known as Flemings Pharmacy. Annie then attended the Manitoba College of Pharmacy in Winnipeg where she studied side by side with the physicians and pharmacists of the day, receiving a diploma in 1896 and was certified as a pharmacy clerk. She was licensed as a Pharmaceutical Chemist on October 7th, 1896. Annie served the community of Brandon and precepted apprentice pharmacy students until 1902. Annie then moved west to Innisfail, Alberta to become the first female pharmacist in Alberta. Annie went into business for herself and opened her first drugstore, Simpson’s Drugs. In 1914, she sold her store in Innisfail to head east to visit family in Wingham, Ontario. She returned west again, working for two years as the Calgary General Hospital’s first full-time pharmacist and chief hospital pharmacist. Subsequently, Annie opened a drugstore in Bassano, Alberta, operating it until 1924. From 1924 to her retirement in 1938, Annie owned a drugstore in Jasper and eventually retired to Victoria, British Columbia.

In her footsteps over a century later the Faculty of Pharmacy is proud to educate the next generation of female pharmacists. The recently admitted Class of 2018 has 38 female students out of 54 and now overall 127 out of 210 (60%) of our pharmacy student body are women.
Donor Honour Roll

The Faculty of Pharmacy acknowledges the generosity and support of alumni, faculty, staff, corporate partners and friends who have generously given $5,000 or more to the Faculty of Pharmacy during their lifetime as of March 31, 2014.

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Message from donor relations

Fall is always an exciting time at the University of Manitoba and this year is no exception. Homecoming 2014 just wrapped up and it was great to see so many of our alumni out at university events. Congratulations to the Pharmacy classes of 1964 and 1974 who were celebrating their 50th and 40th reunions and who joined us at the Homecoming dinner and concert on September 20th. We proudly honored Dr. Jack Bend (’64) at the Alumni of Distinction event and the week of activity was wrapped up with our White Coat Ceremony. Helping us welcome the Class of 2018 to the faculty were some of our trailblazing alumni from the Class of 1964.

On behalf of everyone at the Faculty of Pharmacy, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our donors whose generosity puts our outstanding students and researchers front and centre. Your gifts are helping to create a collaborative learning environment on campus. Our newest graduates, the Class of 2014 deserve a special thank you for their decision to create a legacy at their alma mater by establishing a bursary to support future generations of pharmacists.

At the University of Manitoba, we believe where we are shapes who we are and to that end we would be thrilled to welcome each of you back to the Bannatyne Campus and the Apotex Centre for a visit and a tour if you are in the Winnipeg area. I can be reached at 204-789-3884 or at jennifer.dacquay@umanitoba.ca to plan your visit or to discuss what is new with the Faculty.

Thank you!