Manitoba Pharmaceutical Act Regulations Enacted

The majority of Canadians trusts their pharmacist and see them as valued partners in their healthcare and one of the most accessible healthcare professionals. Our patients can now have additional healthcare services provided by Manitoban pharmacists and their student interns.

The Manitoba legislature initially passed a new Pharmaceuticals Act in December 2006, granting pharmacists new professional rights. The Manitoba Health Act regulations were only proclaimed by the Manitoba Legislature in 2014. The newly implemented practice guidelines and regulations, which commenced on January 1, 2014, enable pharmacists to exercise their expanded scope of practice to include ordering and receiving certain diagnostic tests, administering immunizations and injections, including publicly funded vaccines for influenza, pneumococcal, pertussis and the human papillomavirus and the authority to prescribe medications for ambulatory ailments such as acne, athlete’s foot and smoking cessation.

Pharmacists will also have the ability to issue short-term refill prescriptions for patients with chronic conditions and prescribe medical devices, such as inhalers used to control asthma, until they can be seen by their primary care provider.

Our students within the Faculty of Pharmacy and Manitoba’s 1378 pharmacists who are working in 396 licensed pharmacies are ready. Last year, we at the University of Manitoba’s Faculty of Pharmacy implemented courses and training into our curriculum to equip student pharmacists with the knowledge and skills needed to administer immunization and injections and perform physical assessments.

Over 400 fully trained pharmacists and students are also ready to meet patients’ needs with respect to providing immunization and injection services. Ongoing training of pharmacy students for the new Act and regulations will be a collaborative effort between the Faculty of Pharmacy and the College of Pharmacists of Manitoba.

Enabling pharmacists to perform these types of pharmaceutical services benefit patients and the health care system as a whole. It will alleviate some of the pressure on physicians and...
The Dean’s Distillate

This is perhaps the most exciting time ever in the history of the Faculty of Pharmacy at the University of Manitoba. On a winter day while Manitoba was colder than the planet Mars the Manitoba Pharmaceutical Act Regulations were enacted on January 1, 2014.

I have toured more than 70% of the pharmacies in our province so far, and I’m proud to have met over 400 fully trained pharmacists and students already set to meet patients’ needs with respect to providing immunization and injection services. Ongoing advanced training of pharmacy students for the new Act and regulations will be a collaborative effort between the Faculty of Pharmacy and the College of Pharmacists of Manitoba. (You can see a map of the tour progress on our Pharmacy homepage at (http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/pharmacy/pharm_locations.html)

As you will see in this edition of PharmaNews we have had an exciting and productive year in the Faculty of Pharmacy. As we break the ice of a hard winter we have been busy in the Faculty interviewing potential new Faculty professors to assist us as we move forward in the development of the program. We are also looking forward to graduation celebrations for the Class of 2014. Once again in 2014 we will graduate a fantastic group of students which we are tremendously proud of.

With our comprehensive accreditation 2013-2019 behind us, our Graduate Program Review completed and a new strategic plan in hand we enter this new era in pharmaceutical care with great hopes and aspirations for the future of our pharmacy program. We are already looking forward to the fall of 2014 and another special Grandrounds Pharmacy series involving some of our alumni entitled: “Return of the Pharm.D.”

Our success and achievements are made possible by the hard and diligent work of an entire profession with a singular focus on excellence. I cannot adequately express my appreciation for the dedicated work and support of my faculty, staff, students and alumni towards our goals.

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

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

CPhM Awards 2014

These awards will be presented during the annual Manitoba Pharmacy Conference, taking place April 25th – 27th in Winnipeg.

2013 Pharmacist of the Year
W. Gary Cavanagh (1972)

Bowl of Hygeia for outstanding community service
Janice Coates (1973)

Patient Safety Award

Centennial Award
Christopher Louizos (2004), Lavern Vercaigne (1991) and Kimberly McIntosh (2006)

50 Year Gold Pins
J. Dexter Boyd (1964)  Michael Dembinsky (1964)
Barbara Cinnamon (Wormell) (1964)  Richard Stephanew (1964)
Wayne Couling (1964)  Shirley Surbey (Zealand) (1964)

25 Year Silver Pins

Regulations from Page 1

nurses to address these types of patient requests that clog emergency rooms, waiting rooms and walk-in clinics, while still providing patients the opportunity to meet with superbly trained pharmacy health care professionals.

The Faculty of Pharmacy supports the proclamation of the new Act and regulations which will increase patients’ access to towards optimal health care and undoubtedly contribute to better health outcomes for Manitobans. In recognition of this new era in pharmaceutical care we have named a new student lounge within the Apotex Centre the College of Pharmacists Gold Medal Lounge as a lasting testament of the symbiotic relationship between the Faculty and the profession and in recognition of all the support provided by pharmacists to our program.
2nd Annual Mr. Pharmacy Pageant

By Alanna Doell

Fourth-year pharmacy student Louis Chute’s hard work and dedication paid off when he was crowned Mr. Pharmacy 2014 at the Metropolitan Entertainment Center this past November.

The beautiful décor of the Metropolitan set an elegant tone for the 2nd annual Mr. Pharmacy event, including a full course dinner followed by the pageant. All attendees of the event were asked to bring an unused toy as a donation to the Children’s Hospital Foundation of Manitoba. Over 200 toys were collected to help spread holiday cheer.

The student co-chairs of the event were Alanna Doell, Alexis Warner, and Jaclyn Deonarine. Their goal was to expand the event beyond just the Faculty of Pharmacy. In addition to students and professors, members of MSP, MPhA, and CPhA were also in attendance. Bringing together the pharmacy community has been a major accomplishment of the pageant.

After last year’s success, the Mr. Pharmacy dinner and pageant became a highly anticipated event within the Faculty of Pharmacy. A total of eight contestants are selected for the pageant, two from each class. The contestants are nominated by their peers based on their professionalism, personality and style.

This year’s brave contestants were the following men: Lyndon Walker, Scott Van, A.J. Stewart, Bruce Audit, Riley Love, Kulwant Singh, Liam Hogue and Louis Chute. The pageant is an all-inclusive event complete with four categories -professional dress, a pill counting competition, a question-and-answer period, and a talent section.

Four judges spent the night evaluating each contestant’s performance. The judges were Dr. Grace Frankel, Dr. Dennis Cote, Ms. Kristine Petrasko and Dr. Frank Burczynski.

The night started off full of energy with a dance routine choreographed by fourth-year student Ashley Ewasiuk. All of the contestants’ hard work showed as they took the stage putting on a remarkable performance to start off the pageant.

The professional dress portion allowed the contestants to don their best attire and strut their stuff to impress the judges. Each contestant chose a song best suited for their personality and did not fail to impress with their confidence, elegance, and individuality.

The pill-counting competition this year was designed to mimic a real-life scenario working in a pharmacy. In the middle of counting a designated number of pills, contestants were interrupted by a “customer” who was in dire need of a specific brand of Band-Aid. This required the contestants to stop mid-count and race to find the correct item in a box full of products. The contestants were ranked in order of who was able to complete the task the quickest. This was an audience favourite and showed how important it is for a pharmacist to remain cool under pressure.

The question-and-answer period was a chance for the contestants to show off their knowledge of the profession. The questions focused on ethics and professionalism and were asked by MPhA registrar Ron Guse. All of the contestants remained composed and answered their respective question with poise and intelligence.

The conclusion of the pageant was, of course, the talent portion. The contestants did not disappoint and put on a wildly entertaining show. The talents performed showed a great diversity including beat-boxing, trombone playing, unicycle riding and swing dancing.

The night drew to a close when last year’s winner, Jeff Ngo, crowned his successor, Louis Chute, as Mr. Pharmacy 2014. Chute’s winning performance stood out, plunging the entire theater into darkness and performing an “evolution of dance” routine in a homemade LED glow suit.

The Mr. Pharmacy pageant originated in Canada at Dalhousie University and has been sweeping the nation. Plans to host a national Mr. Pharmacy pageant at Professional Development Week in Quebec City in January 2015 will certainly take the event to the next level. One contestant from each school will get the opportunity to fight for their chance to become Mr. Pharmacy Canada.

Mr. Pharmacy is a charitable event that brings students, educators, and professionals together for an unforgettable evening of talent, humour, and elegance. It is a tradition that we hope will only continue to grow and expand in the years to come.
Research News

Grants, Abstracts and Conference Presentations

Bugden SC. “Risk and response to citalopram cardiotoxicity”, University of Manitoba, Centre on Aging Fellowship 2013/2014. ($10,000).

Grymonpre R. “A Theory-Based Approach to IP Interventions for a Sustainable Workforce”, PHSI Planning Grant 2013/2014 ($25,000).

Anderson H. “Protective mechanisms of endocannabinoids in cardiac hypertrophy” Canadian Institutes of Health Research Grant - $611,905

Ho E. Microbicide Development and Characterization Laboratory.” the Canadian Foundation for Innovation $129,741

Tranmer G. “Examining the Role of the Antioxidant N-Acetylcysteine in Hypoxia as a Model System for the Development of Hypoxia-Activated Prodrugs”. Manitoba Medical Service Foundation 2013/2014 $20,000

Lakowski T. “Targeting Lysine-Specific Demethylase for the Treatment of Breast Cancer”. The Manitoba Medical Service Foundation 2013/2014 $25,000

Alessi-Severini S. Use of Administrative Databases for Pharmacoepidemiologic Studies in the Province of Manitoba. SAPEC 2013, (Montreal, Quebec, Canada, October 17-18, 2013)


Renaud R, Louizos C, Kristjanson C, Zelenitsky S. Predicting students’ communication skills in a Pharmacy program. Association of Faculties of Pharmacy of Canada Annual Conference / Canadian Pharmacy Education and Research Conference, Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON (06/2013)


Zelenitsky S, Renaud R, Kleiman N, Kristjanson C. The effect of repeating undergraduate pre-Pharmacy core courses on performance in a Pharmacy program. Association of Faculties of Pharmacy of Canada Annual Conference / Canadian Pharmacy Education and Research Conference, Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON (06/2013)

Publications


Reunions

Did you graduate in 1944, 1954, 1964, 1974, 1984, 1994, or 2004? Would you like to reconnect with your classmates and participate in all the University of Manitoba has to offer its alumni? We are currently organizing reunions for Pharmacy Alumni as part of Homecoming 2014. Please contact Tammy Holowachuk at (204) 474-6455 or tammy.holowachuk@umanitoba.ca.

r tammy.holowachuk@umanitoba.ca .


Leong C. Antidepressants for Depression in Patients with Dementia: A Review of the Literature. The Consultant Pharmacist (Accepted October 2, 2013).


Promotion

Dr. Silvia Alessi-Severini was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure effective April 1, 2014.
Pharmacy Graduate Program Receives High Rating

The Faculty of Graduate Studies strives to review all programs offering post-graduate education on a seven year cycle. This review consists of a written self-study report and a site visit by external reviewers. In January 2014 the Faculty of Pharmacy’s Graduate Program was reviewed, and we passed with very positive feedback.

We were reviewed by Dr. Mohsen Daneshbal, Professor and Associate Dean of Pharmacy from Memorial University, Dr. David Jakeman, Professor and Graduate Coordinator with the College of Pharmacy at Dalhousie University and Dr. Janice Dodd, Professor of Physiology at the University of Manitoba. The reviewers spent two days at the Apotex Centre and met with staff and students to gain a holistic understanding of graduate-level education in pharmacy.

One of the key points noted in the reviewers’ report to the Faculty of Graduate Studies was the impressive quality of our graduate students, particularly the number of practicing pharmacy professionals who have chosen to return to post-graduate education. 25% of the graduate students currently enrolled are practicing pharmacists. The opportunity to contribute to the greater field of pharmacy was a main draw for many students. The reviewers stated “This is an impressive percentile, and any unit elsewhere in the country would likely be proud of that proportion.”

Another aspect deemed “a significant strength” was our Alumni. The Faculty of Pharmacy strives to involve Alumni in our annual seminar series and as preceptors for our undergraduate students. The reviewers noted this was impressive and would help graduates remain connected to their institution in a meaningful way.

The reviewers made concrete recommendations to make our program even better. These suggestions are being investigated by the Pharmacy Graduate Program Committee. We look forward to implementing positive changes to the Faculty of Pharmacy’s Masters and Ph.D. programs. For more information on Graduate Studies in Pharmacy, see our website at www.umanitoba.ca/pharmacy.

Members of the Faculty of Pharmacy Class of 2014 at the Mr. Pharmacy Pageant

Congratulations Class of 2014

On June 5th the Faculty of Pharmacy will recognize a new set of graduating students. The Class of 2014 has been studying, researching and testing their skills for four years and will graduate with a Bachelor of Science (Pharm). The Welcome to the Profession Ceremony is a chance to celebrate the achievements of the graduating class and wish them well.
Leslie F. Buggey Professorship makes history at the Faculty of Pharmacy

Thanks to the vision and generosity of Dr. Joanne Buggey and her family, the Faculty of Pharmacy has reached a watershed moment with the creation of the Leslie F. Buggey Professorship in Pharmacy. This is the faculty’s first-ever endowed research professorship.

The inaugural Leslie F. Buggey Professor is Dr. Keith Simons, a well-respected longtime faculty member. Dr. Simons joined the faculty in 1975 as an Assistant Professor. He moved up the ranks and has held a number of high-profile positions, including Associate Dean (Research) from 2004 to 2009.

“I am greatly honored to be awarded the first Leslie F. Buggey Professorship in Pharmacy at the University of Manitoba,” says Dr. Simons. “I hope that when my ongoing research is presented and published, that being identified as the Leslie F. Buggey Professor will provide recognition of the contributions of Dr. Buggey and other members of the Buggey family in memory of Leslie F. Buggey’s career as a valued member of the pharmacy profession.”

The Professorship will make an enormous impact on research at the Faculty of Pharmacy. Dr. Simons has been able to focus his time and energy on research while limiting his undergraduate teaching hours. Those who follow him in the position will enjoy the same benefits. The professorship will also act as a magnet to attract talented young graduate students (who may also receive the Buggey family’s support – see sidebar).

This will provide an additional incentive to support the robust Pharmacy research program, which would have made Leslie Buggey very happy. A graduate of the University of Manitoba Pharmacy program in 1925, Buggey went on to enjoy a long and fruitful career as a groundbreaking pharmaceutical salesman in Canada and the USA.

The Leslie F. Buggey Graduate Scholarship in Pharmacy

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the Leslie F. Buggey Graduate Scholarship in Pharmacy. Dr. Joanne Buggey generously established the award in honour of her father in 1989, and it has since supported numerous outstanding graduate students.

Leslie Buggey presented the award to its first recipient, Ric Procyshyn, and the two enjoyed an instant connection and enduring friendship. Dr. Procyshyn remembers that, “Mr. Buggey was inspiring, he had achieved so much and if I were to achieve half as much that would be wonderful.”

The two corresponded regularly until Mr. Buggey passed away, and Procyshyn now maintains a relationship with Joanne. “Ric was so good to my Dad,” she says. “They couldn’t have found a better person to start if off.”

Since that first award in 1990, Joanne or her father (before his passing) presented almost every award in person. Joanne continues to get to know each scholarship recipient personally. She is delighted that the scholarship has endured and that it is now accentuated by the Leslie F. Buggey Professorship.

Dr. Joanne Buggey poses with Dr. Keith Simons, the first Leslie F. Buggey Professor, in the honourary white coat presented to her by the faculty at the Graduate Student Awards evening.

“My father was very modest, he probably would have said I was going way overboard,” says his daughter, Dr. Joanne Buggey, who established the professorship in his honour.

Her gift will make a tremendous impact through Dr. Simons’ research. His focus is a potential alternative to the recommended epinephrine injection for the first-aid treatment of anaphylaxis in community settings. It has been identified that patients experiencing anaphylaxis, especially children and teenagers fail to use it because they are afraid of needles and injections. Dr. Simons is developing a way to deliver the epinephrine to patients with anaphylaxis using a sublingual tablet formulation. This will not only limit the need for injections, but it is also a more stable form of the drug than the aqueous formulations in the autoinjectors.

Dr. Buggey is thrilled that her father’s legacy will be connected to such pharmaceutical advancements. An accomplished teacher, academic, and children’s book author, Joanne says she could have focused her philanthropy on something that she was interested in, but preferred to celebrate her father’s life.

She isn’t finished. There are plans for the Leslie F. Buggey Professorship in Pharmacy to evolve into a fully endowed research chair. A member of the Isbister Legacy Society, Dr. Buggey not only continues to provide regular ongoing support, but has planned a bequest for the university in her will.

Her generosity will help the Faculty of Pharmacy to make innovations that create healthier communities well into the future. Additionally, says Dr. Simons, “the name of Leslie F. Buggey will be carried on in perpetuity by Pharmacy professors with outstanding research programs.”
George Arnold Burbidge was born in Carbonear, Newfoundland on March 5, 1871 and passed away in Halifax in 1943. He registered as a pharmacist with the Nova Scotia Pharmaceutical Society in 1889. He was a leading force behind creation of the Nova Scotia College of Pharmacy opening in 1911 and the Maritime College of Pharmacy in 1917, becoming its first Dean in 1925. Furthermore, Burbidge’s leadership efforts lead to the formation of our national academic pharmacy organization, the Association of Faculties of Pharmacy of Canada, in 1944.

The Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada (PEBC) was incorporated through an Act of Parliament in 1963 to ensure pharmacists across Canada had similar knowledge, establishing practice standards and facilitating inter-provincial mobility in the profession. Twenty-five students from across Canada voluntarily wrote the first PEBC exam in the spring of 1965 in Toronto. Since then thousands of Canadian pharmacists have followed in their footsteps. The first PEBC examination took four days to write and consisted of six written papers in pharmaceutics, pharmaceutical chemistry, pharmacology, pharmacognosy, pharmacy administration and basic science comprehensive. In addition, a practical exam in compounding and dispensing was administered. The format has changed dramatically since 1965 as have the style of questions. Provincial licensing bodies began requiring this examination for pharmacist registration in the 1970s.

In 1965, the same year the first national exam was administered, the CPhA established the Dean George A. Burbidge Award to be presented to the student who achieved the highest academic standing in the Pharmacy Examining Board Spring qualifying examination.

Forty-nine years ago Colleen F. Wood (née Cahility) the lady stick for the Faculty of Pharmacy’s Class of 1965 at the University of Manitoba had the highest aggregate marks and was the first recipient of the Dean George A. Burbidge Award. She now resides in Cheltenham, New South Wales, Australia. In 2004 Pak-Wai Chan, alumni of the Faculty of Pharmacy at the University of Manitoba, who recently passed away in Winnipeg, emulated her achievement.

Faculty of Pharmacy graduates now uniformly sit for the Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada comprehensive exams. Impressively, as a collective, Manitoba students have ranked first in the nation over twenty times since the PEBC’s exam inception in 1965. Our pharmacy students’ exceptionally high level of achievement on these exams is indicative of the overall historical success of our pharmacy program.