Congratulations Class of 2013

The Pharmacy Class of 2013 celebrated their convocation on Thursday, May 30th, with 54 new pharmacists graduating into the profession. We congratulate them on their achievements as they take the next step in their careers.

Bagpipes announced the beginning of the graduation ceremony as the Dean of Pharmacy, Dr. Neal Davies, entered the Brodie Centre from the Apotex Centre. The hooding of graduates was performed by Associate Deans Dr. Xiaochen Gu and Dr. Yuewen Gong. The valedictorian address was provided by Mr. Christopher Dupont.

Several pharmacy alumni joined us at the ceremony. Ronald Guse [BSc(Pharm)79], Registrar of the Manitoba Pharmaceutical Association (MPhA), joined faculty members, association members, family and friends in congratulating the various award winners from the undergraduate pharmacy program.

MPhA president Kyle MacNair [BSc(Pharm)00] presented the MPhA Gold Medal and the MPhA President’s Prize to Lesley Worsnop, and the MPhA Silver Medal to Devin Ross. Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists (CSHP) Manitoba Branch President Nicole Nakatsu presented the CSHP (MB Branch) award to Justine Manulak. The Manitoba Society of Pharmacists (MSP) A. Langley Jones Leadership Award was given to Jessica Cheung by MSP Vice-President Scott McFeetors [BSc(Pharm)88].

Dean Davies presented the Fourth Year Teaching Award to Dr. Lavern Vercaigne [BSc(Pharm)91], who then offered the faculty address. Dr. Sheryl Zelenitsky [BSc(Pharm)89] read the graduate names as Dean Davies handed out certificates. Dr. Gu gave the graduates their mortar and pestles and MPhA President MacNair presented the MPhA pins.

The senior stick address was provided by Scott Andresen [BSc(Pharm)13], which was followed by the group photo and mortarboard toss. Guests celebrated in the Apotex Centre.

The Pharmacy Graduation Ball at the Fairmont Hotel on June 1st was a fantastic end to another successful year.

What’s in our
SUMMER 2013 Issue

Dean’s Distillate ............... 2
Dr. Alan McIntosh’s Retirement 3
New Faculty/Staff .............. 3
Mr. Pharmacy Pageant .......... 4
Donor Profile .................. 5
Jimmy Ball: Pharmacy alumnus 6
Research News ................. 6
2012 Preceptor of the Year ... 8
The Dean’s Distillate

With the long winter now well behind us we have turned our attention to celebrating 54 new pharmacists who have recently graduated from our pharmacy program. These graduating pharmacy students are poised to demonstrate professional servitude by instinct and training. They are brilliant and collegial while also demonstrating humility and passion. At the faculty we are concentrating on fulfilling our new strategic plan for the programs development and we have hired two new Faculty members, Dr. Jamison Falk and Dr. Christine Leong, who add to our complement and depth in Pharm.D. trained faculty. We also bid farewell to two medicinal chemistry professors, Drs. Lean Chee and Alan McIntosh, as they transition to new horizons.

The Faculty of Pharmacy at the University of Manitoba must be part of the pharmacy community and not stand apart from it. For 30 years since 1983 the Manitoba Pharmaceutical Association members have supported the Faculty of Pharmacy through a voluntary levy. I recognize that this gift is an entrustment of professional benevolence. We are exceedingly grateful to have the support of all the pharmacists in Manitoba and recognize that this donation is not an entitlement. I will continue to foster and nurture relationships with all pharmacists and alumni in the community, within the faculty and at the annual Manitoba Pharmaceutical conference as an affirmation of our commitment to pharmacist unity.

In my tour of over 200 pharmacies in our province so far, I am proud to say that I have seen first-hand our students being mentored by preceptors that demonstrate a common ground of excellence (http://umanitoba.ca/pharmacy). It is easy to see why pharmacists are the most trusted health care professionals because we are good citizens, as well as active community members, and we engender a culture of respect and inclusion.

We are entering a new era of pharmacy with new, complex tailored drugs, elaborate delivery systems, devices and diagnostics which will be employed by pharmacists to improve the health of Manitoban’s. We at the Faculty of Pharmacy will help guide the changing landscape of health-care and Pharmacy’s roles. We will continue our research discovery and innovation and we will continue to foster a culture of continuous improvement.

Homecoming 2013 will be a fantastic occasion for our Faculty and alumni and students. We will celebrate the lifetime achievements of the 25, 40, 50 and 60 year classes during the weekend and this will be followed by another Outstanding Pharmacy Alumnus Award and the White Coat Ceremony where alumni of the past will cloak the pharmacists of the future.

Thank you for having me as your Dean.

Go Bisons!

Neal M. Davies BSc(Pharm), PhD, R.Ph.

Dean’s pharmacy tour visits Victoria

Pharmacy alumni primarily residing in the Victoria region enjoyed high tea at the Empress Hotel during the afternoon of June 8th.

Pharmacy graduates from 1945 to 2011 networked, reminisced, and shared stories with Dean Davies and Dr. Dennis Cote. A great time was had by all and the friendly Manitoba bison spirit was evident throughout.

Stay tuned for Pharmacy Alumni House Calls in your town or city in the future.

2013 White Coat Ceremony

Join us as we welcome a new crop of students into the Faculty of Pharmacy. Our annual White Coat Ceremony will be held on Monday, September 30th at 4:30pm in the Brodie Centre atrium (727 McDermot Avenue). First year pharmacy students will be presented with a white coat and asked to recite the Pledge of Professionalism. Awards will also be presented to students in years two to four in the program, as well as outstanding preceptors and teachers will be recognized. A reception will follow in the second floor atrium of the Apotex Centre (750 McDermot Ave).

Your RSVP is requested by Monday, September 9th to Sara Smith via e-mail: sara.smith@umanitoba.ca or phone: 204-474-8066.
Dr. Alan McIntosh’s Retirement

Dr. Alan McIntosh has provided 22 years of service to the Faculty of Pharmacy at the University of Manitoba, from 1991 until his retirement this year.

We have been blessed to have Dr. McIntosh as an associate professor as he has been responsible for teaching medicinal chemistry at all levels of the BSc (Pharm) program. Over the years, Dr. McIntosh received several teaching awards. The second-year class in the faculty selected him as the Outstanding Teacher at their undergraduate program level in 1996-1997, 2004-2005 and 2006-2007. The third year BSc (Pharm) class awarded him the same honour in 1998-1999, 2003-2004 and finally in 2012-2013! Dr. McIntosh received the Recognition of Teaching Excellence awards in 2002 and 2004, sponsored by University Teaching Services and the University of Manitoba Students’ Union.

Dr. Alan McIntosh completed a BSc degree with first class honours in chemistry at the University of Calgary in 1968. He went on to pursue his PhD in physical chemistry at Queen’s University (1972) where his interest was piqued in electron paramagnetic resonance spectroscopy and free radical detection. He completed a National Research Council Post Doctorate Fellowship at the Université de Montréal and the University of Western Ontario.

He worked as a development engineer at Photochemical Research Associates Inc. in London, ON, and then returned to academia in 1979 as a research associate in the Department of Chemistry, University of Western Ontario until 1986. Dr. McIntosh worked as a professor at the Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières from 1987 until 1991 where his fluency in French was fostered.

Over the course of his career, Dr. McIntosh received several national grants, published numerous articles and held two patents from his research inventions. Dr. McIntosh trained several MSc students and served on numerous committees including as an AFPC councillor, chairman of the AFPC Awards Committee, member of the panel for PEBC examination, and a Faculty of Pharmacy Senator.

We wish him bon voyage as he begins the next journey and hope he will accept our gratitude for his service.

New faculty and staff

Dr. Jamison (Jamie) Falk joined the Faculty of Pharmacy in March 2013 as an Assistant Professor in the area of clinical sciences and practice. He graduated from the University of Manitoba, Faculty of Pharmacy in 1997. He worked as a community pharmacist for five years before pursuing his Doctor of Pharmacy degree at the University of British Columbia. After graduating from the Doctor of Pharmacy program in 2004 he practiced as a clinical pharmacy specialist at the Royal Jubilee and Victoria General Hospitals in Victoria, BC where he developed a practice in intensive care medicine. He also served as a preceptor for pharmacy residents and PharmD candidates along with providing clinical support to the staff pharmacists at these hospitals.

Reunions

Two graduating classes will be holding reunions in 2013. The classes and dates of the reunions are:

Class of 1963 (50 Years) – September 28th to 30th

Class of 1973 (40 Years) – September 27th to 30th


Contact Tammy Holowachuk at 204.474.6455 or holowac@cc.umanitoba.ca to arrange for you own reunion!

Dr. McIntosh receiving an outstanding service award at the graduation ceremony on May 30, 2013.
Students compete in Mr. Pharmacy Pageant

By Alia Marcinkow, Photo by Jessica Persson

Pharmacy Students at the University of Manitoba

As young professionals, the students of the Faculty of Pharmacy are always striving to find ways to combine having fun while supporting a good cause. In the past students have raised money for MS research, the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation and most recently were the top fundraisers for the CIBC Run for the Cure. Therefore, when CAPSI representatives Ashley Ewasiuk and Jaclyn Deonarine, along with the Student Association Social Coordinator, Nicole Lee, presented the idea of the First Mr. Pharmacy Pageant everyone was willing to participate. The evening would not only be a chance to connect with classmates, but also an opportunity to raise money for Prostate Cancer Research and Movember.

Mr. Pharmacy Pageants have been taking place at other pharmacy Faculties across the country and these ladies believed it was time to find the man in our Faculty who epitomizes the profession of pharmacy. Mr. Pharmacy is someone who is calm, cool and collected. He is both respected and respectful as well as leads by example in the classroom, workplace and community. Each class was asked to nominate two students who they believed exemplified the qualities and characteristics of Mr. Pharmacy. The contestants included Alexei Berdnikov, Riley MacCharles (1st year), Ryan Rohan Persaud, Shawn Chohan (2nd year), Jeff Ngo, Eddie Ahoff (3rd year), Cody Hotel and Denys Borovystskey (4th year). The contestants would be competing in various events throughout the night to win the title of Mr. Pharmacy. The contestants worked hard to live up to the prestigious title of Mr. Pharmacy and though there could only be one winner, all the contestants represented their classes with sophistication and professionalism.

The night began with a delicious dinner at Canad Inns Polo Park where students, Faculty, and members of both MPhA and MSP mingled and shared in the beginning of the holiday season. As dessert was served the main event began with the introduction of the judges, Dr. Vercaigne, Mrs. Kleiman, Ms. Ng and Dr. Cote. The contestants set the mood by starting the pageant with a choreographed dance. Their energy and excitement percolated throughout the crowd. Next was the professional dress section where the boys showed that Mr. Pharmacy is not only a respected professional but also an impeccable dresser. Outfits ranged from fitted suits, crisp lab coats and even a vest with a strategically placed picture of Mrs. Kleiman, one of the judges. The pageant continued with the contestants competing in a pill counting competition, where the quickest and most accurate counter received top marks. Though dispensing and counting are both part of Mr. Pharmacy’s job, he also has to have sound professional judgment. Mr. Ron Guse, the winner of the best mustache, presented the contestants with ethical questions. Each contestant spoke from the heart and often put their patients before themselves in their answers and in their practices. The night finished with each contestant showcasing their talents outside of the practice of pharmacy. They dazzled the crowd with juggling, singing, dancing, public speaking, work out instruction and even how to make ice cream using dry ice. Their talents proved to be the highlight of the show and all were met with energetic applause. At the end of the evening the first Mr. Pharmacy was crowned, and the winner was Jeffrey Ngo. All the contestants showed that Mr. Pharmacy is a professional who excels in all aspects of life. Their hard work and commitment to the evening proved that they all were the best contestants for the first annual Mr. Pharmacy Pageant and we are all proud of them. The night continued with a dance and lots of pictures with the new found celebrities of the faculty.

Overall the evening was a huge success raising $3000 for the Movember Foundation and beginning a tradition that the students hope is carried on for years to come.
**Donor Profile:**

**Perspective of an out of towner!**

Vincenzo Lamonica [BSc(Pharm)/83] wanted to become a pharmacist and as such applied to many pharmacy schools in hopes that one would see him as a candidate for their program. Lucky for us, we offered Vincenzo a position in our school and in 1980 he ventured west from his home in Toronto to learn and live in a city he had never visited before.

After arriving at the airport, he made his way to Student Services at the Fort Garry campus to check out the options for housing and was surprised to find a great location on Grosvenor. It had a room and kitchen which was all he needed. He spent four years there and says it was the perfect spot for a student as it was quiet and the rent was affordable. Vincenzo knew all along that he would return to his home province to practice after graduation but has never forgotten his alma mater. He has made the University of Manitoba a priority in his personal philanthropy and for over 20 years, he has supported the Faculty of Pharmacy with gifts to both the Pharmacy Endowment fund and the Building Fund. His giving reflects a desire to “pay it back” and his philosophy is “if you throw a piece of bread into the river, it comes back to you as cake”. Vincenzo has decided to give to the faculty’s endowment fund as, “It gives the pharmacy school the flexibility to use the interest generated by the endowment fund to wherever it feels it is needed”.

Vincenzo has great memories of many of his professors including Dr. John Hubbard and Dean John Steele and joined his classmates in 1988 to celebrate their 5 year reunion at the Lake of the Woods area. He hopes to be able to come back in 2013 and celebrate 30 years at the new Apotex Centre.

Vincenzo has always worked for independent pharmacies in Ontario and has been at the busy Derry Road Pharmacy in Mississauga for 12 years. It has two full time and one part time pharmacists and regularly dispenses 300-400 prescriptions per day. Previously, he has worked at Caledian and Gould’s pharmacies and is planning on working for another 10-15 years. One of his daughters is following in his footsteps as she is enrolled in the US in a PharmD program.

---

**Pharmacy program receives accreditation**

The Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy, BSc.(Pharm), program at the University of Manitoba has been awarded the status of full accreditation by the Canadian Council for Accreditation of Pharmacy Programs (CCAPP) for the a six-year term, 2013-2019.

---

**Message from Donor Relations**

Spring at the Faculty of Pharmacy always proves to be a hectic time. As the faculty graduates the class of 2013, we wish our new pharmacists the best of luck and enjoy convocation ceremonies, luncheons and dinners.

Dean Neal Davies, Dr. Dennis Cote and I had the pleasure of travelling to Victoria in early June to reconnect with a number of graduates. What a great afternoon it was! We enjoyed high tea and great conversation at the Empress Hotel with about 25 alumni from various class years, including a member of the 1945 graduating class. There are approximately 55 graduates living in the Victoria area and Dean Davies hopes to return in the next few years to host another reception.

Summer has just arrived in Winnipeg but plans are well underway for Homecoming 2013. This year’s theme is “I Remember When”, and exciting events will be happening from September 27-30. Get in touch with some of your school friends and plan to attend the homecoming dinner!

As always, if you are planning a return trip to Winnipeg, we would love to show you around our gorgeous Bannatyne Campus and Apotex Centre, which houses our faculty. Please contact me at 204-789-3537 or Kyla.Denisuik@ad.umanitoba.ca

Have a great summer!

Kyla Denisuik, Donor Relations
Pharmacy alumnus

Jimmy Ball: Olympic athlete and Pharmacy alumnus

James A. Ball was born and educated in Dauphin, Manitoba. He undertook his apprenticeship in his hometown and graduated from our Pharmacy program in 1927, where he was active on the student council and the track and field team.

The following year, at the Canadian Olympic team trials in Hamilton, Ball thrilled the crowd when he set a Canadian record in the 400-metre race during the preliminary heats, and then reduced that record by almost a full second when he won the final race. He was selected to compete at the 1928 Olympiad in The Netherlands.

In perhaps the most exciting race of those Games, Ball won a Silver Medal as he finished just inches behind Barbotti of the United States in the 400-metre final. Many believed he could have won the gold medal if he’d reduced that record by almost a full second when he won the final race. He was inducted into Canada’s Sports Hall of Fame in 1959 and the Manitoba Sport Hall of Fame in 1959.

In 1933, Jimmy Ball was named Canada’s Outstanding Athlete and received the Norton H. Crowe trophy. He was inducted into Canada’s Sports Hall of Fame in 1959 and the Manitoba Sports Hall of Fame in 1980.

In the late 1920s and early 30s, Ball was Canada’s best quarter-mile runner and a crucial member of Canada’s top one-mile relay team. He was an awe-inspiring athlete who thrilled crowds around the world and routinely pulled off amazing feats, including four Manitoba titles in a single afternoon in 1930.

In 1932, he again ran on the relay team and won a Bronze Medal. This was his last major international competition.

At the next Olympics in Los Angeles in 1932, he again ran on the relay team and won a Bronze Medal. This was his last major international competition.

The Faculty of Pharmacy is proud to call James “Jimmy” Ball one of our own.

Faculty of Pharmacy introduces the new Pharmaceutical Analysis Lab

The new Pharmaceutical Analysis Laboratory was officially opened for research activities in the spring. The laboratory is equipped with two analytical liquid chromatography mass spectrometers for the analysis of drug samples and metabolites in blood or urine. These units can also be used for drug and dosage form stability studies. The newest is a Shimadzu 8040 the first such unit in Canada which is capable of analyzing more than 550 chemicals simultaneously. This unit is currently being used for metabolomics studies. The laboratory has a fast protein liquid chromatography unit for the analysis and purification of proteins. This machine can be used to purify and analyze biotechnology drugs one of the fastest growing segments of the pharmaceutical industry. Six high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) systems are also currently in use in the laboratory. These instruments are equipped with multiple types of detection (ultraviolet-visible light, fluorescence, and photo-diode array) to distinguish and accurately measure drugs and other substances of interest in a variety of samples including: urine, blood, tissue, marketed pharmaceutical and natural health products, as well as plant material. Measurements taken from blood and urine are used in pharmacokinetic studies, whereas measurements taken from marketed products or plant material are used in content analysis studies. In addition to measuring drugs and other compounds, the six HPLC systems are capable of isolating and collecting substances from samples for further testing.

Research News

Grants

S. Alessi-Severini. Pfizer Canada - $19,640 for the project “Use of prescription medications for smoking cessation in the province of Manitoba”

Gerald Y. Minuk, Yuewen Gong, Tomas Klonisch, Afshin Raouf, Jeremy Lipchitz: “Cancer Stem Cells and Hepatocellular Carcinoma: A Novel Approach to Identifying Potentially Curative Therapy” from Canadian Liver Foundation with $285,000 Canadian dollar for 5 years.

Mike Namaka received a research grant from Novartis for $47,092.50 for his project entitled “Transcriptional Regulation on Brain Derived Neurotrophic Factor by MeCP2: Implications in Maintenance and Repair of Myelin Damage Associated with Multiple Sclerosis (MS)”.

Emmanuel Ho is co-PI on a CIHR Canadian HIV Vaccine Initiative (CHVI) grant that was recently awarded $372,438 for 3 years. The grant is entitled “Limiting HIV target cells by inducing immune quiescence in the female genital tract”. The main PI is Dr. Keith Fowke from medical microbiology.


Abstracts and Conference Presentations


Louizos C, Vercaigne L, Sayre C, McIntosh K, Bugden S, Iacovides H,


Simons KA, Rachid, OM, Rawas-Qalaji M, Simons FER, Preclinical Study: Dose Comparison of New-Generation Taste- Masked Epinephrine (E) Sublingual Tablets, Podium Presentation, American Academy of Allergy Asthma and Immunology Annual Conference, San Antonio, TX, Feb. 21-26, 2013

Publications


Ho EA, Davies NM. Targeting the metabolism of leukemia stem cells as a novel therapeutic strategy. Drugs in Context 2013; 212252. doi: 10.7573/dic.212252


Books
Electives Program 2012 Preceptor of the Year Award:

Dr. Heather Dean MD, FRCP

Dr. Dean graduated from Medicine at Queen’s University in Kingston, Ontario and pursued pediatrics and pediatric endocrinology training in Montreal, Ottawa and Winnipeg. She has been a full time academic clinician in Winnipeg since 1983. She is Assistant Dean (academic), Faculty of Medicine, Professor of Pediatrics and faculty liaison for the Interprofessional Education Initiative at the University of Manitoba. Her major research activities focus on the epidemiology, care, education, support and prevention of type 2 diabetes in children. Another area of research is innovative methods for systems navigation for young adults with type 1 and type 2 diabetes to prevent excess preventable morbidity and mortality.

Dr. Dean has been a strong supporter of our Electives Program since its implementation in 2007. Under her mentorship our Pharmacy students have actively participated in interprofessional activities, conducted clinical research, and had their work presented at scientific conferences and published in peer-reviewed journals. Our faculty is thankful to Dr. Dean for offering our students such important learning experiences.

Congratulations to the deserving alumni who won 2013 Manitoba Pharmaceutical Association awards:

The following awards were presented at the Annual Awards Banquet on April 6 at the Delta Hotel:

- Pfizer Bowl of Hygeia – Lothar Dueck [BSc(Pharm)/74]
- 2012 Pharmacist of the Year – Grant Lawson [BSc(Pharm)/68], [MSc(Pharm)/70]
- Bonnie Schultz Memorial Award for Practice Excellence – Dr. Jamie Falk [BSc(Pharm)/97], [PharmD/04], University of British Columbia
- Patient Safety Award – Susan Lessard-Friesen [BSc(Pharm)/83]
- Honourary Life Membership – Lois Cantin [BSc(Pharm)/73]

The following award-winning alumni were honoured at the Annual Awards Luncheon on April 7th at the Winnipeg Convention Centre:

- BSc(Pharm) graduates from the class of 1963 who received 50-Year Gold Pins and Certificates:
  - Ted Bartman
  - Garry McManus
  - Jud Scales
  - Allan Shinfield
- BSc(Pharm) graduates from the class of 1988 who received 25-Year Silver Pins and Certificates:
  - Murvin Abas
  - Angela (Jakimeczko) Adamson
  - Caterina Bueti
  - Darwin Cheasley
  - Carla Dribnenky
  - Cecile Dumesnil
  - Ronald Eros
  - Warren Hicks (1987)
  - Vincent Huynh
  - Barbara Khoe
  - Jeannie Lee
  - Donald Scott McFeetors
  - Sandra (Sichewski) Negrey
  - Sam Nocita
  - Petr Prochazka
  - Marty Sexton
  - Grant Sklar
  - Tamara Strecker
  - Edmund Yu