

Pharma News

SUPPORTING PHARMACY TEACHING AND
RESEARCH AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

Traditional White Coat Ceremony inducts students into Faculty of Pharmacy

Fifty-five first-year University of Manitoba pharmacy students took their first steps toward becoming pharmacists on September 27, 2010 during the annual time-honoured White Coat Ceremony.

The White Coat Ceremony, a highly symbolic, tradition-filled event, culminated with each student receiving a new white lab coat that symbolized their entry into the pharmacy profession. Students then stood and recited the "Oath of a Pharmacist" in which they promised to show compassion and respect throughout their careers and to set worthy examples in the application of humanistic principles.

Manitoba Pharmaceutical Association president and Faculty of Pharmacy associate professor, Shawn Bugden addressed the new students at the event, advising them on the road ahead.

The ceremony also offered a chance to recognize some of the outstanding accomplishments of pharmacy students and faculty. Dr. Lavern Vercaigne, acting dean, and Janice Bailey, award committee chair, presented the Dean's Honour List as well as the 2009-10 recipients of student awards. Dr. Vercaigne then moved on to distinguish three outstanding faculty



members receiving the Outstanding Teacher Awards: Nancy Kleiman for first year, Dr. Lean Chee for second year and Dr. Sheryl Zelenitsky for third year.

Finally, the Preceptor of the Year Awards were presented by Nancy Kleiman and Dr. Silvia Alessi-Severini for the 2009-10 academic year. Please see page four for all the details on our outstanding preceptors.

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Dean's Message

Vercaigne, Acting Dean

September marked the beginning of a new academic year and we welcomed fifty-five bright and enthusiastic students to the Faculty of Pharmacy. As in past

years, applications for admission into the Faculty were very strong and we congratulate these students on their achievements thus far.

Our new students compliment an impressive group of individuals in second, third and fourth year. Not only are the students academically talented, but I'm also impressed with the sense of community and caring these students exhibit. You will read, on pages three, five, seven and eight, about recent initiatives the students have been involved in to help less fortunate individuals and to raise money for deserving organizations.

In turn, our students are fortunate to have an excellent faculty and staff. We are pleased to welcome three new faculty members who are highlighted on this page, Dr. Harris Iacovides, Dr. Emmanuel Ho and Shawn Bugden. Please take a moment to review their biographies, which highlight the reasons they are such great additions to the faculty.

The students' education also extends far beyond the walls of the Apotex Centre. I invite you to review page four and the Preceptors of the Year, Nancy Remillard, Dr. Rob Ariano and the Cancer Care Manitoba Pharmacy Program. We are also grateful to Michael Roberts and Dr. Jeffrey Grice who have been great supporters of the Faculty, providing international experiences for our students, and are the Electives Program Preceptors of the Year from the University of Queensland, Australia.

Of course our successes are shared with our alumni and friends of the faculty who provide support for the pharmacy program. We are grateful for your thoughtfulness and generosity. Our ability to be leaders in pharmacy education and research are greatly enhanced by your willingness to support our initiatives. Thank you.

Lavern Vercaigne, B.Sc. (Pharm.), PharmD
Professor and Acting Dean

New Faculty

The Faculty of Pharmacy is pleased to announce the following new faculty appointments.

Dr. Harris Iacovides joined the Faculty effective July 5, 2010 as a full-time clinical instructor. Dr. Iacovides completed the majority of his academic training at the University of Manitoba obtaining a B.Sc. in Microbiology in 1999, B.Sc. (Pharm.) in 2003 and M.Sc. (Pharm.) in 2006. In 2010, Dr. Iacovides obtained his PharmD at the University of Toronto and now joins our faculty as an instructor for the undergraduate clinical courses.



Dr. Emmanuel Ho joined the Faculty effective July 5, 2010. Dr. Ho earned his PhD in Pharmaceutical Sciences from the University of Toronto. As a post-doctoral fellow at the British Columbia Cancer Research Centre, Dr. Ho was awarded the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) Post-Doctoral Fellowship along with the Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research Post-Doctoral Fellowship (MSFHR).

Prior to joining the University of Manitoba, Dr. Ho was a research assistant professor at the University of Utah in the Department of Bioengineering. There, he was awarded two highly competitive research grants as the principal investigator, including a grant awarded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to develop a novel intravaginal delivery system for the sustained induction of mucosal immunity in the prevention of HIV transmission.

Shawn Bugden joined the Faculty effective September 1, 2010. He obtained a B.Sc. (Pharm.) from the University of Manitoba in 1991. Bugden has been the regional director of pharmacy for the Central Regional Health Authority since 1999. Interested in critical literature appraisal and optimal drug utilization, he is involved in the Prescription Information Services of Manitoba program.



Bugden completed an M.Sc. in Evidence-Based Medicine from Oxford in 2006, following which, he developed an interest in pharmacoconomics and outcomes research. Bugden is a frequent presenter at provincial and national conferences and has published more than 15 research and educational papers. He is currently completing his PharmD at the University of Washington. Additionally, he has played a leadership role in the pharmacy profession as a past-president of the Manitoba Association of Pharmacy Directors and as the current president of the Manitoba Pharmaceutical Association.

Pharmacy student enjoys international interprofessional education experience

In April 2010, pharmacy student Ashley Walus, Winnipeg Interprofessional Student-run Health (WISH) Clinic student executive co-chair, along with other members of the WISH Clinic, had the opportunity to take part in two international, interprofessional education sessions.



Pharmacy student Ashley Walus receiving a Dean's Honour List certificate from acting dean Dr. Laverne Vercaigne.

Walus, along with Mandeep Mahal (Faculty of Medicine) and WISH Clinic mentor, Dr. Maxine Holmqvist (Faculty of Medicine, Clinical Health Psychology) travelled to Sydney and Melbourne, Australia, to learn more about cutting-edge developments in interprofessional education (IPE) and to present material regarding the WISH Clinic, a student-managed clinic that serves the inner-city community of Point Douglas in Winnipeg.

The group first presented at and attended the All Together Better Health 5 conference in Sydney and then continued to the University of Melbourne to deliver a workshop entitled "Establishing a Student Managed Interprofessional Primary Care Clinic: Opportunities, Pitfalls and Recommendations." Other contributing members to the project were Kerrie Abel (Faculty of Social Work), Mark Allan (Faculty of Pharmacy) and Dr. Anne Durcan (Faculty of Medicine). The team also contributed to a curriculum development plenary for the University of Melbourne's Faculty of Medicine. Overall, the experience was a valuable one for Walus and her colleagues. They returned having learned useful lessons, looking forward to working together to bring about positive growth in Manitoba IPE initiatives.

Research News

New Grants

Congratulations to Dr. Hope Anderson who received a grant in the amount of \$30,000 from the California Table Grape Commission for her grant proposal Effects of Grape Consumption on Resistance Artery Structure, Function, and Stiffness in Hypertension.

Congratulations to Dr. Xiaochen Gu who received a grant in the amount of \$93,900 (over two years) from Nanjing Aosaikang Medical Group Corp. Ltd. (ASK Corporation.) Dr. Gu's research project is entitled "Solid lipid nanoparticles of fluconazole and lidocaine."

Graduate student posters at conferences

Daryl Fediuk and Tao Wang (Dr. Xiaochen Gu) each presented a research poster at two conferences this fall in New Orleans: PSWC 2010 Congress for Students and Postdoctoral Fellows from November 13 to 14 and FIP Pharmaceutical Sciences 2010 World Congress in Association with the AAPS Annual Meeting and Exposition November 14 to 18. Fediuk's poster was entitled: Metabolite Disposition of the Repellent DEET and the Sunscreen Oxybenzone in Rats. Wang's poster was entitled: Deposition of DEET, Oxybenzone and their Metabolites after repeated Topical Application of an O/W Emulsion Preparation.

Our new M.Sc. graduate students are:

Bolanle Akinwumi (advisor: Dr. Alan McIntosh)
Basma Aloud (advisor: Dr. Hope Anderson)
Yan Lu (advisor: Dr. Hope Anderson)

Graduate Awards Reception honours outstanding students

The fifth annual Pharmacy Graduate Awards Reception was November 29, 2010. Greetings were brought by Dr. Joanne Keselman, vice-president (academic) and provost, on behalf of the University of Manitoba and Dean J. Doering for the Faculty of Graduate Studies. Dr. JoAnne Buggie presented the Leslie F. Buggie Scholarship in Pharmacy. Mr. William Eamer, Mr. Ron Guse, registrar, Manitoba Pharmaceutical Association (MPhA), and Mr. Shawn Bugden, president, MPhA presented the MPhA/William G. Eamer Graduate Scholarship in Pharmacy. Doering presented the Pfizer Canada Inc. Centennial Pharmacy Research Award.

Research posters from pharmacy professors and graduate students were displayed in conjunction with the reception to highlight the range and quality of the research currently in progress in the Faculty of Pharmacy.

Pharmacy Graduate Student Award Recipients

Pfizer Canada Inc. Centennial Pharmacy Research Award:
Bolanle Akinwumi (advisor: Dr. Alan McIntosh)
Leslie F. Buggie Graduate Scholarship in Pharmacy: Parvez Vora (advisor: Dr. Mike Namaka)
MPhA/William G. Eamer Graduate Scholarship in Pharmacy:
Ousama Rachid (advisor: Dr. Keith Simons)
Manitoba Health Research Council / Manitoba Institute of Child Health: Ousama Rachid

2010 Preceptor of the Year Awards

The Faculty of Pharmacy congratulates this year's wonderful group of Preceptor of the Year awardees. These deserving individuals have made great contributions to the education of our future pharmacists.

Community Preceptor of the Year

Nancy Remillard

(BSc(Pharm)/96) of Munroe Pharmacy brought a multitude of experience to her precepting duties. Nominator Katie Enns said, "Nancy was an excellent preceptor.



She had a natural teaching ability and provided me with a great example of how a community pharmacist can impact patients' health care and medication needs. She is a great example of the type of community pharmacist I want to emulate."

Remillard has a passion for providing an exceptional learning experience to students, bringing them a wealth of knowledge and enthusiasm. What Remillard wants most is for her students to see all the possibilities in community practice, to see what they can achieve professionally and what a rewarding career path community pharmacy can be.

Hospital Preceptor of the Year



Dr. Rob Ariano's (BSc(Pharm)/80) outstanding precepting skills have been mentioned by students in their evaluations every year and this was his fifth time receiving

the award. This year, he was nominated by Advit Shah, who was impressed by everything Ariano did, referring to him as the "Yoda of Pharmacy."

Since 1988 Ariano has been a critical care pharmacist for the intensive care unit at St. Boniface General Hospital in Winnipeg and a clinical associate professor with the faculties of Pharmacy and

Medicine at the University of Manitoba. Ariano stressed that, "Taking responsibility for patient care means more than filling medication prescriptions, doing med reviews, following blood tests, and simply writing notes in a chart. See the patient. Listen to the patient. They have so much to tell you!"

Pharmacy Team of the Year

The CancerCare Manitoba

pharmacy program employs 26 full- and part-time pharmacists committed to managing and coordinating the pharmacy activities of numerous treatment sites in Winnipeg and throughout the province. They have practices in the treatment of patients with breast, gastrointestinal and lung cancer, the bone marrow transplant program and more. Additionally, they have been highly involved in their profession with involvement in the Manitoba Pharmaceutical Association, Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists and Canadian Association of Pharmacy in Oncology.

This facility has precepted many of our students at various stages of their experiential training. A number of CancerCare Manitoba pharmacists have been nominated for or received the Preceptor of the Year award. The team is hard working, dedicated and committed to all aspects of patient care, and they have enjoyed teaching students about oncology.

Electives Program Preceptors of the Year

Michael Roberts is professor of clinical pharmacology and therapeutics in the School of Medicine at the University of Queensland (UQ) and professor of therapeutics and



pharmaceutical science at the University of South Australia (UniSA). Roberts is also director of the Therapeutics Research Centre (TRC), which he established at UQ in 1989. In 2009, a new initiative led to the expansion of the TRC, with the establishment of a second branch at UniSA. Higher degrees have been awarded to 42 students under Roberts' supervision, with another eight currently in progress.

Dr. Jeffrey Grice

is academic manager and leader of the Topical Drug Delivery Group in the Therapeutics Research Centre, based at the Princess Alexandra Hospital. Dr. Grice is responsible for coordinating the visits of elective students and academics from many parts of the world, including Winnipeg, Manitoba. In 2004, Dr. Grice joined the TRC, working on in vivo and in vitro studies to investigate the mechanisms of skin permeation of topically applied substances. He is particularly interested in fostering student research.

Dr. Grice and Roberts have been consistent supporters of our Electives Program. Since its implementation in 2006, they have accepted 19 of our students to conduct research projects at the TRC. Students' feedback has been very enthusiastic, with most describing their experiences as inspiring and rewarding.

Preceptors are an important part of our pharmacy education curriculum. The real world experience, guidance and training they provide to students is integral to their development as outstanding pharmacists. The University of Manitoba, Faculty of Pharmacy thanks all of this year's wonderful preceptors.





Team Pharmacy rakes in donations for MS research

by Lisa Thomson Stifora

A group of pharmacy students, led by Faculty of Pharmacy instructor Kristine Petrasko (BSc(Pharm)/00), have joined together as Team Pharmacy to help the fight against Multiple Sclerosis (MS). In the past two years, they have achieved an amazing fundraising total of over \$33,000.

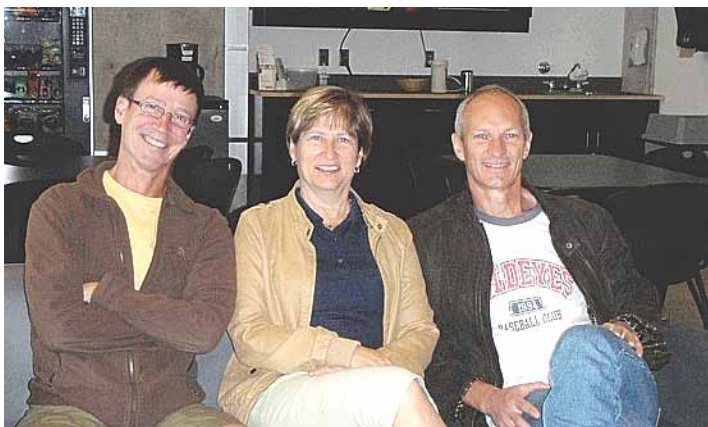
At the 2010 MS Walk in April, Team Pharmacy outdid themselves, forming a team of 110 members consisting of pharmacy students, faculty and their families and friends. This dedicated

group raised over \$18,000 from pledges and fundraising activities. Three thousand dollars more than the \$15,000 raised in 2009!

"The students have done a remarkable job of getting involved in their community as a team," said Petrasko. "They have volunteered their time on countless occasions to help with various fund-raisers throughout the year. Their passion is strong and should help to see them through to their goal of \$20,000 this year. I am very proud of them!"

All this hard work has earned Team Pharmacy high praise from the MS Society. This November they were named Top Corporate Team, Largest Corporate Team and qualified as a Diamond Team, for their participation and fundraising success at the MS Walk. Congratulations Team Pharmacy!

If you are interested in helping Team Pharmacy reach their goal this year, please visit their web site: <http://msofs.mssociety.ca/2011WALK/SponsorTeam.aspx?&PID=1244671&L=2>.



Eric Lee, Bev Irwin and Bob Sadler, members of the Class of 1980 in the Apotex Centre student lounge.

Classmates visit Faculty for 30th anniversary

Eric Lee brought classmates Bob Sadler and Bev Irwin to the Faculty of Pharmacy for a tour of the Apotex Centre this summer. The trio took some time to "hang out" in the student lounge where they enjoyed the new furniture and view of McDermot Avenue while reminiscing about their university days at the Fort Garry campus. Husband and wife Sadler and Irwin were visiting this summer from Townsville, Queensland, Australia where they have resided since 1988. They both currently work as community pharmacists. Lee lives in Winnipeg, and is a pharmacist at St. Boniface General Hospital. The three have often enjoyed travelling together, recently meeting in Japan for a ski trip.

Message from External Relations



At this year's annual White Coat Ceremony we welcomed 55 new students to the Faculty. It was inspiring to witness their excitement and talk to them

about taking their first steps along the road to becoming pharmacists!

We also welcomed Dr. Lavern Vercaigne as acting dean of the Faculty of Pharmacy. He is familiar to many of us as a highly respected professor and previously the associate dean, academic. I congratulate him on his new role!

Our new students have joined a group who not only excel academically, but also support their community. Team Pharmacy once again took part in the annual MS Walk, successfully raising over \$18,000 for the MS Society.

Like our students, our graduates have embodied the giving spirit. As you will read, Dr. Morris D. Faiman has made a commitment to establish an award in the Faculty of Pharmacy that will ensure access to education for pharmacy students well into the future.

I also wish to thank our entire dedicated group of alumni and friends who have continued to give back to this Faculty. In recognition of this support, this issue of PharmaNews includes the honour roll to your right, which acknowledges our most dedicated donors. I encourage you to read it and to take part in supporting your Faculty.

External Relations on Bannatyne is always happy and excited to hear from our graduates. Please feel free to call us at (204) 789-3884 or toll free at 1-800-330-8066.

Danielle Dunbar
Acting Director of Development
External Relations on Bannatyne
Campus

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, 2010.

\$1-Million+

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Pharmacy graduate gives back

by Lisa Thomson Stifora

The son of Russian and Polish immigrants to Canada, Dr. Morris D. Faiman (BSc(Pharm)/55) grew up with a strong understanding that post-secondary education was his “passport for success.” Now, he has made a commitment to his alma mater that will assist the Faculty of Pharmacy’s future students in achieving the same education he worked so hard for. Dr. Faiman has committed over \$12,000 to establish an award in pharmacy. With matching funds, the award fund has already reached approximately \$25,000.



Dr. Faiman has plans to grow the award fund to at least \$50,000 over the coming years. He will name it for his parents, Sam and Beatrice Faiman, who he said “sacrificed everything for me. They insisted I obtain an education no matter how much they had to give up.”

Sam and Beatrice held the belief that a good education was something that could never be taken away. Their influence led Dr. Faiman to pursue his education as a pharmacy student at the University of Manitoba despite his earlier dreams of becoming a professional baseball or hockey player. (He was even invited to attend a St. Louis Cardinal tryout camp as a baseball pitcher.)

Pharmacy school has given Dr. Faiman a great deal of success, but it wasn’t always an easy road. “I worked long hours in a Pharmacy while at the University,” he said, “and often had to juggle my studies with work so that I could earn enough money to support my education.” In those days, his work came before his studies.

The hard work paid off. Following an initial stint as a hospital pharmacist, Dr. Faiman pursued PhD studies and has since thrived in the academic environment. He is now a professor of pharmacology and toxicology at the University of Kansas. In that role, he has served on many scholarship committees, which he said, “brought back memories of my own financial difficulties as a student.”

With that in mind, Dr. Faiman decided to establish the Sam and Beatrice Faiman Scholarship Fund for students who have a strong academic record, but may not necessarily be at the top of their class, and who need financial support to continue their pharmacy education. His generosity will have a perpetual impact on Manitoba’s future pharmacists.

If you are interested in establishing a student award, please contact Danielle Dunbar, acting director of development at (204) 789-3884 or danielle_dunbar@umanitoba.ca.

Elective Spotlight:

Janice Nguyen volunteers at Vietnamese orphanage

Recent graduate Janice Nguyen learned about the fourth year open elective program in her first year of pharmacy studies and saw an opportunity to make a meaningful impact on the world. Being half Vietnamese, she felt a strong connection to that country’s culture, land and people. Volunteers for Peace Vietnam’s disabled children orphanage program was the perfect fit.

She was placed at the Handicapped Orphans Protection Centre of Thi Nghe in Ho Chi Minh City, where she worked under the centre’s pharmacist. During her time there, Nguyen worked with children ranging from two to 18 years of age, most of whom were physically and mentally disabled. At first, she said, “it was hard to see so many disabled children in one place, most abandoned by their families.” But in the end the experience was very rewarding.

Nguyen took many important lessons from her experience in Vietnam which, she said, will stay with her throughout her career. “I feel I was able to make a small impact on a few children’s lives in a short time, which is something that has changed me in a positive way and which I know has made me a better person and pharmacist.”

Janice Nguyen works for Rexall Pharmaplus as a Winnipeg relief pharmacist. She plans to continue to engage in community work because of the great enjoyment she gets out of it.



Nguyen poses with Phat, one of her favourite patients at the Handicapped Orphans Protection Centre in Vietnam.



Student Practical Experience Program Profile: **Harvey Noel**

This summer, third-year student Harvey Noel gained practical experience and national recognition while working for Wal-Mart in Thompson, Manitoba. During his time in the community, Noel has embodied the ideal community pharmacist – spending much of his time working to make a difference in the area.

Over the summer, Noel gave more than 21 presentations to over 475 community members. The support and encouragement he received from his preceptor, Luba Shepertycky, was integral to his success. That, combined with Noel's passion for community service led Shepertycky to say, "I believe that Harvey is the type of person everyone would be proud to have in their pharmacy as both a student and eventually a pharmacist."

Noel gave a number of presentations for Futures in Thompson, which provides parenting support for teens and young parents, as well as the Burntwood Regional Health Authority to visit small and isolated communities nearby. A number of groups have also benefited from Noel's presentations on Sun Sense and Head Lice. Noel will not stop at what he has already accomplished and is already planning his next summer with more projects and presentations.

Pharmacy Class of 1985 reunites at Apotex Centre

The Faculty of Pharmacy Class of 1985 reunited for their twenty-fifth reunion on April 10, 2010 at the Apotex Centre. The classmates enjoyed tours of the new pharmacy building given by acting dean Dr. Lavern Vercaigne, followed by a reception hosted by class leaders Sharon Vercaigne and Brenda Cairns.

Class reunions are an excellent way to stay connected with fellow graduates and your Faculty. To plan a reunion for your class or student group, contact Tammy Holowachuk, Alumni Affairs Special Events and Reunions Officer, at (204) 474-6455 or 1-800-668-4908.