

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

PITT Pharmacy

FALL 2005



Dear Friends:
As I drove through campus on my way into the office today, I felt the bustle of activity in preparation for students who will soon be arriving for the fall semester. The rhythm of university life is palpable. It is my first day back from a vacation with family and my sense of calm is wonderful as I write this letter.



It is that time of year when we balance the pleasure of looking back at our progress and the excitement of looking into our future. Looking to the future of the School of Pharmacy can be exciting, but it is serious business as well—serious enough that the faculty and staff spent two days earlier this summer to consider how the impact of ubiquitous communication will impact us as a School. The basis for considering the question was seeded by Thomas L. Friedman in his book *The World Is Flat*, which, as of this writing, has been on the New York Times Best Sellers List for 18 weeks.

As Friedman so succinctly stated, “The falling (of the Berlin) walls, the opening of the Windows, the digitization of content, and the spreading of the Internet browser seamlessly connected people with people as never before. Then workflow software seamlessly connected applications to applications, so that people could manipulate all their digitized content, using computers and the Internet as never before.”

Clearly, the world around us has been evolving rapidly. In fact, the aggregate of computers, person-to-person and application-to-application connectivity, and the end of the Cold War has created an awesome ability for people and institutions to collaborate in ways we never considered in the past. These changes create opportunity of epic proportions. It is unrealistic to think that pharmacy or the educational system will remain constant during the decade ahead. As our world changes, our opportunities change, and our priorities must change.

So what does all of this mean for the School of Pharmacy? I wish I could tell you that today. As we go forward, we look within ourselves for our strengths and creativity, which are so great. We need only look to the pages of Pitt Pharmacy to see a small amount of that strength and creativity. I also assure you that we look outside to the environment at large for factors that influence our opportunities. Ultimately, we put them all together to create our future.

And now, I look to our immediate future and the true future of our profession as I prepare to welcome our P1 class, the Class of 2009, to the School of Pharmacy.

Sincerely,

Patricia D. Kroboth, PhD

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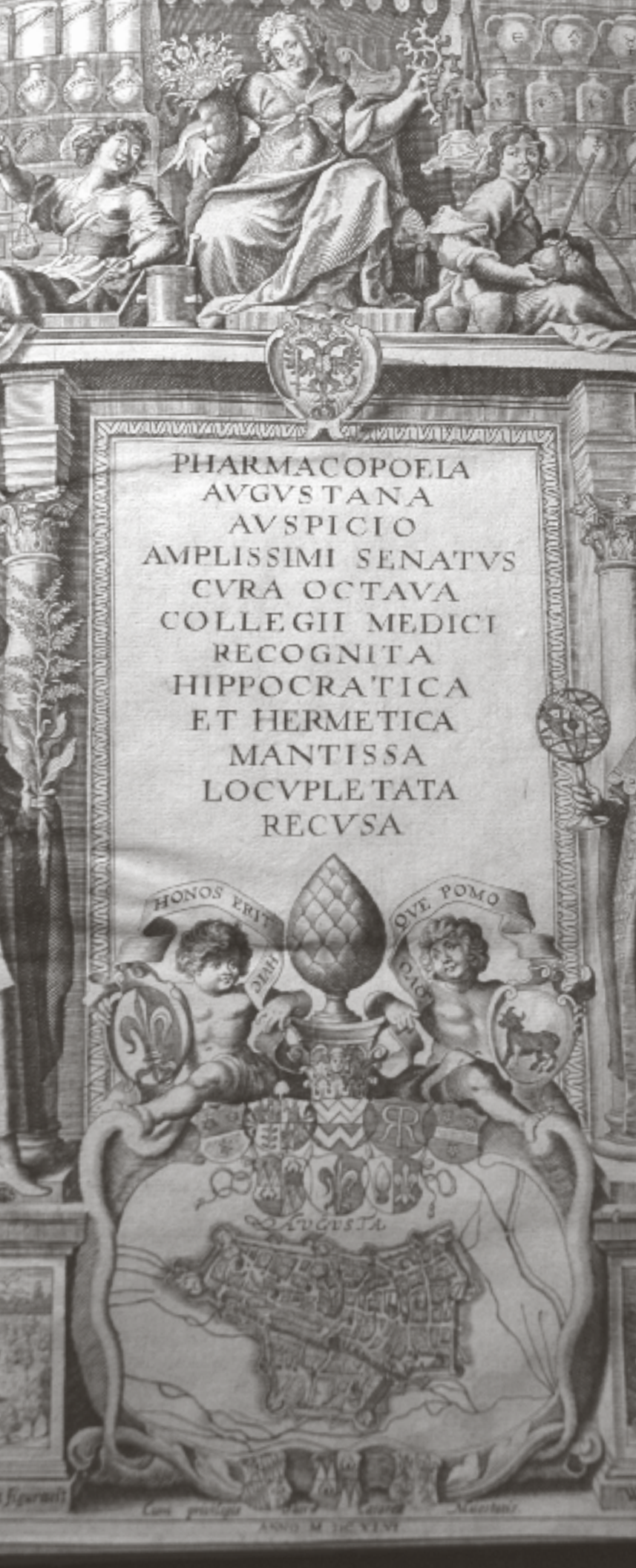
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PITT Pharmacy

Dean's Message	2
Features:	
Striking Gold	4
Life on the Front Lines	6
Distinguished Faculty Award:	
Joseph E. Knapp	9
Distinguished Alumni Award:	
Mary B. Andritz	10
Diane B. Ginsburg	11
Preceptor of the Year Award:	
Raymond D. Carter	12
Deanne L. Hall	13
Partnering Is The Theme	14
News:	
Our School	16
Our Faculty	18
Our Students	20
Our Alumni	21
Our School in the World	22
Snapshot from Pharmacy's Past	23
Philanthropy for Pharmacy	24
A Life Too Brief	25
Save the Dates	26
Contact Us	27

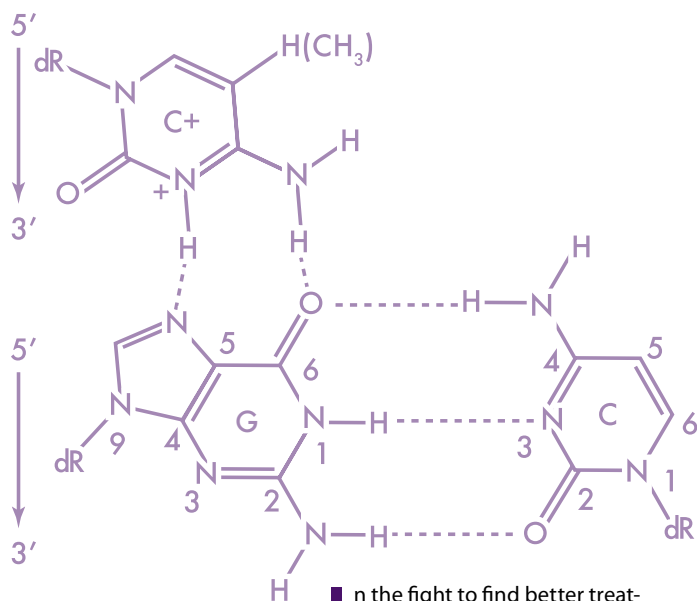
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Striking Gold

New Pharmaceutical Sciences Chief Fights Cancer at Molecular Level



In the fight to find better treatments for cancer patients, Barry Gold's weapon of choice is small, yet mighty: molecules that target specific DNA sites and sequences.

For the past decade, Gold has studied ways to reduce some of the toxic side effects of chemotherapy at the molecular level. As the new head of the School of Pharmacy's Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, he brings his quest to Pittsburgh, where he believes his work will be a natural fit.

"This is a fairly comprehensive program that's in place. The Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and I are very interested in hiring people who can be involved in this type of activity," says Gold, who assumed his post in mid-July after spending more than 30 years at the Eppley Institute for Research in Cancer at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

The problem with current chemotherapy treatments is that the cure is sometimes not much better than the disease.

Cancer patients "have a significant chance, if they are cured of the initial cancer, of developing a secondary cancer—typically leu-

kemia—as a result of a successful treatment," Gold says. "Obviously, that is a real tragedy."

One way to avoid the pitfall of secondary cancer, he believes, is to separate the type of DNA damage that gives rise to cell mutations, so drug therapies will be able to kill cancer with fewer dangerous side effects.

"If we are successful, we will be able to have compounds that will kill [malignant] cells but will not be mutagenic to normal cells," he says. "We have learned a lot about how DNA damage is repaired, how DNA damage is processed. So in addition to having potential clinical impact, we've also had the opportunity to learn a lot about the basic processes that happen in the cell that has been exposed to DNA-damaging agents."

Chemical balance

An organic chemist by training, Gold describes himself as the type of boy who always liked science and grew up watching "Mr. Wizard" on television. When it came time to attend college, chemistry was an easy choice.

"I never thought much about it; it seemed like the natural thing to do," he says.

Gold first began isolating tree-bark molecules as a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Toronto in the early 1970s. He transferred to Nebraska in 1973, where he began to study the metabolism of cancer-causing agents, and a career was born.

Although he does not have a degree in pharmacy, Gold has found pharmaceutical sciences to be a natural fit for his interests.

"It's a good place for me in terms of using chemistry for drug development," he says.

Gold is recruiting researchers who will help him expand the drug development efforts in the department. He was impressed by the University's commitment to find talented scientists who are interested in drug discovery and development, and hopes to work closely with the Center for Pharmacogenetics to look at the way people from various genetic backgrounds respond to drugs.

"It's a very strong university—one of the best universities, especially the health sciences, in the country," Gold says. "It was a combination of the right environment in terms of the job and also a place that I would want to live."

He also plans to teach, as he did in Nebraska.

"My plan is that everyone on the faculty will be doing some teaching," he says. "It's part of the mission of the school. That's what a university does—we train people, we do research, and we do service to the community. That's part of the job description."

Minority report

One of Gold's missions is to recruit more minorities to the school, which he did successfully in his prior post. Gold serves as a mentor through the Society for the Advancement of Native Americans and Chicanos in Science. One of his university students from Puerto Rico later returned home to become a high school science teacher.

He remained in touch with Gold and used the SACNAS mentor program to enrich his students' exposure to science.

"I think in some ways, he was mentoring me," Gold says. "He was a great go-getter, and he was able to find incredible opportunities

for his students," such as spending a month in the United States on educational trips.

Gold is interested in creating similar relationships between the School of Pharmacy faculty and local students through summer mentoring programs. But he is also serious about finding more opportunities for minority students and faculty members.

"To be honest, looking around at the student population and faculty, there's not a lot of underrepresented minorities to be seen," he says. "I think we need to make an effort."

The road ahead

Despite the advancements in DNA research, Gold knows he and his fellow researchers still have their work cut out for them.

"It's really very difficult to take a molecule from a lab and get it

into a human being," he explains. "It's a very time-consuming, expensive process."

And while drug companies spend millions of dollars and hire many scientists to develop these compounds, academic labs are far smaller in size and budget. At Pitt, Gold says, the University makes a concerted effort to give its faculty the tools it needs.

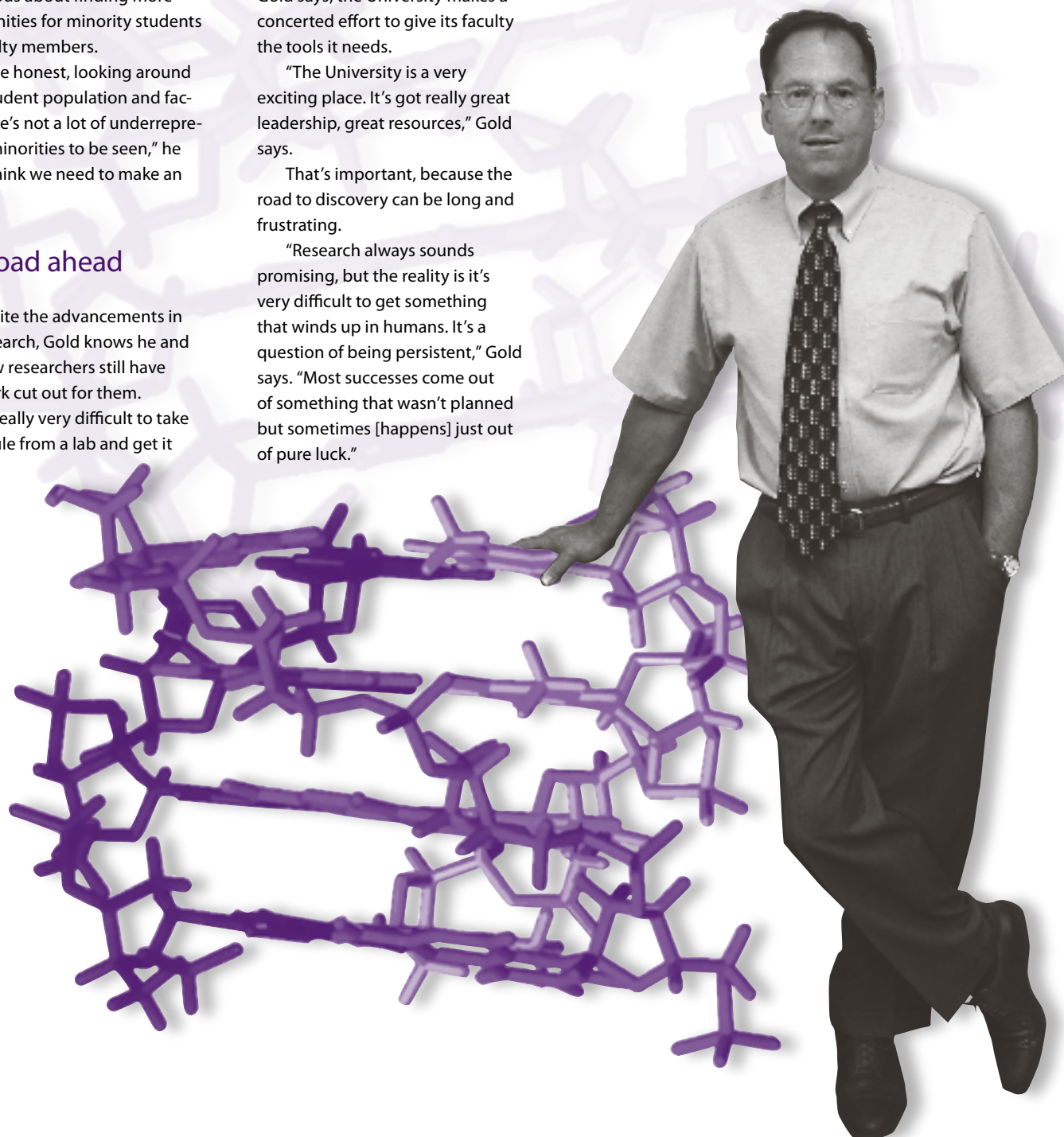
"The University is a very exciting place. It's got really great leadership, great resources," Gold says.

That's important, because the road to discovery can be long and frustrating.

"Research always sounds promising, but the reality is it's very difficult to get something that winds up in humans. It's a question of being persistent," Gold says. "Most successes come out of something that wasn't planned but sometimes [happens] just out of pure luck."

"[Pitt] is a very strong university —one of the best universities, especially the health sciences, in the country."

—Barry Gold



Life on the Front Lines

Pharmacists Break New Ground in Public Health Service



Pharmacy staff at the Indian Health Service in New Mexico

Thanks to a program through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), scientists who once developed biological weapons for the former Soviet Union are now researching vaccines to prevent HIV and other diseases.

Displaced from their defense jobs by the end of the Cold War, those scientists—who in their heyday once numbered as high as 60,000—are now able to present findings before international forums, something that was previously impossible.

Not surprisingly, one of the program's key American administrators is a Pitt-trained pharmacist.

Rob Tosatto (BS '90) found his niche, and a career of endless possibilities, when he joined the U.S. Public Health Service (PHS). Although he never took a single class in policy making or international affairs in pharmacy school, his degree has brought him to a job where diplomacy meets health care and changes the world.

"The first time I was standing in Red Square, it was almost a surreal experience," Tosatto says. "I remember thinking, 'I never would have pictured myself standing

here when I was back in pharmacy school.'"

Tosatto, who is now director of the Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) and reports directly to the U.S. Surgeon General, spearheaded the Biotechnology Engagement Program while he was the director of the Office for Eurasia in the HHS. He remains active with the program through an advisory group, helping to oversee its long-term success.

"The Indian Health Service still does some of the best pharmacy practice in the United States, if not the world,"

—Rob Tosatto (BS '90)

His career began when he entered the Indian Health Service—one of eight branches that fall under the umbrella of the PHS—right after graduation. He fell in love with the career while he was still an undergraduate, after spending time on a reservation in Gallup, N.M., in 1988.

"The Indian Health Service still does some of the best pharmacy practice in the United States, if not the world," Tosatto says. "It's very

evident in the quality of care they show their patients."

A home for rising stars

What Tosatto discovered is what one retired senior administrator calls one of the best-kept secrets in pharmacy.

"It provides some of the greatest clinical experience that a pharmacist can ever have, particularly a young pharmacist who hasn't decided what [he or she] would like to do," says Richard Bertin (BS '65), who retired from his post as the chief pharmacist for the PHS a few years ago and now serves as the executive director of the Board of Pharmaceutical Specialties for the American Pharmacists Association.

The U.S. Public Health Service, established in the 1700s to provide care for American merchant seamen, is today a major force in the policy making and research of the nation's health care. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and National Institutes

of Health (NIH) all fall under its purview.

Commissioned officers in the health service carry military titles that correspond with the U.S. Navy, and generally move through the ranks much faster than their civilian counterparts.

Tosatto, for example, began as a clinical pharmacist, then moved through organizational and policy roles. For those who want to

sample a variety of settings, the opportunities are virtually limitless, Bertin says.

A young graduate might start as the sole pharmacist in an outpatient health clinic on a reservation, then quickly become the director of the whole clinic, or move to the FDA to coordinate comprehensive reviews of new drugs, or conduct research at NIH. Yet despite all those moves, the career ladder remains the same, so the person continues to build seniority, accrue vacation time, and keep the same benefits.

Krista Scardina (PharmD '00) is now a lieutenant commander working as the medical affairs coordinator for the FDA's Office of Generic Drugs. As part of that role, she assists drug companies with study design for clinical drug development.



Rob Tosatto (BS '90), two MRC leaders and US Surgeon General Richard Carmona at the MRC National Leadership Conference in April 2004

Yet she also responds to public health emergencies, such as the hurricanes that devastated Florida in 2004. Scardina spent two weeks helping the state identify federal resources to meet their public health and medical concerns.

During George W. Bush's presidential inauguration, she oversaw the operations of first aid stations throughout the nation's capital.

"As I do more of these deployments, I'm coming to the [realization] that this is where I'd like to guide my career," says Scardina, who estimates that there are about 900 pharmacists in the PHS commissioned corps. "I'm using pharmacy for my base, but I'm getting more into public health than I am pharmacy."

Bertin, who retired as a rear admiral, says he believes pharmacists are better suited to administrative positions in the PHS than other healthcare professionals because they generally offer a broader skill set.

"Our training and experience is really a mixture of clinical knowledge and skill and administrative knowledge and skill," Bertin says. Additionally, "pharmacists are known to be kind of compulsive managers and very deliberate people."

Scardina agrees.

"We're not trained specifically just in drugs; we're trained in a lot of other aspects of health care," she says. "Through our rotations, we work with doctors and nurses, and we can pull in their perspectives."

A career shift

For Beth Fritsch (BS '91), joining the PHS represented a significant career change.

Fritsch worked for nine years as a retail and managed care pharmacist before following her husband into the FDA in 2000. Now a project manager in the Office of Generic Drugs, she works in a more administrative role, ensuring that new drugs are reviewed in a timely manner.

"I really like the FDA; it's a completely different environment," she says. "When you work in

retail, you're filling prescriptions most of the day and you have a phone that's ringing. The FDA is more of an office setting. There's a steep learning curve when you first start."

"[PHS] provides some of the greatest clinical experience that a pharmacist can ever have..."

—Richard Bertin (BS '65)

As the demand for cheaper prescription drugs increases, so, too, is the staff of the Office of Generic Drugs—a prospect Fritsch finds exciting.

"There's a big push to get more generics out in the marketplace, and there's a lot of media attention towards lowering drug costs," she says.

Eventually, Fritsch may focus more on global health issues and travel internationally. She is particularly interested in a program that aims to get lower-cost HIV drugs approved so they can be filled in 15 countries targeted for their high AIDS populations.

Proving ground

Although entry-level PHS pharmacists typically don't earn as much as their retail counterparts, they don't report as many problems with burnout, perhaps because they are more fully involved as members of the health-care team.

"PHS pharmacy is way ahead of its time," Tosatto says. "You don't get a prescription blank; you get the patient's whole chart and review it. This is in an outpatient pharmacy."

Dayna DaLauro (PharmD '04) calls her rotation with the Indian Health Service in New Mexico the

Life on the Front Lines

Pharmacists Break New Ground in Public Health Service



The mission at the Zuni reservation dates back to the time of Christopher Columbus

most educational of her training.

Even as a student, DaLauro reviewed patients' charts, compared their medication to their lab values, and was able to counsel all patients, whether they were obtaining a new prescription or a refill. She participated in diabetes prevention and management programs, such as a fitness walk, and took exercise classes with her patients. On her last day, she witnessed a 45-minute resuscitation effort in an emergency room.

Although she is currently working in a retail pharmacy in Lancaster, Pa., DaLauro hopes to join the PHS after she gets married in October.

"It's important to make a difference for someone, somewhere. And out there, I felt like I did," DaLauro says. "The doctors were so passionate out there—they definitely had an impact."

Like DaLauro, Tanya Fabian (PharmD '98, PhD '03) also served a rotation through the Indian Health Service. In that five-week span, she counseled patients in an outpatient pharmacy on a Navajo reservation in Fort Defiance, Ariz.; later she worked in a pediatric clinic, psychiatric clinic, and emergency room. She also met the

reservation's medicine woman, attended meetings about herbal medicine, and participated in a sweat lodge prayer ceremony.

can really reach those people, because we're the most accessible healthcare professionals," she says. "It's not just about managing

"It's important to make a difference for someone, somewhere. And [at the Indian Health Service], I felt like I did."

—Dayna DaLauro (PharmD '04)

"It was one of my best rotation experiences, because it was so diverse, and I really saw in the trenches how things happen. It was a very rich learning environment, both culturally and professionally," says Fabian, now an assistant professor of pharmaceutical sciences at Pitt.

Although she did not ultimately enter the PHS, Fabian says the experience inspired some of her own research, which focuses on improving health literacy in underserved communities.

"People just don't understand the things they do that put them at risk for disease. I think pharmacists

one patient and her hypertension. It can be a much broader impact."

For Tosatto and Bertin, pharmacy has been a conduit to make some of the most sweeping changes in health care and to create the careers they wanted, one step at a time.

"Everything I've done in my career has helped me to do the job I have now," Tosatto says. "It's an amazing organization."

PHS at a Glance

Eight organizations constitute the U.S. Public Health Service. They include:

- Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality
- Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- Food and Drug Administration
- Health Resources and Services Administration
- Indian Health Service
- National Institutes of Health
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

In addition, PHS officers also serve in the Office of the Secretary, as well as other federal departments and agencies such as the Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Homeland Security, Department of Defense, Federal Bureau of Prisons, National Park Service, and many others.

Joseph E. Knapp

After 35 Years, Professor Knapp Shuts His Office Door

In four decades as a practicing pharmacist, Professor Joseph Knapp has seen his profession come full circle.

During the early 1960s, when Knapp first donned a white coat, community pharmacies were the norm, and the pharmacist was a person to whom people turned for advice.

“That’s what I’ll miss—the teaching, the contact with students, the intellectual ferment.”

“I was lucky enough to have a preceptor who believed in the accessibility of the pharmacist as an active member of the community,” recalls Knapp, who retired June 30 after 35 years on the School of Pharmacy faculty. “I saw it in action, and I saw that was how it could work.”

Years later, the job changed. Pharmacists became more focused on products, seeing their role more as dispensers of medication than as healthcare providers. Today, that focus is shifting, and the school has embraced a more patient-centered approach.

When he first joined the faculty in December 1970, “it was a traditional, straight baccalaureate program,” he recalls. “We had a very small clinical component.”

Slowly, Knapp and colleague, Paul Schiff, both professors of pharmaceutical sciences, began working behind the scenes to emphasize a more hands-on philosophy. Today, more than half of the School of Pharmacy’s programs include a clinical component, a change embraced by Knapp and Schiff.

Knapp’s is a name—and a persona—that his students will always remember. They went to him for career advice, help with course work, or just to share news.

It is no surprise that the student body named him either Teacher of the Year or Faculty Member of the Year four times. He not only impacted the students in the classroom—he impacted their lives.

“I’m going to miss the students,” Knapp says. “I look at them as my academic children. That’s what I’ll miss—the teach-

—Joe Knapp

ing, the contact with students, the intellectual ferment.”

Knapp’s career is also marked by innovation in the laboratory and dedication to the profession, manifested through his service to the broader scientific community.

His research career began with natural products chemistry and slowly evolved into something much different. He developed a sterilization process that demonstrated for the first time that chlorine dioxide was an effective gas-phase sterilant for medical and other hard surface sterilization. This work resulted in six U.S. patents that changed the face of sterilization internationally.

Eventually, this sterilization process was acquired by the Johnson and Johnson Company who developed a commercially viable product, marketed as the ISODOX® Sterilization System for Clean Room and Isolator Sterilization.

He consulted on the use of chlorine dioxide to decontaminate the Hart Senate Office Building in Washington, D.C., after a letter containing anthrax spores forced its shutdown.

Knapp also distinguished himself by serving the scientific and professional community. A particular distinction is his 15 years

of elected service to the United States Pharmacopeia (USP). During his term of service he was appointed chair of the Microbiology Subcommittee. The committee achieved its long-term goal of international harmonization of the basic microbiological testing, as well as Sterility Tests and Bacterial Endotoxin tests; this culminated an almost 15-year process of negotiation. In recognition of his work, he was recently elected to honorary membership on the USP Convention by the Board of Trustees.

For Knapp, pharmacy is something of a family business. His father worked as an apprentice in an Ohio drugstore before the onset of the Great Depression forced him to abandon the profession in favor of work in an aircraft factory.

Knapp inherited his father’s interest and attended pharmacy school at The Ohio State University, from which he graduated with a bachelor’s degree in 1963, a master’s degree in 1965, and a doctoral degree in 1969. It was there that he met his wife, Mary, a pharmacist with whom he celebrated his 41st wedding anniversary in June 2005.

One of their two sons, Paul (BS ’95), is a nuclear pharmacist in Ohio; his daughter-in-law, Heather, is a pharmacy manager for Walgreen’s. Their other son, Joe Jr., works for Disney in Orlando, Fla.

Except for consulting obligations—including one with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration—and contributions to the USP, Knapp now plans to retire completely and spend time with his family, though he will remain available for counsel to his colleagues.



Mary B. Andritz

Alum Prepares a New Breed of Pharmacists

In a world where drug therapies are more potent and plentiful than ever, Mary Andritz's mission is crucial: to prepare pharmacists whose expertise will ensure that medications are as safe and effective as possible.

"Pharmacists can prevent lethal mistakes or decreased effectiveness as they expand their scope of practice."

—Mary Andritz

As dean of the Albany College of Pharmacy, Andritz (BS '73) oversees a student body that is radically different from the peers with whom she graduated. Then, pharmaceutical job opportunities were limited. A bachelor's degree was the profession's entry-level degree, and faculty addressed students as "Mr." or "Miss" from the first day of class.

By contrast, Andritz's students can choose from a virtual smorgasbord of career choices.

Their demeanor is less formal, but the regulations governing their education are more complex. When they finally do start to practice, most will carry the designation PharmD after their names.

These changes reflect a cultural shift in the industry, where breakthroughs in research and development place escalating demands on pharmacists, who are increasingly assuming front-line roles as caregivers.

Pharmacy has "been trying to move more in line with other health professions in that we're trying to be less linked with just the drug product and more with the value that pharmacists add to that product,"

Andritz says.

The counseling, the advice about protocol and proper usage—in essence, the personal touch—are the qualities pharmacists offer that can reassure patients and protect them as a last line of defense against potentially tragic outcomes.

"We, as a country, have focused so much on the acquisition of drugs—but so many drugs might not be the best therapy," Andritz points out. Pharmacists can prevent lethal mistakes or decreased effectiveness as they expand their scope of practice, she adds.

A Strong Foundation

Andritz credits her early training at the School of Pharmacy with honing her drive to succeed. After graduating as valedictorian of her class at the School of Pharmacy, she earned her PharmD at the State University of New York at Buffalo.

"I certainly felt that I was as well prepared or better than anyone there," Andritz says. "I always felt that I had gotten a very strong educational foundation and the understanding that this is a profession in which lifelong learning is critical."

Andritz broke ground early in her career when she was hired as the first woman to teach in Albany's Pharmacy Practice Department. Later, she was the first woman to earn tenure in any department at the school.

She left academia in 1988, serving as the chief of pharmaceutical care at the Stratton Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Albany, where she stayed until 1996. After a stint as executive director of the New York State Council of Health-System Pharmacists, she returned to the college to assume her current position in 1999.

Rising to New Heights

Training students to practice in today's pharmacy climate is a challenge. Andritz says the level of regulation in professional higher education has surprised her. In addition to meeting state and national accreditation requirements, Andritz reports a push to conduct criminal background checks on students and faculty before assigning them to off-campus sites.

As the school's chief academic officer, Andritz also is responsible for overseeing its strategic plan. Under her stewardship, the Albany College of Pharmacy has expanded its programs, offering bachelor's degrees in pharmaceutical sciences and biomedical technology. Last year, she led a group of faculty who teamed with The Sage Colleges School of Nursing to receive a \$500,000 two-year grant from the New York State Department of Health to study pharmacists' contributions toward reducing costs and medication-related problems in adult care facilities.

In addition to her academic career, Andritz also sits on the board of Albany's Center for the Disabled, which provides educational, medical, vocational, and other support to people in 30 counties in New York. She is currently in line to become the center's chairwoman.

For her accomplishments, Andritz won the 2004 Award of Merit from Lambda Kappa Sigma, an international pharmaceutical fraternity.

"I look back, and some of the people with whom I interacted at Pitt—both faculty and fellow students—are truly not only lifelong friends but mentors to me, very important people in my life that I wouldn't trade for anything," she



Diane B. Ginsburg

Alum Teaches the Human Touch

There is no whining in Diane Ginsburg's classroom.

Feeling overworked? Try putting in 30 hours at a hospital while earning your degree, like Ginsburg (BS '84) did. Computer crashed? Too bad. She made it through with nothing more high-tech than a slide rule and a souped-up calculator.

Think she's tough? You should have taken those exams she endured in the basement of the old dental school after a semester of classes taught by Joe Knapp or Paul Schiff. "I think back to how hard we worked and how challenged we were, and the bar was set very high," she says. "You want to give back when you have really incredible teachers and professors. I don't think I realized then what mentors and role models they'd be for me."

"I think I worked harder at Pitt than any other place," says Ginsburg, who earned a bachelor's degree from the School of Pharmacy before relocating to Texas, where she earned a master's degree from the University of Houston. Today, she is a clinical professor in the Pharmacy Clinical Division at the University of Texas at Austin, where she strives to impart to her students the work ethic and dedication to excellence instilled by her mentors at Pitt. She is also a 2005 recipient of the School of Pharmacy's Distinguished Alumni Award.

Twists and Turns

It has been a long and quirky journey for Ginsburg, who graduated from high school in suburban Pittsburgh at age 17 with every intention of going to medical school. After a transition year at Pitt's Titusville campus, she

donned the first suit she would ever own and interviewed for admission to the School of Pharmacy on her birthday.

Once accepted, the die was cast. At the end of her first year in pharmacy school, an internship at UPMC Presbyterian, convinced her to stay with the profession. She was accepted to law school in Ohio and flirted with the idea of becoming a patent attorney for a drug manufacturer, but she changed her mind when offered a pharmacist position at The Methodist Hospital in Houston, Texas.

From there, her career took off. Three months into her new job, she was named to a rotating position as the coordinator of the hospital's drug information center. She earned her master's degree as part of a new combination program that linked the degree with a residency.

"It was a big risk because it was a new residency, and wasn't yet accredited [by the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists]," she recalls. "I feel very proud that my work helped that program get established."

The program represented another fortuitous twist in Ginsburg's career. As a grad student, she began teaching undergrads. A self-described "former back row-er," Ginsburg discovered what she now honors as her calling: teaching. Active in the Texas Society of Health-System Pharmacists, she gave guest lectures in Austin and was invited to interview for a faculty position at that city's University of Texas campus. She accepted a position in 1989, and on September 1, 2005, she will assume the title of clinical professor. Ginsburg also serves as regional director for the university's statewide internship programs, overseeing the clinical experiences of about 40 students.

'Every Patient'

More than textbook knowledge or even clinical experience, Ginsburg seeks to impart a sense of compassion and humanity in her students. It is a lesson she learned from her uncle, Pittsburgh surgeon Stuart Chetlin, and from her late mother, Phyllis Ginsburg, who died five weeks after being diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in 1997.

"Every patient that you have is somebody's parent, sibling, child."

—Diane Ginsburg

Phyllis, her daughter's best friend, drilled a mantra into her: "Don't ever forget who your patients are. Every patient that you have is somebody's parent, sibling, child."

Ginsburg embraced her mother's philosophy and began every semester with a lecture repeating those words. But it wasn't until Phyllis' illness that she realized how much of an impact they had.

Sitting in a Texas hospital, sleep deprived and surrounded by paperwork that she hoped would yield some ideas for treatment and pain management, Ginsburg looked up to see a former student, assigned to her mother's case. The student carefully explained the protocols they would try and what they hoped the medication would do.

Diane Ginsburg studied her former pupil for a minute. Then she finally asked, "Why are you being so nice to me?"

The student answered, "All I'm doing is what you told us on the first day of classes. Your mother is my 'every patient.'"

Ginsburg considers the opportunity to impart that human touch as her way of honoring her mother's memory. "Those are the life lessons I think about."



Raymond D. Carter

Helping Students Sample a Life on a Reservation

When student Dayna DaLauro (PharmD '04) first arrived on the Zuni Indian reservation near Gallup, N.M., Raymond Carter, PharmD knew she was in for an experience she may never duplicate in her lifetime.

That's why Carter, a pharmacist with the Indian Health Service who doubles as a preceptor, took the time to bring his student to cultural events, show her landmarks, and immerse her in the Zuni way of life.

"He was not only a mentor in terms of pharmacy, but also like an older brother," says DaLauro, a December graduate who served her rotation with Carter in Fall 2004. "Not only was it a great learning experience, but he also showed me what the culture was like."

"We want our students to get an education, but we also want our students to experience something different."

—Raymond Carter

Carter is a graduate of Duquesne University, class of 2001. He has worked on the Zuni reservation since July 2004 and believes in helping his students make the most of their options.

"They're coming all the way out here, so we try to make it as interesting and rewarding and enriching as possible," he says. "I don't just want students to fill prescriptions. I want them to see a process, see a patient being assessed, screened. ... It makes [the information] stick better, it makes it more applicable, and gives them a better understanding. It helps them develop interpersonal relationships with other providers."

Carter introduced DaLauro to technicians who took her to a football game and invited her to their



houses for meals.

"We want our students to get an education, but we also want our students to experience something different," he says. "They may never come to this part of the country again."

Under Carter's tutelage, DaLauro followed two inpatients and tracked their progress daily—taking note of lab values and results from a pain assessment—and prescribed therapies. She also followed the day-to-day operations of a dialysis clinic, diabetes clinic, and child immunization services.

Through the rotation, she not only gained clinical knowledge, she also saw how a pharmacist can affect the health of a broad group of people.

"Each project really pertained to the culture, but also had me learning something," she says. Carter "just went above and beyond the call of duty."

Prior to arriving at the reservation, Carter served as a preceptor at Moody Air Force Base in Georgia. It was there that he learned his knack for making the rotation experience as meaningful as possible.

"I want all the students to be able to see how everything works together for the benefit of the

patient, from the time that patient comes in through triage or a scheduled appointment," he says. "The students are very, very well prepared. They know their stuff when they get here."

DaLauro completed required assignments and objectives, and Carter reviewed them with her both before and after the rotation to ensure that she had met each one.



Raymond Carter, Thang La and Dayna DeLauro at the Zuni Reservation

"When we went through my evaluation, I couldn't believe that I had touched every aspect," she says. "It was my most educational rotation. All of them were good, but that one was by far superb."

Deanne L. Hall

Going the Extra Mile to Ensure Students Understand



Whatever it takes to get a student to understand clinical pharmacy, Deanne Hall is willing to do it.

Sometimes, that might mean lending an arm so the student can practice taking blood pressure. Sometimes it means explaining a concept several different ways. Regardless of the method, Hall is determined to teach.

"We're able to give the students something that they're not going to be able to get in a classroom," says Hall (BS '96, PharmD '98). "In the classroom, they learn what's on paper, but being on rotation—any clinical rotation—you get to speak with patients and sort out medication problems that you can't learn about in a book."

So impressed with Hall's dedication was student Katherine Luers (PharmD '05) that Luers nominated Hall for Preceptor of the Year.

"She was very, very knowledgeable and had a way about her that didn't make me feel silly for asking her questions about things," says Luers, who works for CVS in York County, Pa. "She was willing to go above and beyond in assisting us in learning."

Hall, an assistant professor in the Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics, is a clinical pharmacist practicing in ambulatory care. Among the services she provides are anticoagulation and diabetes outreach programs for nursing homes and community centers. A student under her tutelage might experience any of those programs,

or even attend a smoking-cessation clinic. "I like to give students the opportunity to see patients face to face, to do assessments," she says.

Although Luers is now working in retail pharmacy, she says the clinical experience was helpful, because she better understands why doctors prescribed the medications they did. Additionally, if she decides to switch career paths later, she believes the rotation she completed under Hall prepared her for a more clinical role.

Luers describes Hall as "very easygoing" and willing to bring information to a level everyone could understand.

Hall says she has learned to delve into students' minds to ensure that they are actually learning what they should.

"On the surface, a student may be going through the motions and look like they know what they're doing," she says, but upon further discussion, they reveal otherwise.

"We're able to give the students something that they're not going to be able to get in a classroom."

—Deanne Hall

"A lot of times students may give you the right answer, but they don't know why," she adds. For that reason, Hall makes a special point to talk to the students and fill in the knowledge blanks.

Luers keeps in touch with her former teacher through the Kappa Psi pharmaceutical fraternity, of which both are members.

"Dr. Hall really deserves the Preceptor of the Year award because of her dedication to the profession and the training of students, which will shape the future of pharmacy," Luers says.

Partnering Is The Theme

Celebration Weekend for Alumni and Friends

The School of Pharmacy held its annual celebration weekend for 3 and 4, 2005. The School of Pharmacy Alumni Association hosted PITT, "Partnering Is The Theme."

The weekend kicked off Friday morning with the Golf Invitational at the Club in Midway, Pa. Saturday morning and afternoon activities included site seeing through "Just Ducky Tours," and a stop at Klavon's Ice Cream for fashioned ice cream from an authentic soda fountain. The weekend concluded with a gala dinner at Soldier's and Sailor's National Military Museum and Ballroom. Thanks to the hard work of our many alumni and student volunteers, the weekend was simply beautiful and a fun time was had by all.



alumni and friends June
ed the event titled,
eld at Quicksilver Golf
d continuing education,
n Parlor for an old-
ncluded Saturday night
d Memorial Grand
unteers the weekend



The Class of 1955

Back Row: Left to Right: Marvin Levick, Donald Myers, Nathan
Waltzman, James Salmon, Robert Arnold: Front Row: Left to Right:
Helen Horox Nelson, John Crone, Zola Horowitz



Our School



SPOTLIGHT ON GARY HABERLE

If you're reading this, chances are you know Gary Haberle.

Maybe he handled your grant money as a faculty member in the early 1970s, or your scholarship money ran out, and you needed a loan to stay in pharmacy school, or perhaps you heard that rumor about his owning a pub where you attended a graduation party.

Whatever the reason, virtually everyone associated with the School of Pharmacy since 1968 has talked to Haberle at one time or another. As the assistant dean for business and finance, Haberle is officially responsible for maintaining the school's financial health, although the reality is that he's probably done every job imaginable except for teaching classes.

"I've really enjoyed working at the school. I've enjoyed the people," Haberle says. "The students are special. I guess that's one of the reasons I stayed: I had a good time."

Haberle was keeping the books in research accounting at the Cathedral of Learning in 1968 when he happened to save some money for an associate dean in the School of Pharmacy. Two weeks later, he had a new job—and he has stayed ever since.

"When I first came here, if you asked people on the street in the late '60s, people didn't even know Pitt had a pharmacy school," he says.

In those early years, Haberle handled grant funding, internal scholarships, admissions, and student registration—and had other duties as well, such as finding new office furniture.

As the school grew in size and prominence, it added more staff to help with those tasks, although Haberle is still involved with scholarships. If students are struggling financially, Dean Patricia Kroboth will send them to see Haberle.

In the 37 years he has been in his job, Haberle has heard some hard-luck stories—parents diagnosed with cancer, students whose financial aid fell through.

"If it's a matter that their Pell grant hasn't been approved, or their parent got laid off from a job, or something of that nature, I'll try to get them some loan money if it's available to cover them," he says.

At graduation time, the school often threw a party honoring the outgoing class. For years, it was at the Luna, a bar and restaurant whose owner played softball with Haberle. Somehow, a rumor began circulating that Haberle was the pub's real owner—prompting Haberle to announce at one commencement ceremony, "I do not own the Luna!"

Eventually, the party shifted to a new venue, and with the change of scenery came a new rumor.

"No matter where we had the graduation party, word was out that I owned it," Haberle jokes.

So fondly is Haberle remembered that after graduation, many former students ask about him when they contact the school.

"I get phone calls from students all the time, little notes. Some of them are dispersed so far," says Haberle, who has no immediate plans to retire. "It's nice to be remembered."

Marcia Borrelli has been named director of student services. Marcia has worked in the admissions and student advising areas of student services since coming to the school six years ago. During the past year, Marcia took the lead in redesigning the PharmD admissions process, resulting in the successful incorporation of online applications through PharmCAS. More than 1,200 applicants applied through PharmCAS for admission to the school.

Sharon Connor, assistant professor of pharmaceutical sciences, was one of two faculty members to receive the prestigious Chancellor's Distinguished Faculty Public Service Award for 2005. She was honored for volunteering her time, effort, and talents to underserved populations who are in dire need of pharmaceutical services. She has provided care in Ethiopia, Kenya, Honduras, and the Dominican Republic as well as Pittsburgh.

The Drug Information Center was recognized with the Pennsylvania Society of Health-System Pharmacists (PSHP) 2004 Innovative and Collaborative Practice Award for the project "A Consistent Approach to Optimal Formulary Decisions and Innovative Off-Label Drug Use Management." The award recognizes innovative practice programs, developed by a collaborating group of practitioners, that demonstrate a positive impact on patient care. Nicole Ansani and Bethany Fedutes-Henderson presented the project and findings at the PSHP 36th Annual Assembly last October.

Faculty members Sharon Corey, Denise Howrie, and Gary Stoehr (BS '73) have taken on new administrative responsibilities.

ties within the School. Corey was named assistant dean of students and has responsibilities that are focused on students in the PharmD program. Howrie was named assistant dean for academic affairs and has joint responsibilities for the curriculum and for serving as a faculty advocate. Stoehr was named associate dean for assessment and curricular outcomes. He spent his sabbatical developing expertise in this area, and his responsibilities now reflect the opportunity to apply those skills more extensively to the benefit of our teaching programs, our students, and our faculty.

Anna Schmotzer, assistant director of the Professional Experience Program, is the recipient of the 2004 ASP Staff Recognition Award.

The School of Pharmacy is developing a new elective course in diabetes management to be offered to all schools of pharmacy nationwide. This groundbreaking initiative will offer pharmacy students, pharmacists-in-training, and practicing pharmacists the opportunity to learn the latest information on comprehensive diabetes management. Novo Nordisk has provided \$500,000 for course development.



Annual retreat participants voice their opinions on the school direction through multi-voting. More than 75 faculty, staff, and students attended the two-day retreat, which was held at Pitt-Johnstown campus in June.

New residency program

As pharmacists assume a higher profile in the shifting landscape of health care, the need for expert managers is increasing at a rate that exceeds the current supply.

The School of Pharmacy and University of Pittsburgh Medical Center are answering the call through a new Pharmacy Practice Management Residency. Designed to develop leadership and expert pharmacy management skills, the residency offers rotations and competencies such as departmental administration, health-system and hospital operations management, pharmacoinformatics and outcomes research, drug use and disease state management, pharmacy automation, finance and information services.

"We are very excited about the creation of this program," says Scott M. Mark, the program's director and an assistant professor at the School of Pharmacy. "We continually hear about the shortage of leaders in the profession and the expected leadership gap that we will face in the next decade."

More than just a reaction to a staffing shortage, the program is designed to produce a new generation of industry leaders.

"We did not create this program to merely fill the gap," says Mark. "Our mandate is not to train managers but rather to produce exceptional leaders in pharmacy."

Through a rigorous program of formal seminars, patient cases, journal clubs, and research and education opportunities, the residency seeks to provide a "team-oriented" setting.

The program's creation "will certainly be looked back upon as a sentinel event as we begin to train leaders who will make us proud and who we know will embody the precepts of leadership and character that they will learn here at the University of Pittsburgh," says Rafael Saenz, the program's coordinator and UPMC's pharmacy operations manager.

Ozioma Ogbuokiri, one of the program's first residents, says he applied "to develop my leadership skills and equip myself with the

knowledge needed to take health-system pharmacy to the next level."

"I chose UPMC because of the opportunity to learn hands-on in a cutting-edge, integrated system with many different opportunities, including academia," he adds.

Residents are required to teach PharmD students as part of the program, as well as produce a research project focusing on pharmacy practice management that is suitable for publication or presentation at a national meeting.

"Although I was already working as a clinical coordinator at a large medical center, it was clear to me that to progress further in my career, I would need formal management training," says current resident Eunjin Yang. "I selected the University of Pittsburgh to pursue my management residency training due to the flexibility of the program and quality of the preceptors. They are committed to strengthening not only my leadership skills, but also the character of my leadership."

Our Faculty

Degrees conferred by the University of Pittsburgh have a year following them..

Janet Amico, professor of pharmaceutical sciences, received a four-year grant from the National Institutes of Health for \$1,294,501 for her study "Anxiety and Stress Responses in Oxytocin Deficient Mice." This study will test the hypothesis that Oxytocin (OT) dampens the corticosterone response to stress and attenuates anxiety, and its corollary that enhanced secretion of corticosterone and heightened anxiety will occur in the absence of OT.



Faculty, students and staff in the collaborative learning classroom

Kim Coley, associate professor of pharmacy and therapeutics and director, Center for Pharmacoinformatics and Outcomes Research, was invited to serve on the selection panel for the 2005 American Society of Health-System Pharmacists Foundation Literature Awards Program, specifically for the Pharmacy Practice Research Award. This is the third year that Dr. Coley has been chosen to serve on a Literature Awards Program panel.

Robert Gibbs, professor of pharmaceutical sciences, won a two-year \$343,406 grant from the National Institutes of Health for "A New Tool for Targeted Antisense Knockdown in Brain."

The goal of this project is to

develop a novel tool for targeting gene delivery to specific neurons in the adult nervous system. Development of this technology would greatly facilitate the study of how the expression of specific genes by specific neurons contributes to brain aging and cognition. The technology may also provide a novel means of introducing new genes into the mammalian brain for the purpose of preventing and treating neurodegenerative disease.

Levent Kirisci, associate professor of pharmaceutical sciences and psychiatry, won a five-year \$622,349 grant from the National Institutes of Health for "Quantifying and Tracking Risk for Substance Use Disorder." Dr. Kirisci will develop a continuous scale that quantifies individual risk for substance use disorders at ages 10-12, 16, 19, and 22. Using both statistical and psychometric methods, researchers hope to create a practical, valid assessment tool for substance abuse disorder liability.

School of Pharmacy students selected Joseph Knapp, professor of pharmaceutical sciences, as the 2004 Teacher of the Year. In July, he became professor emeritus and retired from the University of Pittsburgh.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services awarded a \$300,000 grant to the Pittsburgh Poison Center at UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh. Edward Krenzelok, director of the Pittsburgh Poison Center at UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh and professor of pharmaceutical sciences, will use the grant to maintain Poison Center's staff and provide service to more than six million people 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Patricia Kroboth (MS '80, PhD '83) dean of the School of Pharmacy and professor of pharmaceutical sciences, has received a two-year appointment to the American College of Clinical Pharmacy Research Institute Board of Trustees.

Song Li will be studying targeted "Delivery of Synthetic SiRNA Expressing Minigenes to Pulmonary Endothelium" through support from the American Heart Association. This \$120,000 two-year grant will test a novel approach for manipulating gene expression in pulmonary endothelium and could lead to the development of new treatments for pulmonary diseases.

Scott Mark, assistant professor of pharmacy and therapeutics, has been invited to serve as one of twelve stakeholders on the 2005 Pharmacy Technician Certification Board Stakeholder Policy Council (PTCB). PTCB is a national organization that develops, maintains, promotes and administers a certification and re-certification program for pharmacy technicians.

Samuel Poloyac, (BS '93) has been awarded a National Institutes of Health \$1,506,525 five-year-grant to study "The Role of 20-HETE in the Pathogenesis of Stroke." Poloyac will attempt to determine the temporal relationship between 20-hydroxyeicosatetraenoic acid (20-HETE) formation and outcome in a model stroke system with the purpose of defining mechanisms for reducing tissue damage after stroke.

Janice Pringle received two awards from the Pennsylvania Department of Health's Bureau of Drug and Alcohol Programs. The first is a two-year contract award for \$437,821 to improve coordination of prevention resources and to implement evidence-based strategies aimed at reducing tobacco, alcohol, and other drug use among Pennsylvania youth aged 12-17. Pringle and her colleagues are responsible for the evaluation component. The second award for \$227,969 is the second year of support for a five-year initiative to encourage healthcare providers to screen and provide advice or counseling to their patients who misuse alcohol or other drugs. Pringle's group is responsible for the information system that supports the collection and upload of data for the initiative.

Brian Potoski (PharmD '99), assistant professor of pharmacy and therapeutics, served as managing editor for the recently published book "Antimicrobial Therapy and Vaccines, Volume II: Antimicrobial Agents." The book contains in-depth information on all antibiotics available on the market today and will serve as a reference for the clinical practitioner.

Paul Schiff, professor of pharmaceutical sciences, received the Hygeia Teacher of the Year Award during the School of Pharmacy graduation dinner.

Terry Schwinghammer, professor of pharmaceutical sciences, received a number of distinctions this past year. He was named a Distinguished Alumnus of the Purdue University School of Pharmacy. He was installed as chair of the Council of Faculties(AACP) and as a member of the Board of Direc-

tors of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy. He was also appointed to the Board of Pharmaceutical Specialties, an agency whose purpose is to recognize pharmacy specialties and certify pharmacists' knowledge and skills at the advanced practice level. He will serve as the board's liaison to the AACP. Schwinghammer also received the Pennsylvania Society of Health-System Pharmacists 2005 community service award.

Gary Stoehr (BS '73) associate dean for assessment and curricular outcomes, has been named the 2005 Pharmacist of the Year by the Pennsylvania Society of Health-System Pharmacists for his contributions to pharmacy education and practice. The award will be presented during the PSHP Annual Assembly at Seven Springs, Pa., in October. Ted Rice, associate professor of pharmacy and therapeutics, is currently president-elect of PSHP and will assume the presidency at the Annual Assembly.

Melissa Somma (BS '98), assistant professor of pharmacy and therapeutics and director of the Rite Aid/University of Pittsburgh Patient Care Initiative, was invited to discuss this patient care initiative at the APhA/NACDS Medication Therapy Management (MTM) implementation Conference in Washington, DC, at the NACDS Pharmacy and Technology Conference in San Diego, Ca., and at the Pennsylvania Pharmacists Association Annual Meeting in Seven Springs, Pa. Somma was also invited to participate as a Medicare Task Force Member for the Pennsylvania Pharmacists Association.

Gordon Vanscoy (BS '84), assistant dean for managed care and associate professor of phar-



Dr. Balwant Dixit, Dr. and Mrs. Joseph Knapp,, Dr. Michael Mokotoff, Dean Patricia Dowley Kroboth, Dr. David Edwards, Dr. Randy Juhl

maceutical sciences, received a one-year unrestricted educational grant from Genentech, Inc., for \$360,909 to assist pharmacists across the nation in choosing fibrinolytic agents for their formularies.

Michael Vanyukov, associate professor of pharmaceutical sciences, received over \$2 million from the National Institutes of Health for his study "Substance Use Disorder Liability: Candidate Gene System." This project seeks to clarify the role that a large set of genes comprehensively representing neurobiological systems involved in drug-related processes plays in the risk for substance use disorders.

Wen Xie, assistant professor of pharmaceutical sciences was awarded a three-year \$135,000 grant from the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation for "Orphan Nuclear Receptor PXR in Estrogen Deprivation and Breast Cancer." Xie will identify the mechanisms by which the pregnane X receptor (PXR) regulates estrogen sulfotransferase (EST) production, deactivates estrogen and inhibits estrogen-dependent breast cancer cell growth.

Our Students

P1—Class of 2009

P2—Class of 2008

P3—Class of 2007

P4—Class of 2006

Kristin Bigos, Marci Chew, and Michael Tortorici were among 63 graduate students nationwide who received American Foundation for Pharmaceutical Education pre-doctoral graduate fellowships. This is the second year that these three students received the award. They will each receive a \$6,000 stipend to enable them to make progress in their pursuit of an advanced degree in the pharmaceutical sciences.

Kara Sperandeo (P4) was one of twelve students nationwide selected to receive a 2004-2005 American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) Student Leadership Award from the ASHP Research and Education Foundation. Sperandeo was one of four in her graduating year to receive the award. This prestigious award recognizes students with an interest in pharmacy practice in health systems who have demonstrated leadership ability and who represent the very best attributes and accomplishments of ASHP student members.

Jasmine Talameh (P3) was one of 14 students nationwide selected to receive a Pre-doctoral Gateway to Research scholarship from the American Foundation for Pharmaceutical Education. She will work with Robert Gibbs, PhD, professor of pharmaceutical sciences, to research the effects of aromatase inhibitors administered systemically on aromatase activity in the brain and on behavior.

A team of Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy students was one of eight teams who competed in the Academy's 5th annual national pharmacy and therapeutics competition finals in Denver, Colo., on April 21 and 22. The team members were Emily Dornblaser, Lauren Fields, Katie Holmes, and Jennifer Stover.

Margie Markie Snyder (P4) was appointed to the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) Commission on Therapeutics.

Jennifer Stover (P4) won a \$1,500 scholarship from Academy of Pharmacy of Central Ohio to be used toward her fall tuition. This scholarship is awarded to students from Central Ohio who provide evidence of strong academic performance and leadership and who participate in college and community projects. Stover was also selected as one of 12 students to participate in the Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy/Pfizer Summer Internship Program. The internship program is designed to introduce the participants to managed care pharmacy. Each intern is required to develop a project that results in a professional poster presentation at the Academy's fall educational conference.

The Alpha Omicron Chapter of the Rho Chi Society, the honor society for pharmacy, received the Chapter Achievement Award at the annual meeting of the Rho Chi Society on April 3 in Orlando. This award recognized the chapter's activities and accomplishments over the 2003-2004 academic year.



Megan Coldren (P3), Bob Reynolds (P3), Lauren Hynicka (P3), Christopher Miller (P2), Erin Lopato (P2) volunteered at the PITT Pharmacy Weekend

An abstract presented by Yan Feng, MS, a teaching fellow in pharmaceutical sciences, titled "Application of Monte Carlo Simulations to Identify an Appropriate Dosage Strategy for Patients Receiving a Continuous Intravenous Infusion of Enoxaparin," was named as a "Top Abstract" at the 2005 meeting of the American Society for Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics.



Our Alumni

Thomas Dowling (PhD '99) received a promotion to associate professor with tenure at the University of Maryland.

Andrew Grimone (PharmD '99) has been appointed clinical pharmacy coordinator at Saint Vincent Health Center. He and his staff of clinical pharmacists consult and work directly with physicians and other healthcare specialists to improve the care of patients in the hospital. Previously, Grimone served as a clinical pharmacy specialist in infectious disease and internal medicine at Saint Vincent since 2000. He also serves as the director of the Saint Vincent Pharmacy Residency Program. Grimone completed his residency in infectious diseases and internal medicine at Warren General Hospital in Warren, Pa.

The Pennsylvania Society of Health-System Pharmacists (PSHP) recently named John Horton (BS '93) winner of the 2005 Joe E. Smith Award. This award recognizes a pharmacist who demonstrates excellence in practice and is deserving of recognition for service to his institution, the community, and the profession. The award will be presented during the PSHP Annual Assembly in Seven Springs, Pa., in October.

Michael Karnis (BS '49) former owner of Karnis Drugs in Beaver Falls, retired from Health City Drugs in Beaver, Pa., in June 2003.

Please send us information about your career advancements, papers presented, honors received, appointments, and further education. We'll include your news in the Alumni section as space allows. Photos are welcome.

The Kiwanis Club of Sheraden held its annual Pancake Day on Saturday, April 2. The proceeds benefited the School of Pharmacy scholarship in memory of Mr. Ralph Kartub. "Mr. Ralph" was a charter member of the Kiwanis Club and a well-respected pharmacist in the Sheraden, Pa., neighborhood.



William Kennedy Sr. ('61)

William C. Kennedy, Sr, (BS '61) founder and CEO of Redex Co., is pictured with the 2004 Excellence in Exporting Award he received from Governor Taft of Ohio. Redex Co. manufactures and exports the skin care product, "Udderly Smooth Udder Cream." The company received this award in part for supplying troops in Iraq with the protective skin care lotion. Bill is not the only member of the Kennedy family being honored for his contributions to the war effort. Bill's son Maj. Brian Kennedy of the Marine Corps. was honored with the distinguished "Flying Cross" in December 2004 for his work as a flight leader for combat missions in Iraq.

Roger N. Morris (BS '86, JD '89), partner in the law firm of Quarles and Brady, LLP, was named 2005 Arizona Pharmacist of the Year by the Arizona Pharmacy Alliance.

Steven Strauss (PhD '70) was re-appointed to a second five-year term as an auxiliary member of the New York State Board of Pharmacy from July 2005 to June 2010. He will also serve as a disciplinary hearing officer. As a member of the professional discipline panel, he will be involved with moral character hearings, petitions for the restoration of revoked licenses, and general disciplinary hearings. Strauss is the author of seven books and 50 published articles relating to pharmacy law. He has lectured on this topic throughout the United States, the Caribbean Island nations, and Europe.



In Memoriam

John McMillin ('40)
 Charles Sipe ('40)
 Charles Anderson ('41)
 Guy Mathews ('49)
 Wilbur Daugherty ('51)
 Lawrence Reinersman ('58)
 Dale Bracker ('59)
 Donald Reed ('72)
 Richard Remic ('76)
 Francine (Zipfel) Matuszak ('78)
 Molly Wrazen ('98)
 John O'Donnell ('99)

Our School in the World



Drs. Terry Schwinghammer, Robert Bies and Melissa Somma outside a pharmacy in Nederweert, Netherlands.

Several faculty members including Melissa Somma and Rob Bies recently visited universities and pharmacies in Europe to learn about pharmaceutical care in the Netherlands and Switzerland. The trip began with a visit to the home of the Dutch school of pharmacoepidemiology in the school of pharmacy at Utrecht University. Professors Heerdink and Leufkens provided significant insight into the identification of risks associated with specific prescribing patterns or drugs. The group met with pharmacists at the Stevshof pharmacy in Leiden and the Naus pharmacy of Nederweert and observed the pharmaceutical care practices at these community pharmacies. Stevshof pharmacy is a pharmacy that has strong relation-

ships with community physicians. The physicians and pharmacists review patients together once a week. The Naus pharmacy is an example of pharmaceutical care in the outpatient pharmacy setting of a small community medical practice center. The group then traveled to Sion Switzerland and AARDEX Ltd. Various techniques and technologies to assist pharmacists in assessing adherence in the outpatient setting were demonstrated and discussed by Drs. Metry and Alain. This was followed the next day with a visit to the CHUV pharmacy and Drs. Burnier and Voirol-Schneider (Lausanne University Hospital Pharmacy) where part of the pharmacists services involve reviewing electronic monitoring data for patient compliance with the patients. This



is a service that is written as a prescription. The trip concluded with various pharmacy artifacts found at the marche au puces in Geneva.

Randy Juhl, vice chancellor of the University and former dean of the School of Pharmacy, was the keynote speaker at a symposium organized by the Japanese Self-Medication Institute in Tokyo on May 10, 2005. The event, titled "Self-Medication Policy Around the World," was the centerpiece of the celebration of the 20th anniversary of the founding of JSMI, the trade organization of nonprescription drug manufacturers in Japan.



Rhonda Rea, PharmD

Rhonda Rea, PharmD, assistant professor of pharmacy and therapeutics, received the John G. Bowman Faculty Grant from the International Exchange Endowment Fund Committee. Rea will use the grant to cover travel expenses for the "Problem-Based Learning (PBL) Tutor Training Program" at the University of Edinburgh in Edinburgh, Scotland, this fall. In this unique program, experienced faculty members will become her mentors as she learns how to construct an entire course using PBL. She will apply this training to a new course, Advanced Pharmaceutical Care II, which she is helping to develop.

Pharmacopeia:

Alum's Gift, 17th-Century Pharmacy Books, Turns out to be Pitt's Treasure



Grimm Sr. Pharmacy Museum on the fourth floor of Salk Hall, although Director of Development Lawton Snyder says the books' age and value may require a more controlled, archive-caliber environment elsewhere on campus.

Little had the books appraised prior to making the donation, and the books were valued at \$9,500.

"It really was serendipity," says Richard A. Lithgow (BS '50), who is retiring from his longtime position as the museum's curator. "We're quite happy with them."

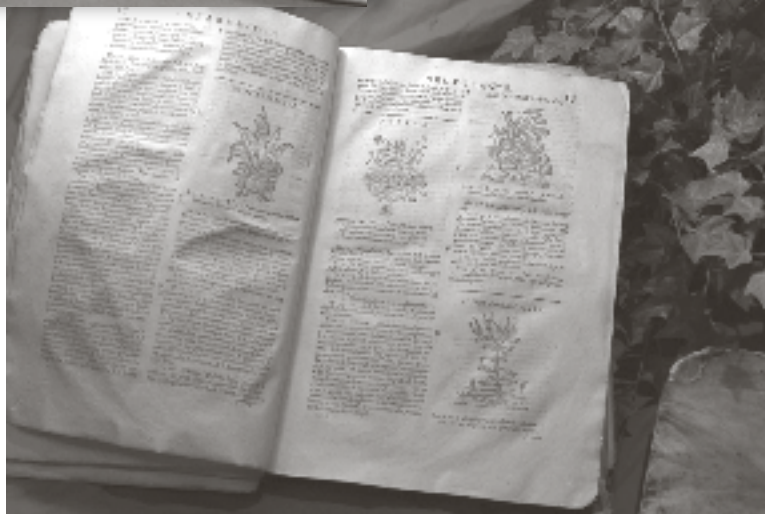
Back in 1946, when Ralph Little (BS '43) owned Little's Doctor's Pharmacy in New Kensington, Pa., a casual acquaintance walked into his store with an interesting proposition.

The man was in need of some money, and asked Little to make him a loan. To sweeten the deal, he put up an interesting piece of collateral: two 17th-century pharmacy reference books, both of them predating the U.S. Constitution by more than 100 years.

The illustrated guides, *Pharmacopoeia Augultana* (1646) and *Herbario Novo* (1602), "supposedly came from some doctor's office," says Little, now retired. "His story sounded good."

Little never saw the man again, and never knew what the loan—which he estimated to be a few hundred dollars—was for, although he has a guess. "Our town, in those days, was a gambling town," he says.

He kept the books at home for decades, never having them formally appraised, although he



knew they must have some value. Taller and thicker than dictionaries, and *Herbario Novo* still has herbs pressed in its pages.

"I knew they had some merit and were worth more than I paid for them," Little says. "They were interesting, and they were very old."

This year, Little's deal became Pitt's treasure when he donated them to the School of Pharmacy. Initially, school officials considered displaying them at the Elmer H.

The cover image and the lithographic images of herbs and plants throughout this issue come from *Pharmacopoeia Augultana* (1646) and *Herbario Novo* (1602).



Philanthropy

For more information on making a gift to the School of Pharmacy, contact Director of Development Lawton Snyder at 412-624-3545 or las63@pitt.edu

The generosity of Richard F. Bergstrom (BS '73), who donated his honorarium from the AAPS Distinguished Service Award, made it possible to start the University of Pittsburgh student chapter of the American Association for Pharmaceutical Scientists (AAPS). His desire is to help graduate students become more active in AAPS and use the funds to enhance education, research, and employment opportunities. Dr. Randall Smith, senior associate dean, is the chapter advisor. Bergstrom will serve as the new chapter's honorary mentor.

Ronald G. Cameron (BS '58), a Labrobe native, has donated \$50,000 to endow a pharmacy scholarship. The scholarship provides assistance to students who are in the final two years of the PharmD curriculum and who have financial need. Cameron specified that first preference for the scholarship be given to students from Westmoreland County. The first recipient is Leah DeRosa, of Mt. Pleasant, Pa., and a 2000 graduate of Mt. Pleasant High School. Cameron is the chief executive



Sookie Cameron, Ronald Cameron, Gary Stoehr, Dennis Swanson and Renee Pekor present Leah DeRosa (P4) with the Cameron and Company, Inc. Pharmacy Scholarship.

officer of Cameron and Company, Inc., the first company to establish a registry of pharmacists for temporary assignments. The company, headquartered in Las Vegas, now has offices in 15 states and fills the temporary staffing needs of pharmacies from Florida to Hawaii.

Beginning this fall, School of Pharmacy faculty Dr. Kristine Schonder and Dr. Amy Sybert will coordinate a program, "Helpful Hands for Healthy Hearts," with help from students in the

SNPhA organization. The School of Pharmacy received a grant from NitroMed for \$22,000 to begin this patient-focused education program for minority communities in the Pittsburgh area. The program will focus on providing information on hypertension and chronic heart failure, two of the leading causes of cardiovascular disease and mortality in minority populations.

Golf Outing Scorecard



The School of Pharmacy held its second annual Scholarship Golf Invitational on June 3, 2005. Eighty golfers showed up in the rain to participate in this year's event, which raised over \$23,000 for the Alumni Scholarship fund. This was a respectable increase over last year's event, which raised over \$17,000.

Prizes were given for the first-, second-, and third-place teams as well as for two closest to the pins, a straightest drive, and a longest putt. Unfortunately nobody won the 2005 Ford Mustang offered as a prize for a hole in one on number eight. All of our participants walked away with wonderful door prizes, and many also purchased some very nice items in the silent auction.

The School of Pharmacy and the Alumni Planning Committee would like to thank all the participants and the numerous sponsors of this event and welcome everyone to come back next year.

A Life Too Brief:

Classmates Honor Friend with Gifts for Endowed Scholarship

As second-year students hoping to make it through pharmacy school, Susan Thompson Summers ('90) and Donna Smail MacNeil ('90) bonded when they flunked organic chemistry together.

"I was so upset," recalls Summers. MacNeil comforted her by saying, "I couldn't take the final."

Together, they repeated the class, each earning an A the second time around. They went on to become roommates, pharmacy graduates, and lifelong friends.

Theirs was the quintessential college story: Friends who commiserate over difficult classes, stay in touch after graduation, and go on to celebrate each other's weddings and the birth of new babies.

"You spend five years together, you get to know each other pretty well," says classmate Lisa D'Orazio, who also graduated in 1990, and asked MacNeil to serve as godmother to her youngest child. "Donna was a real special person."

"It's such a tribute to [Donna], and it's exciting to know her name will live on, and her memory,"

new daughter.

"She was a fighter, she just never gave up," says Summers. "That's why she lived so long, because she was determined that she was going to fight it. She was happy, she got to get married and have a big wedding. She got to have all her dreams fulfilled."

To honor MacNeil's legacy of courage, D'Orazio and Summers began raising money in late 2004 to create an endowed scholarship in her name. To date, they have raised \$9,350, solely through donations from those who loved her. CVS, the pharmacy for which MacNeil worked, later contributed an additional \$10,000.

"It's such a tribute to her, and it's exciting to know her name will live on, and her memory," says Summers.

The friends had tossed around the idea of creating a scholarship for a few years, but didn't know how to get started. Then a chance meeting between D'Orazio and the

—Susan Summers ('90)

The friendship was cut abruptly short in October 1999, when MacNeil succumbed to breast cancer at the age of 31, after battling the disease for six years. Married just 14 months earlier, she wore a wig to her wedding to disguise the chemo-therapy induced hair loss, and she bravely struggled down the aisle on crutches to serve as an attendant in Summers' wedding in 1997.

In MacNeil's final days, when she was on oxygen, Summers spent her maternity leave driving to MacNeil's home in Greensburg, Pa., so her friend could meet her

wife of Lawton "Lawney" Snyder, the School of Pharmacy's director of development, got the ball rolling. Snyder's wife told D'Orazio to get in touch with her husband, and they were able to begin the dialogue that led to the fundraising efforts.

"I could tell that it was something people were very interested in, and wanted to support," says Snyder. "It turned out to be a really good campaign, and what a nice way to remember their friend. They did a great thing that I think they'll be pleased with. The endowment will last here at the school forever, and have Donna's name on it."



Lisa D'Orazio, Susan Summers and Donna MacNeil in 1998.

School creates new opportunities to memorialize loved ones

The scholarship effort also had an unintended ripple effect. After talking to MacNeil's friends, Snyder noted that the School of Pharmacy had just two mechanisms for permanent memorial donations: Buying a brick for \$400, and creating an endowed scholarship for \$10,000. In between, there was nothing.

"When Lisa called, we realized that between \$400 and \$10,000, we really didn't have any options," Snyder says.

The school's faculty and administration brainstormed, and came up with a happy medium: the School of Pharmacy In Memory Award. The school seeded an endowed scholarship with \$10,000 of its own money, and people who want to memorialize a loved one can add to the account. Already, a few people have taken advantage of the opportunity, Snyder says.

Students receiving the scholarship learn who the contributors are, and donors also are noted annually in PittPharmacy.

Save the Dates



October 21, 2005

Homecoming Celebration

November 7, 2005

AAPS Reception: Nashville, TN

December 6, 2005

ASHP Mid-Year Reception: Las Vegas, NV



March 20, 2006

APhA Reception: San Francisco, CA

June 9, 2006

Scholarship Golf Invitational

June 10, 2006

Pharmacy Celebration Weekend for
Alumni and Friends



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WHAT'S
HAPPENING



Caring
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The Brick Walkway at Salk Hall

Join the more than 500 individuals who have donated to the School of Pharmacy's Brick Walkway. In return for your \$400 tax-deductible pledge, a brick will be inscribed with your name or with the name of a family member or friend. You will receive a certificate commemorating your gift, and the brick will be added to the walkway in front of Salk Hall.

Thank you for your gift. Make your check payable to the University of Pittsburgh and mail it with this form to:
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Please send us information about your career advancements, papers presented, honors received, appointments, and further education. We'll include your news in the Alumni section as space allows. Photos are welcome. Please print clearly.

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Save the Date for Homecoming 2005



Pictured from left are Scott Drab (BS '89), William Thompson Jr. (BS '62), Lorraine Corsi (BS '69), William Strickler, son of Dr. David Strickler (BS '06), inventor of the Banana Split, William Kennedy (BS '61), "Ice Cream Joe" Greubel, president of Valley Dairy, Donald Grimm (BS '63), Patricia Kroboth (MS '80, PhD '83) and Randall Smith, senior associate dean. The 2004 School of Pharmacy homecoming party featured the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the banana split. The 100 people in attendance enjoyed a full banana split put together by teams of alumni board members, distinguished alumni, faculty, and the Dean of the School of Pharmacy while listening to the sounds of a barbershop quartet.

Save the date for this year's homecoming Fall Festival scheduled Friday, October 21. Invitations to follow.



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