

University of Pittsburgh  
School of Pharmacy



# Pharmacy

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A L U M N I N E W S



## A TRIBUTE TO DISCOVERY

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**On the cover:** Jonathan Salk, MD, and Darrell Salk, MD, (inset, l-r) view the School of Pharmacy's new exhibit honoring the development of the Salk polio vaccine.

# The Value of Science: Development of the Salk Polio Vaccine

## DEAN'S MESSAGE

The year was 1955. Many memorable events took place; Disneyland, H&R Block, and Kentucky Fried Chicken opened for business. Ann Landers, Gunsmoke, Lassie, and Lawrence Welk were introduced and became household names, as did Captain Kangaroo, the Mickey Mouse Club, and Alfred Hitchcock Presents. And Slim Whitman actually had a number one song. But the most important development of the year occurred on April 12, when the world learned the results of eight years of high-powered, fast-paced, pioneering biomedical research conducted at the University of Pittsburgh. "POLIO IS CONQUERED" read the headlines in *The Pittsburgh Press*. The announcement that the Salk polio vaccine was safe and effective was greeted with great jubilation. Looking back, 45 years later, the polio vaccine is one of the great triumphs of modern medicine.

The story of the vaccine's effect on polio is well known. However, details of the many scientific advances that ultimately led to the successful vaccine are not as familiar. For the past two years, we have worked to develop a museum display that would not only highlight the tremendous public health impact of the Salk polio vaccine, but also pay tribute to the team of Pitt scientists whose creativity and hard work led to the ultimate success. As you will read in this issue, we celebrated the unveiling of the display on April 15.

After we dedicated the School's Elmer H. Grimm Pharmacy Museum in 1996, it occurred to me that the only recognition of the development of the polio vaccine in our building was its name: Salk Hall. Also, it seemed that, as the years passed, this name meant less to the students than it should. (I remind you that most of our present-day students were born between 1975 and 1980.) Thus, I believed it was important for our

students, present and future, to know of the historic events that took place in Salk Hall from 1947 to 1955. In addition, there are many lessons represented by the polio vaccine story: the public health impact; the process of scientific discovery; the value of teamwork; the power of a community-based quest.

I dare say that there are more news articles today about the cost of new drugs than there are about the therapeutic value of the discoveries. At the same time, the wisdom of investing precious resources in the process of scientific discovery is constantly questioned. However, there is no better example to illustrate the power and effectiveness of our country's biomedical science enterprise than the story of the polio vaccine. So, in addition to the obvious lessons, I hope the display will remind observers of the value of science and the need to support basic scientific research and the training of scientists. Whether the potential scientific breakthroughs that we can see on the horizon today will have the impact of the polio vaccine is a question that we won't be able to answer for years. However, the prospects for improving the human condition are exciting almost beyond belief.

I hope that you take pride in your University's role in the past glories and continue to support us in our future scientific endeavors. Even today, 45 years later, there is some pretty good science going on in Salk Hall, where our work is inspired by the rich legacy of the past and transfixed by the promises of tomorrow.



Randy P. Juhl, PhD  
Dean, School of Pharmacy

# Fancy Footwork

## SNAPSHOT FROM PHARMACY'S PAST

*If [all] is well with your belly, chest and feet,  
the wealth of kings can give you nothing more.*

—Horace, 65-8 BC

The antiques in the Elmer H. Grimm Sr. Pharmacy Museum don't date quite as far back as Horace, yet one may find a certain similarity of philosophy among the concentration of pharmaceutical remedies and products on display there. Among the colored flasks, blown glass beakers, yellowed cardboard packages of botanical preparations, and worn mortars and pestles is a sizable contingent of liniments, creams, shoe add-ins, and specially-shaped pads for use on the feet.

Many people are familiar with Dr. Scholl's foot care products from contemporary use, but in the Pharmacy Museum, these very practical and prosaic preparations are elevated to a higher status by virtue of their antique glass, metal, and wood display case, donated by Fred W. Hayes '58. Hanging on the museum wall just above an empty gallon jar of Eli Lilly & Co.'s "Elixir Seconal," the Dr. Scholl's Foot Comfort Remedies display case is an *objet d'art*, with the museum's soft lighting casting a glow across its glass front panel, and with charmingly dated illustrations and script lettering. But lean in closer and you might recognize your grandmother's corn plaster.

"When I was a pharmacist in the 1950s, many women did not wear shoes that fit properly," says Richard A. Lithgow '50, special assistant to the dean for alumni affairs and curator for the museum. "They'd get corns on their toes and we'd sell a lot of 25-cent corn plasters and Dr. Scholl's Zino-pads, which are disks medicated with salicylic acid." People would often treat themselves for conditions such as ingrown toenails, relying on the pharmacist's advice and a 50-cent supply of Dr. Scholl's Onixol, says Lithgow. "We use many of these same products today, but you won't find them in a case like this," he says. The case has little drawers in the back for stocking packs of corn plasters, bunion pads, arch supports,

"Toe-Flex" cushioning devices for crooked toes, athlete's foot remedies and Bromidosis Powder. Lithgow gladly translates the technical language for the lay person: "Bromidosis. That means 'stinky feet!'"

The Elmer H. Grimm Sr. Pharmacy Museum offers School of Pharmacy students, faculty, and alumni a chance to step back to a bygone era in pharmacy. "Snapshot from Pharmacy's Past" provides alumni who cannot visit the museum (located on the fourth floor of Salk Hall) an opportunity to see some of the valuable items on display there. Alumni and friends can also view the museum online by visiting the School of Pharmacy's Web page at [www.pharmacy.pitt.edu](http://www.pharmacy.pitt.edu) and following links to "The Elmer H. Grimm Sr. Pharmacy Museum."





# A Tribute to Discovery

*School of Pharmacy dedicates new exhibit honoring the development of the Salk polio vaccine*

**W**arm spring sunshine in Pittsburgh is a welcome sign of the passing of winter's bleakness, and of brighter, happier days ahead. In a way, it's a lot like the ray of light that was cast on the field of science 45 years ago, when a team of researchers from the University of Pittsburgh developed a vaccine for polio, one of the most devastating illnesses of the century.

Thus the glorious weather of April 15 seemed appropriate, as Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg and the School of Pharmacy welcomed more than 100 guests to the unveiling of a new exhibit, "The Shot Heard 'Round the World: The Development of the Salk Polio Vaccine 1947-1955." Located in Salk Hall, where much of the research for the vaccine took place, the exhibit honors in particular the Pitt team, which was led by Dr. Jonas Salk and included Dr. Julius S. Youngner, Major Byron L. Bennett, Dr. L. James Lewis, Dr. Percival L. Bazeley, Dr. Ulrich Krech, research assistant Elsie N. Ward and numerous technicians.

The exhibit stands as a thoughtful tribute and an educational resource for the historical achievement. A pictorial and textual timeline documenting the development of the vaccine at Pitt, it is housed in a glass display case adjacent to the Elmer H. Grimm Sr. Pharmacy Museum.

In his welcome, Nordenberg acknowledged the generosity of Darrell Salk, MD, and Jonathan Salk, MD—who had traveled from the West Coast with their families to attend the event—for allowing exhibit researchers access to the Salk family archives. He also thanked William Kennedy Sr. '61, founder of Redex Industries Inc., and his wife, Margaret Kennedy, for their generous financial support in making the exhibit a reality.

Nordenberg told the audience of a strong, lingering sense of polio's impact embedded in his childhood memories. "The most frightening images of my childhood came not from movie monsters, but from photos of people in iron lungs," the Chancellor said. "I remember my parents feared—as did other parents—the arrival of summer. It was not a time of carefree play, but of careful watchfulness, since the summer

months were the season children were most likely to contract polio. Swimming pools, movie theaters, and public parks were closed in attempts to halt the spread of polio."

Despite the best efforts of the international medical community, incidence of the disease had risen steadily through the '40s and '50s. Hospital wards were filled with row after row of iron lung machines. Tens of thousands were treated for polio; many were left disabled and fitted with leg braces.

"So at last when a research team unlocked this powerful virus' mystery and successfully created a vaccine against the disease," said Nordenberg, "the world drew a collective sigh of relief."

On April 12, 1955, came the long-anticipated announcement: The polio vaccine is safe,



effective, and potent. People celebrated in the streets, rang church bells, and blew factory whistles. The international press shouted the news and a *Cincinnati Enquirer* political cartoon

by L.D. Warren hailed the announcement as “The Shot Heard ‘Round the World.” The phrase marked the end of the eight-year battle against polio led by Salk at the University of Pittsburgh, and worldwide relief from an epidemic dating back to the dawn of the 20th century.

School of Pharmacy Dean Randy P. Juhl reminded the audience that while today polio is all but eradicated from the planet, in 1952, paralytic poliomyelitis, or “infantile paralysis” claimed 57,628 victims, the worst recorded polio epidemic in U.S. history. But by 1958, three years after the vaccine was released,

Guests at the unveiling were aware that they were standing in the halls of a building that was once the Pittsburgh Municipal Hospital for Contagious Diseases, where polio victims were treated and the team’s research facilities were located. “Those were exciting times,” said John Troan, former editor and science reporter for *The Pittsburgh Press*. “I followed the team through the years ’47 to ’50 when the Salk team was still trying to identify the various strains of polio. They identified three types and made a vaccine with a sample from each, and in 1954, conducted the largest field trial of any drug in the history of medicine.” Led by Dr. Thomas

## Tales from the Frontline

One of the central members of the killed poliovirus research team, Dr. Julius S. Youngner serves today on the University of Pittsburgh faculty as Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus of Molecular Genetics and Biochemistry. Youngner’s continued contributions in the biomedical field include the release last November of a vaccine for equine influenza.

Youngner underscored the scientific significance of the discovery during the poliovirus vaccine research that a killed virus vaccine could induce the creation of antibodies. This went against the scientific dogma of the time, but made the vaccine safer than a live virus vaccine, which could cause polio in rare instances.

Among his contributions to the vaccine, Youngner, along with research assistant Elsie Ward, developed new methods of measuring the amount of virus grown in culture and the levels of antibody against poliovirus in blood. Their work also focused on selecting the best non-neural monkey tissue for growing large quantities of virus.

Youngner also recalls a glut of willing study subjects. “Parents of children from Falk School and various elementary schools volunteered their children in study trials. They were happy to get the vaccine. It was such a scary disease, everyone was frightened.” Prior to the field trial, Youngner gave the vaccine to his own children, Stuart and Lisa, as Jonas Salk did with his sons, Darrell, Jonathan, and Peter.

In 1952, when it came time to test the vaccine for development of antibodies in human blood, Youngner says, trials were conducted at the D.T. Watson Home for Crippled Children in Leetsdale, Pennsylvania (now the Watson Institute) and the Polk State School in Polk, Pennsylvania. Blood samples taken from children who had already been infected with the virus showed higher levels of antibody after administration of the vaccine, and blood samples of staff members who were not infected when the vaccine was administered contained poliovirus antibody. Human trials were expanded in 1953 to include 500 children and adults, mostly from Allegheny County.



**Below left (L-R):** Dr. Darrell Salk, his wife Patricia Johnston, Dr. Jonathan Salk, Dean Juhl, and Chancellor Nordenberg

**Above left (L-R):** Dean Juhl, Bill Kennedy '61, Marg Kennedy, and Chancellor Nordenberg

**Above:** Dr. Jonathan Salk and his wife, Elizabeth Shepherd, tell their sons, Hugh and Ben, about the work of their grandfather.

incidences of polio in the U.S. had dropped by nearly 90 percent, he said. The National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, now known as the March of Dimes, had put itself out of a job. Established in 1938 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, himself a polio survivor, the foundation funded the work of the Salk team.

Francis, Jonas Salk’s mentor at the University of Michigan, 1.8 million grade-school children participated at 217 sites in 44 states.

Darrell Salk was a young boy in 1955. Today, as a doctor, he has a strong understanding of the team’s work and the circumstances

*Continued on page 14*

# Finding a Way

*Late alumnus' gift creates endowment for emerging research field and scholarships*

The words of her father, Joseph Koslow '38, still ring clearly for Barbara Reineking. "My father always said, 'Never forget the people who helped you get where you are,'" she recalls. As a testament to that philosophy, Joseph Koslow, who died in 1990, and his wife, Joan Koslow, who died in 1996, left a generous, unrestricted gift to the School of Pharmacy. The decision was left to Barbara and her husband, Ted Reineking, to apply the gift to scholarships and research in pharmacogenetics—a field that did not exist a decade ago.

Koslow attended the School through the support of Thrift Drug co-founder Reuben Helfant, PHA '23, and went on to become a medical representative for Chicago-based Burroughs Wellcome. "My father loved Pitt," Barbara says. "He received the School of Pharmacy's Distinguished Alumni Award in 1989, and was very active with the Pitt Club of Chicago. He and my mother were recently inducted as Charter Members of the Cathedral of Learning Society. He was passionate about giving back to the University."

The Reinekings, who live in Chicago, came to Pittsburgh last fall to attend a Nov. 5 reception celebrating the establishment of the Joseph Koslow Endowed Chair and the Joseph Koslow Endowed Scholarship in the School of Pharmacy.

The Reinekings worked hand-in-hand with School of Pharmacy Dean Randy Juhl to determine how the Koslows' unrestricted gift would best be utilized. They decided on the format of an endowed chair and an endowed scholarship fund. "The concept of the endowed chair is very well thought out," says Ted Reineking. "It allows the University to obtain a well-qualified person because of the financial resources behind the chair."

"And it provides an opportunity for an individual to do extensive research in a particular discipline with ongoing funding," adds Mrs. Reineking.



*Joan and Joseph Koslow, '38, believed the use of their gift would be best determined by their children and the School of Pharmacy.*

The Joseph Koslow Chair is the first endowed chair in the School of Pharmacy and represents a dramatic leap into the future for the School and the University, Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg told guests at the reception. "The chair reinforces the School's national reputation as a leader in pharmacy education and pharmaceutical care and research," said Nordenberg.

Leaf Huang, PhD, an internationally recognized expert in the field of gene therapy delivery systems, is the first recipient of the Joseph Koslow Chair. Huang now directs the School of Pharmacy Center for Pharmacogenet-

ics. His team will use advanced genetic tools to investigate genetic variations within individuals that affect response to drugs and xenobiotics.

Huang, who came to Pitt eight years ago by way of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, runs a federally-funded research program in drug targeting, with a focus on the development of non-viral gene therapy delivery systems. He collaborates on clinical trials of gene therapy to treat ovarian and breast cancers, melanoma, cystic fibrosis, and Canavan's disease.

During his remarks, Huang, whose area of study crosses the curricular lines between medicine and pharmacy, expressed his delight at

the interdisciplinary nature of the new center's work and stressed the importance of its team environment. "The center will recruit highly productive scientists to collaborate with each other and with other scientists, such as Dr. Bob Gibbs and Dr. Pat Kroboth in the School of Pharmacy," said Huang. Of his own role, he joked that, "this is a very important honor, a very responsible position, and I do not deserve it—but I will take it!"

Nordenberg and Senior Vice Chancellor for the Health Sciences Arthur Levine, MD, told the audience that Huang's guidance and the center's research will help to secure Pitt's

leadership role in the emerging field of pharmacogenetics well into the next century. Nordenberg thanked the Reineking family for such a fruitful application of the Koslows' gift. "Dr. Huang's appointment underscores the Koslows' wisdom in leaving planning discretion to the dean," added Nordenberg. "The field of pharmacogenetics didn't even exist when the Koslows first started to craft their estate plan. With the help of Barbara and Ted, we've been able to maximize the gift to include the endowed scholarships and the endowed chair."

The addition of the Joseph Koslow Chair brings the total number of endowed chairs at the University to 99. "An endowed chair is a marvelous way for someone who cares deeply about the University to go into partnership with us for the indefinite future," said University Provost James Maher. He added that the continued excellence of the University depends in part on the establishment of endowed chairs. "We rely on endowed chairs to make sure that we will have the faculty that will drive the development of their fields," said Maher, "and to make sure that the University of Pittsburgh will be a permanent element in the ongoing quest for greater knowledge and service to society."

Just as significant are the opportunities provided by the Joseph Koslow Endowed Scholarship fund. "Last April, the first scholarship was awarded," says Ted Reineking. "This year, there were six scholarships awarded." The scholarships are designed to benefit Pennsylvania-resident students who demonstrate character, enthusiasm, potential, and commitment to the pharmacy profession as well as academic accomplishment and financial need. Special consideration is given to those with extraordinary life circumstances, or personal, or family hardship.

It is fitting that the Koslow scholarships should include a consideration for students experiencing personal or family hardship, as Dean Randy Juhl noted. "Soon after I became dean," said Juhl, "Joe pulled me aside and told me that when he was gone he planned to leave a large sum to the School of Pharmacy. Joe said to me, 'I want you to understand why I'm doing this.'"

Juhl reported that Koslow served in World War II after graduation from the School. Upon returning, he found that his brother wanted to attend the School as well, but neither of them could afford the tuition. "He visited (then-



**Above:** Chancellor Nordenberg, Barbara and Ted Reineking, Dean Juhl, Leaf Huang and his wife, Shilling Huang.

**Below:** The Reineking family and Dean Juhl with scholarship recipients (clockwise from bottom right) Lindsay Pell (P3), Lance Barber (P3), Natalie Ciliberto (P3), Carman Demian (P4), and Amy Smulski (P4). Not pictured: Paula Hyskell (P4)

School of Pharmacy) Dean Reif, who said, 'You go ahead and bring him to Pitt and we'll find a way.' And so, Joe's brother attended the School, too."

At the reception, Huang and the Reineking family received official University of Pittsburgh wooden chairs from Nordenberg, Levine, and Juhl. "It's been very rewarding to see Dad's wishes completed," said Barbara Reineking. "We feel very gracious and warm.

It's not a business venture between the School of Pharmacy and us; it's a labor of love we have accomplished."



# The Art of Pharmacy

There is a meditative beauty in the ebb and flow of pharmacokinetic curves. That is, as they are depicted in the vibrant green, red, blue, and orange of a mural by artist Obi-Tabot Obi Tabe (P3). Tabe's untitled painting, a 9-by-4 1/2-foot abstract oil on canvas,

which begins high in the left corner of the painting, then drops to a steady-state level as it travels across the canvas. The discriminating student may identify several more curves in Tabe's painting, including the curve associated with oral drug administration and another

masquerading as the outline of a leaf.

The school commissioned the painting at the urging of Gary P. Stoehr, PharmD, associate dean of student and academic affairs and chair of the admissions committee. "It's not often you get someone applying for pharmacy school with a degree in art," says Stoehr. "My first thought was, 'How serious can this guy be?'" He soon

discovered that Tabe, a 38-year-old painter, graphic designer, and scientific illustrator originally from Cameroon, wasn't joking around. "It turns out he's this amazing guy, incredibly bright," says Stoehr. "He told me how he'd been considering attending medical school, but ultimately decided on a pharmacy career. Really, I think this guy could do anything."

Tabe has been a U.S. citizen for the last five years. He earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts in graphic design from the University of Missouri in 1990. He then moved to Chicago where, with a friend, he operated a graphic design studio and scientific illustration firm for several years. Tabe has completed more than 30 paintings over the years, but none as large as the one in Salk Hall.

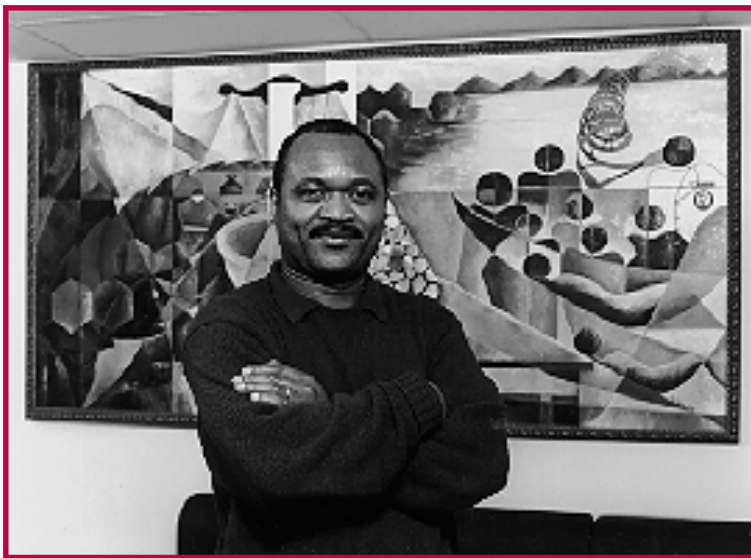
Tabe has always been engaged in some combination of art and biological sciences. In his 20s, he was the biological illustrator for the National Herbarium in Cameroon. With no prior formal art training, Tabe won the position on the strength of his advanced study in biology and chemistry at a Cameroon high school and his remarkable drawing ability. After he had saved enough to come to the United States, and even while still in college, Tabe sponsored several of his brothers' college studies; he continues to assist his extended family in Cameroon. "One has to share—that's how we were raised," Tabe explains.

His philosophy of caring for others and his fastidious attention to scientific detail are evident in the mural's design. In abstract terms, the painting looks at the broad spectrum of pharmacy, including the natural and synthetic sources of medicinals. "You can see the shape of leaves on the left as nature," Tabe says. "And the flat bottom flask and round bottom flask in the center represents the laboratory."

Within the design, a scale represents the need for accuracy in measurements as well as "the pharmacist's moral and professional obligation to treat people equally," says Tabe. "That's why, for the patients in the painting, I used many different colors." Human forms symbolize the range of specialties within the profession, from retail to clinical to research. "The figures who are standing represent the retail sector of pharmacy. The patients lying down—those who are really sick—represent clinical pharmacy and pharmacy's role in healing disease," says Tabe.

In the upper right, a helix-like structure spirals down from the sun to impart knowledge onto a standing figure wearing a white lab coat. The coat is emblazoned with the School of Pharmacy insignia. The head of the figure is two different colors. "This represents the link between biotechnology and pharmacy, and the field of pharmacogenetics, in which the pharmacist's role is very important in the future," says Tabe.

Curiously, an I.D. tag on the figure's lab coat reads "Obitabot Tabe." But Tabe, who has not yet decided his own specialty, just laughs and says, "That name tag was Dr. Stoehr's idea."



Artist and pharmacy student Obi-Tabot Obi Tabe

was commissioned by the School of Pharmacy as a tribute to the pharmacy profession, and hangs in the student lounge on Salk Hall's second floor. Tabe designed the work to incorporate images and ideas from basic concepts introduced in the first two years of the professional pharmacy program.

"My main objective for creating this painting was to leave behind something to serve as a learning experience for future generations of Pitt pharmacy students," says Tabe. "The location of the painting is ideal in that it presents a forum for discussion of some underlying concepts during a lunch break or before an exam.

"Students have told me that each time they look at it, they see a different pharmacokinetic curve," Tabe says. He points out the curve associated with bolus drug administration,



# Hannan: Market Changes Good News for Students

The future of pharmacy is bright according to former interim president and CEO of the National Association of Chain Drug Stores (NACDS) Robert W. Hannan. Speaking to a Pharmacy Week crowd of 250 students and faculty for the annual Nicholas C. Tucci Lecture—established in 1986 in memory of the Class of '32 alumnus—Hannan provided insights into the business side of pharmacy from the perspective of a chain drug store insider.

“Today, [chain pharmacies] employ 91,000 pharmacists,” Hannan told the students at a lecture sponsored by the Academy of

dous changes and management opportunities in the chain drug segment. He says that the latest trend in chain stores is to move them from strip malls to free-standing buildings at busy intersections, increasing their sales volume by as much as 30 percent. The typical free-standing store in New York, according to Hannan, is 10,000 to 12,000 square feet, selling everything from bread to seasonal items. The store will do between \$4 million and \$12 million in business, with more than 50 percent of that in prescriptions, and much of that going out through a drive-up window.

The chain drug store segment has seen

from 18 in 1990 to 62 in 2000. Superstores, such as Wal-Mart and Kmart, increased their pharmacy business by 140 percent in the decade.

Hannan knows all about change. The last president of J.C. Penney’s Pittsburgh-based unit, Thrift Drug, Hannan moved to Eckerd Corporation’s Clearwater, Florida, headquarters when J.C. Penney acquired the chain and merged Thrift into it in 1997. He retired from his vice chairman’s position at Eckerd in 1998, before taking over at NACDS.

His successful career turned out to be quite unlike his original intentions. An avid sports enthusiast, he coached soccer, track, gymnastics, and wrestling after graduating from Slippery Rock University and started off in a teaching career in 1961. He is an “Outstanding American” inductee into the College Wrestling Hall of Fame, and wears a Super Bowl-size ring to commemorate the occasion.

Hannan began his pharmacy career in 1966, working his way up through the ranks at Thrift Drug until becoming president and chief executive officer in 1997. He was named “Retailer of the Year” in 1995 by *Chain Drug Review*, and received the Retail Drug Institute Man of the Year Award in 1997 and the *Chain Drug Review* Lifetime Achievement Award in 1999.



Robert W. Hannan and Dean Juhl with Pharmacy Week Co-chairs Gina Carbonara (P2) and Josh Fredell (P2).

Students of Pharmacy. “We have 6,000 pharmacist positions open. That’s good news for you folks—close to a seven percent vacancy rate with jobs open at 20 percent of the chain drug units today.”

Hannan went on to describe the tremen-

sweeping consolidation since the beginning of the 1990s. In the last decade, 44 chains—with names like Revco, Peoples, and Thrift—disappeared. In their place now are many grocery chains that operate pharmacies. The number of grocery chains in the NACDS went

### New Internships Result from School—U.S. Government Collaboration

Beginning in the fall, pharmacy students can opt for the experiential learning offered by four internships newly established with the U.S. Public Health Service Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). U.S. Public Health Service Chief Pharmacist Officer Rear Admiral Fred Paavlova, RPh, FAPhA, signed the internships into effect at a Dec. 13 presentation and ceremony on campus. Dean Randy P. Juhl, Senior Vice Chancellor for the Health Sciences Arthur Levine, and Instructor Scott R. Drab, Coordinator of Experiential Learning for the pharmacy school, also signed the documents.



Rear Admiral Fred Paavlova, chief pharmacist officer for the U.S. Public Health Service, center, signs the Experiential Learning Affiliation Agreements with Dean Randy Juhl (left) and Senior Vice Chancellor for the Health Sciences Arthur Levine (right).

Now, in addition to the many rotation options already in place for upper level PharmD candidates, explains Drab, students may choose to complete internships at the CDC's National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion. Rotation options scheduled for fall availability are Office on Smoking and

Health, Division of Adolescent and School Health, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, and Division of Oral Health. Interns will be exposed to agency-specific research, practice, procedures, and policy. They will gain an understanding of the scope of a division's work and its interrelationships with governmental agencies and the public.

Doctoral candidates complete seven, four-week field rotations. "The last year of the PharmD curriculum is all internships," says Drab. Diverse experiential learning increases the education value of a student's experience. "Our goal is to provide a broad base, to prepare students for practice anywhere in the field," he adds.

### Center for Education and Drug Abuse Research Moves to School of Pharmacy

Having moved from the School of Medicine to the School of Pharmacy, the Center for Education and Drug Abuse Research (CEDAR) is continuing its 20-year investigation of the biological, behavioral, and contextual factors that predispose children to drug addiction. CEDAR, which officially transferred Jan. 1 from the Department of Psychiatry to the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, is an interdisciplinary consortium of the University of Pittsburgh and St. Francis Medical Center, funded since 1990 by the National Institute on Drug Abuse. CEDAR researchers are engaged in monitoring 1,000 families over a period of 20 years in a broad-based effort to identify how substance abuse develops between late childhood and age 30. With 700 families enrolled, it is the largest longitudinal study in the research field of drug addiction. During the 12 years it has been in operation, CEDAR faculty have published 250 scientific papers on findings that point to causes and correlates of drug abuse.

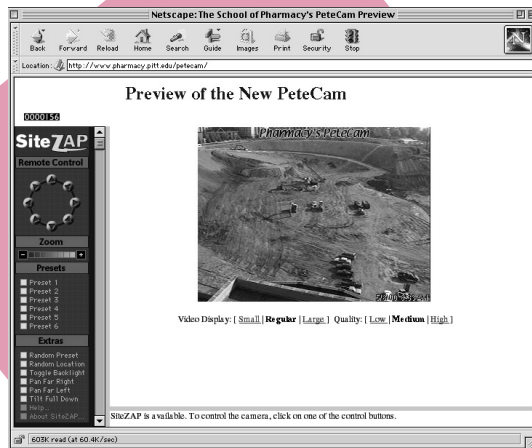
"We're trying to find out the causes and developmental pathways leading to substance abuse," says CEDAR Director Ralph Tarter,

PhD. "Hopefully we'll be able to identify children at 8, 9, and 10 years of age who are at risk for developing substance abuse problems, and to use these findings to target prevention to high-risk children."

CEDAR is looking for more families to participate in the paid study. Interested parties may contact CEDAR at St. Francis Hospital, at (412) 622-6174.

### Best Seat in the House

For the best view of minute-by-minute construction of the John M. and Gertrude E. Petersen Events Center (on the former site of Pitt Stadium), just make the long climb to the top of Salk Hall. Or not! Thanks to School of Pharmacy Webmaster Thomas Waters, you can get the same view simply by visiting the "PeteCam" on the School's Web site, [www.pharmacy.pitt.edu/petecam](http://www.pharmacy.pitt.edu/petecam). The PeteCam displays live, real time coverage of the construction, allowing visitors to zoom in and out as well as pan left and right.



On its "History of Pitt Stadium" link, PeteCam (formerly called StadiumCam) documents the last days of a University icon steeped in tradition and held dear in the memories of alumni. Check out PeteCam's chat room and guest book to see what alumni, faculty, and others have to say about the "old girl." Or send someone a virtual StadiumCard.

The John M. and Gertrude E. Petersen Events Center will house a 12,500-seat basketball arena, a private basketball practice complex, restaurants, a fitness center, and student-athlete study space. The ten-acre former stadium site will also contain new green space and student housing.

# Annual Career Roundtable

In February, students took advantage of a great opportunity to discuss a wide range of career choices with successful pharmacy alumni when the School of Pharmacy Alumni Society held its Seventh Annual Career Roundtable in Salk Hall. Alumni spoke to small groups or one-on-one with students, sharing the valuable experience and insight gained in professional fields ranging from community and hospital pharmacy to research, business, and government service. The following is a list of presenters, their places of employment, and the career areas they discussed.

## CHAIN PHARMACY MANAGEMENT

Kathy Bartony '76  
*Eckerd*  
Anne Katz '81  
*CVS*

## CLINICAL PHARMACY

Charles Fetrow '89  
*St. Francis Medical Center*  
Jill Slimick-Ponzetto '92, '96  
*VAPHS*

## DISEASE MANAGEMENT

Raymond Stierer '79  
*Interactive Information*

## HOME CARE

Nikki Hudak '95  
Julie Zitcovich '96  
*Gentiva Health Services*

## HOSPITAL PHARMACY LONG-TERM CARE

William Crossey '76  
Carrie Tihanovich '91  
*H.J. Heinz Progressive Care Center/  
VA Medical Center*

## HOSPITAL PHARMACY MANAGEMENT

James Curcio '73  
*VAPHS*  
Rose Grealish '71  
*H.J. Heinz Progressive Care Center/  
VA Medical Center*



## INTERNET PHARMACY

Mary Beth Habuda '95  
*Rite Aid Corporation*  
Larry Hruska '73  
*Rx.com Inc.*

## LAW

Michael Danek '94  
*VAPHS*  
Henry Casale '79  
*Horty Springer & Mattern PC*

## MAIL ORDER/ MANAGED CARE

Lawrence Bursick '82  
*Stadtlander Operating Co. LLC*  
Jeff Fink '95  
*Merck Medco*

## PHARMACY EDUCATION

Alka Somani  
*School of Pharmacy*  
Margaret Zak '87  
*School of Pharmacy*

## PHARMACY MANAGEMENT

Paul Ferraro '86  
*Pitt Student Health Services*  
Steven Wolf '94  
*Stadtlander Operating Co.  
LLC*

## RESEARCH

Rae Ann Maxwell '87, '97  
*WPIC*  
William Zamboni '92, '94  
*School of Pharmacy*

## INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY PHARMACY

Ronald Franck '75  
*Avalon Pharmacy*  
Richard Lithgow '50  
*School of Pharmacy, Phil's Pharmacy*

## INDUSTRY/SALES

Lisa Tate-Davinsizer '92  
*Glaxo Wellcome*  
Jon J. Vlasnik '92  
*Pfizer Inc.*

To volunteer for 2001  
Career Roundtable, contact:

**Laraine Kuchma**  
**Administrative Assistant**  
**School of Pharmacy**  
**Alumni Society**

(412) 648-3304

E-mail:

[kuchmalm@msx.upmc.edu](mailto:kuchmalm@msx.upmc.edu)

# Scholarships

## SCHOOL OF PHARMACY 1999-2000

For the 1999-2000 academic year, 98 pharmacy students received \$156,000 in scholarships provided by the School of Pharmacy, alumni, and friends. Scholarships are greatly appreciated and help with the costs of tuition, books, and supplies. In addition to their monetary value, scholarships provide students with much deserved recognition for their hard work and academic achievements. We thank the many donors who made these scholarships possible.

### **ALBERT J. BAUER, JR. MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Laura Shaffer  
Melissa Thompson

### **ALUMNI SOCIETY BOARD SCHOLARSHIP**

Billie-Jo Kiskadden

### **MICHAEL ASHMORE/MEDICINE SHOPPE SCHOLARSHIP**

Nicole DeAugustine

### **DON BELL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Michele Vichr

### **LOUIS BISCHOFF AND MARY V. BISCHOFF SCHOLARSHIP**

Scott Borkenhagen  
Jonna Burger  
Scott Groner  
Iny Marks  
Kristen Mitchem  
Timothy Rhinehart  
Craig Sproul  
Cathy Stevenson  
Jennifer Uphold  
Ha Vu  
Christopher Wheeler

### **WILLIAM L. BLOCKSTEIN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Eric Laslo

### **FRANK MILLER COAD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Brandon Baker  
Sara Bristol  
Jessica Fegley

### **JOHN P. AND CONSTANCE A. CURRAN PHARMACY SCHOLARSHIP**

Camille Stuart



*Dean Randy Juhl with John MS '68, PhD '71 and Connie Curran and the first John P. and Constance A. Curran Pharmacy Scholarship recipient, Camille Stuart (P2).*

### **CVS SCHOLARSHIP**

James Coons  
Matthew Hruska  
Gennifer Miller  
Karen Ott  
Jaime White



*The 1999-2000 CVS Scholarship recipients enjoy a dinner hosted by CVS Corp., which donated \$5,000 for scholarships this year. Back row (l-r): CVS/pharmacy Human Resources Manager Mick Calli, Dean Randy Juhl, James Coons (P3). Front row: CVS Pharmacy Human Resources Manager Howard Garrett, Matt Hruska (P4), Karen Ott (P4), Gennifer Miller (P4), and Jaime White (P3).*

### **DARBAKER SCHOLARSHIP**

Clare Gustin  
Thuy Tang  
Laurette Wong

### **ECKERD SCHOLARSHIP**

Jennifer Cain  
Cassandra Cooper  
Barbara Hill  
Eric Laslo  
Lynn Messick  
Nguyen Nguyen

### **RONALD S. GETZ MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Rebecca Shaefer  
Cristen Smithmyer



*Cristen Smithmyer (P2), one of two winners of the Ronald S. Getz Memorial Scholarship, joins Dean Randy Juhl, Robert Muckow (far left) and Ronald Marino, who organize an annual golf outing to raise money for the scholarship. Not pictured: Rebecca Shaefer (P4)*

### **WILLIAM W. GOODE, SR. MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Terri Hamilton

### **REUBEN HELFANT PHARMACEUTICAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Daisha Ellis  
Michelle Gremani-Helt

### **PHILIP HOFFMAN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Scott Mong

### **SCOTT HORTON MEMORIAL (RITE AID) SCHOLARSHIP**

Mohamed Daaboul  
Sarah Middleton

### **HOWARD W. JEFFREYS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Gregor Bender  
Terri Mele  
Albert Morgan



**EVELYN AND MILTON JUDD SCHOLARSHIP**

Marysue Grassinger

**RALPH R. KARTUB "MR. RALPH" SCHOLARSHIP**

Nikki Schneider

**JAMA URBANSKI KEY MEMORIAL (GIANT EAGLE) SCHOLARSHIP**

Karen Clawson

**THE KLINGENSMITH SCHOLARSHIP**

John Agyemang  
Katrina Diehl  
Rebecca Godesky  
Amy Ream  
Stephanie Stichert

**JOSEPH KOSLOW SCHOLARSHIP**

Lance Barber  
Natalie Ciliberto  
Carmen Demian  
Paula Hyskell  
Lindsay Pell  
Amy Smulski

**MAURICE MERVIS SCHOLARSHIP**

Marysue Grassinger  
Amy Hopkins  
Tarey Keast

**DANIEL T. MOSSE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Cassandra Cooper

**ORGANON SCHOLARSHIP**

Debra Davis  
Tarey Keast  
Billie-Jo Kiskadden  
Michele Vichr



*Warren Czerniak, director of business development for Organon Inc., presents Dean Juhl with his company's \$25,000 commitment for student scholarships.*

**PENNSYLVANIA CHAIN DRUG ENDOWMENT FUND FOR THE SCHOOL OF PHARMACY**

Melissa Baranko  
Simone Blackman  
Jessica Fegley  
Barbara Hill  
Holly Lingenfelter  
Denise Mervis  
Gennifer Miller  
Nguyen Nguyen  
Thang Nguyen  
Karen Ott  
Rosemarie Stanavitch  
Tu Tran  
Mark Weese

**PHARMACISTS MUTUAL COMPANIES**

Cassandra Cooper

**PHAR-MOR SCHOLARSHIP**

Matthew Hruska

**SCHOOL OF PHARMACY SCHOLARSHIP**

Scott Borkenhager  
Annette Boscan  
Natalie Boulos  
Elias Boulos  
Jonna Burger  
Courtney Cable  
Jennifer Cain  
Lisa Campbell  
Deanna Candek  
Mohamad Daaboul  
Erika Felix  
Joseph Fisher  
Patricia Gelatko  
Marianne Gilbert  
Marysue Grassinger  
Clare Gustin  
Thuy Hoang  
Amy Hopkins  
Brien Kemmery  
Jesse Koehler  
Shane Lorenzo  
Iny Marks  
Kevin McCaffrey  
Lynn Messick  
Kristen Mitchem  
Melissa Mooers  
Hong-Diep Nguyen  
Hanh Nguyen  
Luat Phan  
Amy Ream  
Timothy Rhinehart  
Adam Rice

Nikki Schneider  
Jessica Sheasley  
Craig Sproul  
Cathy Stevenson  
Melissa Thompson  
Jennifer Uphold  
Ha Vu  
Christopher Wheeler  
Jaime White  
Gina Zurick

**RITE AID SCHOLARSHIP**

Annette Boscan  
Sarah Middleton  
Melissa Mooers  
Stephen Ruenroeng  
Jessica Sheasley



*Rite Aid Director of College and Professional Recruitment Michele Belsey meets with Rite Aid and Scott Horton Memorial Scholarship recipients for 1999-2000. Rite Aid Corp. donated \$5,000 to the School of Pharmacy for the scholarships this year. Pictured from left to right: Jessica Sheasley (P3), Annette Boscan (P3), Melissa Mooers (P3), Sarah Middleton (P3), Michele Belsey, and Dean Randy Juhl.*

**J. HOWARD SEMPLE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Elias Boulos  
Lisa Campbell  
John Cargioli  
Mark Fulton  
Scott Mong  
Hanh Nguyen  
Jeanette Rock  
Juliann Sandy  
Stacey Shaffer

**ARDELLA V. SIDEHAMER AND CHARLES**

**J. SIDEHAMER SCHOLARSHIP**

Luat Phan  
Stephen Ruenroeng

## School of Pharmacy Scholarships

Continued from page 13

### THE ROBERT C. SMITH SCHOLARSHIP FOR MINORITY STUDENTS IN PHARMACY

Terri Hamilton

### CARL AND VIRGINIA STOEHR MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

James Coons

### WALGREENS SCHOLARSHIP

Deanna Candek

Joseph Fisher

Thuy Hoang

Hong-Diep Nguyen

Gina Zurick



Walgreens pharmacy supervisors Ed Destefano (left) and Paul Chan (center) presented a \$20,000 gift for the Pharmaceutical Care Learning Center (PCLC) to Dean Juhl.

### LOUIS WEINBERGER ENDOWED FUND

Melissa Baranko

Simone Blackman

Natalie Boulos

Courtney Cable

Amy Hopkins

Kevin McCaffrey

Adam Rice

# Student

## NEWS

**Michelle Allen (P3)** is the Pennsylvania Society of Health-System Pharmacists Student Award recipient for 2000. Allen recently completed an internship with the National Association of Chain Drug Stores at its headquarters in Alexandria, Virginia. She is one of two people chosen to be student delegates at the annual ASHP meeting this summer in Philadelphia.

**Sarah Middleton (P3)** competed against PharmD and medical students to win one of nine \$4,000 Merck/AFAR Research Scholarships for Medical and Pharmacy Students in Geriatric Pharmacology. The Merck Company Foundation and the American Federation for Aging Research created these scholarships in hopes of developing a corps of physicians and pharmacists with an understanding of medication use in the elderly. The scholarship

allows Middleton to undertake a two- to three-month full-time research project in geriatric pharmacology.

**Bernie Komoroski (P4)** received a Rho Chi-Schering-Plough-AFPE First-Year Graduate Scholarship, a cash award of \$7,500. He accepted his award at the annual Rho Chi meeting luncheon on March 19, which was held in conjunction with the APhA meeting at the Hyatt Hotel in Washington, D.C.

Pitt's chapter of the American Pharmaceutical Association of Students of Pharmacy (APhA-ASP) took first place in their region for the 2000 Operation Immunization project. Designed and implemented by students, the goal of this campaign is to increase community awareness about immunization and the pharmacist's role in immunization.

*P1 through P4 indicates the student's year in the four-year PharmD program.*

### A Tribute to Discovery

Continued from page 5

surrounding it. "It was a time before large, government-funded research," Salk told the audience. "A time of scrap drives, victory gardens and savings bonds programs in schools." Having fought World War II to save the world for the children, said Salk, "The world focused on the war to conquer polio, fought in hospitals, in the labs of scientists all over the world, and in the streets where mothers marched to collect nickels, dimes and dollars."

Salk credited the entire team of researchers and the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, as well as the nearly two million children who participated in the 1954 trial and their parents, for their roles in the development of the vaccine. "I want to make sure that this mural is not some kind of homage to Jonas Salk," he said, "although my father's drive and ambition were central to the event. What was important to my father was the scientific impact of using a

killed virus to produce immunity and the human impact of the vaccine."

Bill and Marg Kennedy received the vaccine while Bill was attending the School of Pharmacy and doing a practicum at the Pittsburgh Municipal Hospital. At that time, Jonas Salk's team did their work in the basement and on the fourth and fifth floors. Bill Kennedy said he was "nosey" and felt the need to "keep in touch with what was happening" with the vaccine research. "I always thought it was great to rub shoulders with someone whom I considered to be the man of the century," he said in reference to Jonas Salk. "So when Dean Juhl asked if I'd participate in funding the display, I said 'you betcha!'"

Said Chancellor Nordenberg of the exhibit, one of the University's latest permanent installations: "It will forever remind us that research—the kind that dramatically touches our lives and the lives of those we care about—will always remain one of the greatest missions of the University."

# Faculty

## NEWS

**Kim R. Coley, '87, PharmD**, newly-promoted associate professor, Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics, has been appointed to the editorial advisory board of the *Journal of the American Pharmaceutical Association*.

**Michael DeYoung, PhD**, assistant professor, Pharmaceutical Sciences Department, was one of 22 faculty attendees in the 2nd Annual Nonprescription Medicines Academy sponsored by Procter & Gamble, Sept. 16-18, in Cincinnati. DeYoung came to the University of Pittsburgh in 1998 from the University of Toledo School of Pharmacy. He earned his MS at Purdue University and PhD at the University of Minnesota School of Pharmacy, where he specialized in pharmaceutical care and social and administrative sciences.

Assistant Professor **Mary M. Hess, PharmD**, Instructor **Joanne G. Kowiatek, MPM '77**, Assistant Professor **Susan J. Skledar, MPH**, Assistant Professor **Margaret M. Verrico**, and Instructor **Chuck Ward**, all of the Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics, were award winners in the UPMC Presbyterian President's Performance Improvement Team Quality Programs in February.

**Edward P. Krenzelok, PharmD**, professor, Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics and immediate past president of the American Academy of Clinical Toxicology, was named the Louis Roche Lecturer by the European Association of Poison Control Centres and Clinical Toxicologists. The title is the highest honor bestowed by this group.

**John C. Lowe, MBA**, assistant professor, Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics, and a pharmacist and site manager for the Pittsburgh Veteran's Affairs University Drive

facility, was named acting director of the three-hospital VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System in February. The VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System includes facilities in Oakland and Aspinwall, and the VA psychiatric hospital in East Liberty. Lowe will oversee the \$216 million operation until a permanent director is chosen after a national search. Formerly director of pharmacy for the VA University Drive division, Lowe has been with the VA for 26 years—all but six of them in Pittsburgh.

**Michael J. Romano**, assistant professor, Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics, will serve as a member of the Pennsylvania State Board of Pharmacy from June 1999 through June 2005. Romano is a member of the Hospital Association of America Committee on Quality Management.

**Amy Seybert, PharmD**, assistant professor, Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics, is the faculty delegate to the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy.

**Jennifer A. Stoffel, PharmD**, assistant professor, Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics, has been appointed to the public and professional relations committee for the American College of Clinical Pharmacy.

**James Tijon, PharmD**, assistant professor, Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics, is a member of the American College of Clinical Pharmacy Outcomes and Economics PRN Group.

### Students Select Vollmer as Teacher of the Year

**Regis Vollmer, PhD**, says experience has made him a better teacher—and students agree.

A professor of pharmacy sciences, Vollmer received this year's Teacher of the Year Award from the School of Pharmacy leadership group Phi Lambda Sigma.

It's the first time Vollmer has received this particular award; he accepted the School of Pharmacy's Hygeia Award for teaching in 1986. Students who voted had Vollmer either for anatomy and physiology or cardiology, he said. His major research and teaching interest is cardiovascular pharmacology, which is also a popular student subject.

"They really warm up to it because cardiovascular disease is so prevalent," he said. Reading up on advances in the field and years of collecting stories from friends working in research and industry help Vollmer add new twists to his curriculum.

"Students really want practical information. They are in their fourth year of college and have most of the basic science stuff done," he said.

A Pittsburgh native, Vollmer earned a bachelor's degree from St. Vincent College in Latrobe. His graduate work at Pitt was interrupted by the Vietnam War—during which Vollmer served as an instructor in the U.S. Army Chemical Corps in California, Vietnam, and Colorado. He later earned a PhD from the University of Houston, and worked as a research investigator for Squibb Institute for Medical Research in Princeton, New Jersey, before accepting an academic appointment at Pitt in 1977.

# Alumni Transcripts

## 1950s

**John C. Ohl '51** of Allen Park, Michigan, is retired but works on a contract basis with a RPh agency that caters to a hospital environment. John and his wife, Audrey, have been married for 47 years and have three grandchildren, Amber, Jennifer, and Joshua. John is active with TPN and IV therapy as outpatient therapy.

## 1960s

**John Fris '68** received the Joe E. Smith Award from the Pennsylvania Society of Health-System Pharmacists for his dedication to patient care activities and high standards of work performance. The director of pharmacy services for Ebensburg (Pennsylvania) Center, Fris has worked with the developmentally challenged for 21 years, emphasizing pharmacist intervention in psychiatry, neurology, and pain prevention. In 1997, Fris received board certification in psychiatric pharmacy, becoming one of only 288 pharmacists in the United States and one of three in Pennsylvania to attain that status.

## 1970s

**Mary H. Andritz '73** of Hannacroix, New York, is dean of Albany College of Pharmacy.



*Mary H. Andritz*

She served as assistant dean of professional affairs at the college from January 1999 until her appointment as dean last December. Previously a faculty member in the college's pharmacy practice department, she had been executive director for the New York State Council of Health System Pharmacists, and served as clinical pharmacy supervisor at the Stratton Department of Veteran's Affairs Medical Center. She holds a Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the State University of New York at Buffalo.

**Barbara Martinelli '75** of Pittsburgh received a Doctor of Pharmacy degree from Duquesne University in 1999. She is a board-certified nutrition support pharmacist practicing at St. Francis Medical Center, Pittsburgh. She earned an MBA at Pitt's Katz Graduate School of Business in 1992.

**Cheryl Ann Palmer '78** of Leeds, Alabama, is a physician and a tenured associate professor at the University of Alabama at Birmingham Division of Neuropathology. Board-certified in neurology and neuropathology, Cheryl received her MD from West Virginia University in 1986 and completed postdoctoral training at the University of Utah. She has been on the faculty of the University of Alabama at Birmingham since 1993.

## 1980s

**Robert T. Lucas '80, MHA '86, FACHE** of Russell, Kentucky, is a fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives, an international professional society with nearly 30,000 members. Bob is director of business development at King's Daughters Medical Center in Ashland, Kentucky. He spent ten years in pharmacy practice before attending Pitt's Graduate School of Public Health and seven years since in the field of health care administration.

Brownsville, Pennsylvania, community pharmacist and Medicine Shoppe franchisee **Michael Ashmore, '81, PharmD** received the Medicine Shoppe International's Pinnacle Club Award for outstanding business achievement at a September dinner in his honor at Nemacolin Woodlands resort in Farmington, Pennsylvania. As part of the award, Medicine Shoppe donated a \$2,500 scholarship in Ashmore's name to the School of Pharmacy. The scholarship focuses on students who show a flair for community pharmacy or community-oriented extracurricular activities and who have financial need. In addition to making the scholarship possible, Ashmore contributes his

### "MY FAVORITE PHARMACIST" IS MARK OCZYPOK

Customers sure do think highly of pharmacist **Mark Oczypok '82**. One even wrote an essay to that effect. As a result, Oczypok was one of 29 CVS pharmacists who won the 1999 "My Favorite Pharmacist" Contest cosponsored by CVS Corp. and McNeil Consumer Healthcare. As part of



*Mark Oczypok, CVS Regional Healthcare Manager Mike Molinaro, Rhonda Oczypok, and District Sales Manager Paul Samolovitch*

Oczypok's award, the cosponsors donated a \$1,000 scholarship to the School of Pharmacy on his behalf. Oczypok, of the Baldwin, Pennsylvania, area CVS/pharmacy, doesn't know what his customer wrote about him exactly, but he is still very happy to display the plaque he received in the pharmacy. "It's nice to be recognized," he says. "And it's great that Pitt was able to gain something from it."

Oczypok's regional sales manager, **Brian Bosnick '83**, was quite pleased with Oczypok's award—he sent Oczypok and his wife, **Rhonda Simmon Oczypok '82**, who is also a CVS/pharmacist, to dinner and told them to send him the bill.

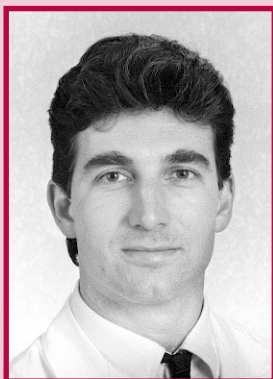
Mark and Rhonda live in Pleasant Hills, Pennsylvania, with their two children, Christopher and Sara.



time and expertise to the School of Pharmacy as a preceptor, helping to train future pharmacists.

Last September, **Melanie Zychal Zimmerman '87**, of Lebanon, Pennsylvania, became executive secretary for the Pennsylvania State Board of Pharmacy.

**Charles "Chip" Fetrow '89**, of Pittsburgh, co-authored with Juan Avila, a clinician's guide for counseling patients on herbal medicines. *The Professional Handbook of Complementary and Alternative Medicines*, published by Springhouse, is an authoritative, fact-based handbook and reference listing more than 300 herbal medicines and the



Charles "Chip" Fetrow

reasons people use each herb, as well as common doses, interactions and side effects. The book includes recent research about each herb and an extensive list of herbal agent resources.

Chip also co-authored a version of the book for consumers called *The Complete Guide to Herbal Medicines*, also published by Springhouse. Chip is a pharmacist and the coordinator of the Pharmacokinetic Dosing Service at St. Francis Medical Center. He is an adjunct assistant professor in the Pharmacy School's Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and a member of the School of Pharmacy Alumni Board.

## 1990s

**Brien K. Warshel '91** and his wife, Kelly, returned to their hometown of Johnstown, Pennsylvania, where they purchased an independent pharmacy, Union Prescription Center, and renamed it Johnstown Pharmacy. Kelly is a medical internist and practices near the pharmacy. Brien's e-mail address: warshRx@cs.com

**Marci A. Kropff '98** is a Medicis safe medication management fellow at the Institute for Safe Medication Practices, a non-profit organization in Huntingdon Valley, Pennsylvania. The institute reviews medication errors

## A PHARMACY LEGACY



Rebecca Lee Shaefer

This spring, **Rebecca Lee Shaefer '00** graduated in the School of Pharmacy's first PharmD class and began practice as a staff pharmacist at Altoona (Pennsylvania) Hospital. The third in the Shaefer family to graduate from the School of Pharmacy, she had received a Ronald S. Getz Memorial Scholarship for Spring Term 2000.

Things are somewhat different for Rebecca, as a young pharmacist beginning her career in Altoona, than they were for the members of her family who preceded her as pharmacy school grads.

In 1937, Rebecca's grandfather, **Virgil P. Shaefer '23** opened Physicians Pharmacy in Altoona. He operated his pharmacy/physician's supply/patient home care business in the midst of what was then avenue after avenue of physicians' offices, just a few blocks from the Pennsylvania Rail Road main line. Virgil's son (and Rebecca's father), **Frederic V. Shaefer '57**, assisted Virgil from the time he was tall enough to reach the cash register. Even though



Frederic V. Shaefer

Frederic was too little to drive the family's station wagon on deliveries, he'd deliver many packages on foot to physicians' offices, stopping from time to time when a train whistle blew to run and take photos of the steam locomotives as they roared through town. When Frederic graduated from the pharmacy school in 1957, he joined his father in practice until Virgil retired in 1969 and the pharmacy closed. Frederic joined the staff of Dick's Pharmacy in Altoona. He eventually retired to apply himself full time to his vocation of preserving the history of the Pennsylvania Rail Road and the steam engine.

Rebecca has become the current Altoona Shaefer pharmacist, although she'll follow a different path than her community pharmacist father and grandfather. Rebecca aims to become a clinical pharmacist, having developed an affinity for the physician-patient-clinical pharmacist interaction during three summer internships at Altoona Hospital.



Virgil P. Shaefer

## FOUR SHINE AT ALUMNI DAY '99

Exemplifying several versions of the bright future awaiting School of Pharmacy graduates, four successful alumni visited classrooms during Homecoming 1999 Alumni Day, Oct. 1, to discuss their career paths and areas of expertise with students and faculty.

**Monica Martyak '95, MBA/MHA '99** visited Mike Zemaitis' Principles of Drug Action class. Monica is responsible for the marketing of new products as an assistant product director for McNeil Consumer Healthcare, a Johnson and Johnson company based in Fort Washington, Pennsylvania. **Michele Peterson '91**, director of pharmacy for OptionCare, a home healthcare company specializing in infusion therapy, spoke with Rege Vollmer's cardiology class. A businessman, entrepreneur and pharmacist who owned pharmacies in Grove City, Pennsylvania, for more than 20 years, **Rodger Lindh '62**, president of Forta Corporation, joined Joe Knapp's immunology class. **Rich Kruzynski '77**, vice president and general manager of Baxter Healthcare Corporation I.V. Systems Division, and recipient of the 1999 School of Pharmacy Distinguished Alumni Award, talked with Terry Schwinghammer's Profession of Pharmacy 3 class.

submitted to the National Medication Errors Reporting Program, operated by the U.S. Pharmacopial (USP) Convention Inc. of Rockville, Maryland, in cooperation with the institute. The institute also reports on progress made in correcting medication errors and problems.

**Tanya J. Fabian, PharmD '98** and current PhD student in the School of Pharmacy, was granted a fellowship effective May 1 in the two-year program, Clinical Research Training in Geriatric Psychiatry at Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic/UPMC Health System.



# In Memoriam

**Samuel Lebovitz '26**

**William M. Fraser '32**

**Page D. Myers '34**

**Peter John Silvester '38**

**John Stanley McAleer '36**

**Agnes P. Wajert Zagula '44**

**James H. Ritchie '49**

**John J. "Jack" Stoehr '49**

**Lloyd M. Whitman '49**

**Theresa Wajert Wurdack '49**

**Francis A. Koslow '58**

**Gary Gelsthrope '65**

**David Britton Conrad '85**

**Isadore Zinman '26**, of Swissvale, Pa., owner of Zinn Pharmacy in Swissvale from 1935 to 1979, died Nov. 23, 1999 at the age of 98. Born in 1901 in the Ukraine, Zinman emigrated to Pittsburgh in 1911, graduated from Fifth Avenue High School in Pittsburgh's Hill District, completed pre-med classes at the University of Pittsburgh and graduated from the School of Pharmacy. A community pharmacist for more than 30 years, Zinman also performed community service as diverse as traveling to the airport to greet Russian emigres and delivering Meals on Wheels. His enthusiasm in helping others earned him praise from many, including the Rodef Shalom Brotherhood, who described Zinman as "a generous and humble man who radiates goodness and does mitzvah [good deeds]." Zinman maintained a lifelong passion for the violin. He played with the Carnegie Tech Community Orchestra, the Tuesday Musical Chamber Orchestra and the Jewish Community Center Orchestra. Zinman is survived by his wife, Ruth Renner Zinman, three children, a stepdaughter, and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

**Donna Smail MacNeil '90**, died Oct. 18, 1999, at the age of 31. After graduation, she went to work as a retail pharmacist at Revco/ CVS. Diagnosed with breast cancer in 1993, she fought a long and courageous battle, often working while she received treatment. MacNeil is survived by her husband and family. She is sadly missed by her friends.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING

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

Name:

Degree and Year of Graduation:

E-mail Address:

Home Address:

Home Telephone:

Business Address:

Business Telephone:

Position(s):

News:

Please complete and return to:

### Pharmacy Alumni News

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## Pharmacy Alumni Society

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Michelle Champion '00

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Lisa Davinsizer '92

Paul Ferraro '86, KGSB '97

Charles Fetrow '89

Tim Gregorius '85

Monica Martyak '95

Nikki Rebich '90, KGSB '94

Ann Toth Salemi '90

Jill Slimick-Ponzetto '92, '96

Ray Stierer '79

Dennis Taylor '81

Janet Traynor '87, '95

Marcia Ungerman '80

Margaret Zak '87

### STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

Nicole DeAugustine (P4)

Iny Marks (P3)

Rochelle Polk (P1)

Matt Scola (P2)

### EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

#### Dean

Randy P. Juhl

#### Associate Dean

Gary P. Stoehr '73

#### Assistant Dean

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