

University of Pittsburgh
School of Pharmacy



Pharmacy

Summer 2001

School of
Pharmacy
Breaks into

A L U M N I N E W S



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Pharmacy's Past
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On the cover: *Dr. Joseph Bianculli, dean, stands amongst the senior class at Lilly Research Laboratories, October, 1961.*

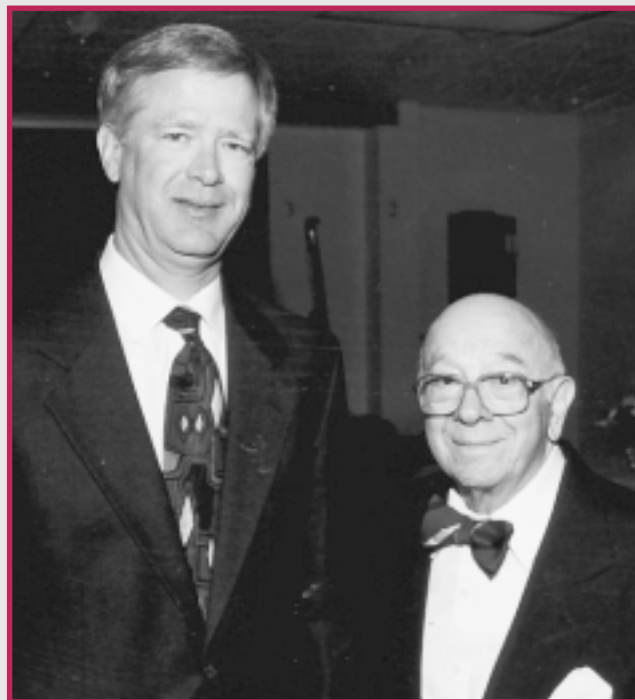
Remembering Dr. B

DEAN'S MESSAGE

The past year has been a notable one for the School in several respects—mostly happy, but one particularly sad occurrence, which I will come back to at length in a moment. On the positive front, as you will read elsewhere in the newsletter, our School is currently ranked seventh among schools of pharmacy in research funding by the National Institutes of Health. Given the progress we have made in the past few years in continually improving our teaching and clinical care programs, this accomplishment in the research arena is a tribute to the spirit and determination of our faculty and staff. Those who work here at your alma mater aspire to bring honor to our School just as countless classes of graduates have done over the past 123 years. We are all walking a little taller as a result of this recognition and invite you to take pride in the accomplishment as well.

Although we carry on with renewed energy and enthusiasm, our hearts have been a little heavy over the last few months. We lost a treasure—our beloved Dr. Bianculli.

Dr. B was a man with a well-developed sense of curiosity that led in many interesting directions. Although he will be remembered by most as a pharmacist and a teacher extraordinaire, a great portion of his life was consumed with his family and his many



Celebration of Dr. Bianculli's 50 years with the School of Pharmacy, January 20, 1998. Left to right: Dean Randy P. Juhl, PhD; and Dean Emeritus, Joseph A. Bianculli, PhD, School of Pharmacy Class of 1935.

interests outside the profession of pharmacy: he and his wife, Alice, loved the opera, he played the organ and the accordion, and he taught himself carpentry and then taught his sons. His cabin provided a base for his love of the outdoors, hunting, and fishing. I believe his strong family ties and his ability to actively cultivate diverse interests contributed a great deal to his professional success that we saw in the world of pharmacy.

During my tenure as the dean of the School of Pharmacy, I have spent many hours over the last 15 years listening to stories from the alumni about Dr. B—stories always told with a smile and much fondness.

Most of the anecdotes I have heard fall into two categories: 1) the man was the best teacher I ever had; and 2) after 20 years, he still remembers my name.

One of the requisites for being a good teacher is to be a good learner. One can readily see from his record that Dr. B was an ardent learner. He received three degrees from the University of Pittsburgh. He earned a BS in Chemistry in 1932, a BS in Pharmacy in 1935, and a PhD in Chemistry in 1941. And recall that his early years in college were during the Great Depression; a time when food, shelter, and clothing were in short supply and obtaining an education took some extra special dedication. After the war he spent a brief time in the pharmaceutical industry, but the teaching bug that he caught as a graduate student lured him back to the School of Pharmacy. He became an assistant professor of Pharmaceutical Chemistry on January 20, 1948. I should mention that intellectual curiosity about pharmacy is a trait that extended far into the Bianculli family—a total of seven Biancullis earned degrees from the School of Pharmacy: Joe, his four brothers, and two of his sons.

A love of learning, his willingness to work hard, and his love for students were all ingredients in the legend of Dr. B, “the best teacher I ever had.”

The other trait that I frequently witnessed and heard countless stories about was his ability to recall the names and life histories of former students. Typically it would start with an alum approaching him and saying, “Hello Dr. B you probably don’t remember me but I”

And Dr. B would cut him off and say, “Of course I remember you. You are Joe Jones. Weren’t you in the class of 1956 - I think that

was Joe Cippel’s class wasn’t it? Where are you working now?”

“I own my own store near Mt. Pleasant.”

“Is that the store that Larry Rehanek used to own? He was the class of 1928, you know, and he had a cousin” And on it would go.

I saw it happen often enough to know that it wasn’t luck, it was a gift that gave Dr. B a very special attachment to his former students—an attachment that people like me who have trouble remembering what they ate for breakfast can only envy and admire.

Dr. B also had a sly sense of humor. He was a keen observer of the human condition and found amusement in the chores of daily living. One of his favorite stories—I heard it more than once—was about a student. As good as Dr. B was, some students were just not cut out to be pharmacists, and it sometimes took a semester or two for this reality to become apparent. This incident involved such a student whose case was being discussed by the Academic Performance Committee. Dr. B, who was the dean at the time, was sitting in on the committee meeting while they were discussing this unfortunate student who had received four Fs and one D in the previous term. The chair of the committee, in an effort to be as charitable as possible, asked if the committee members had any helpful suggestions for this student. His query was met with blank stares until Dr. B finally broke the silence by saying, “Well, he apparently spent too much time on that one course.”

Conversely, if Dr. B saw potential in a student, he would get them to perform through a combination of fear, encouragement, and compassion. I have heard from more than one alum that they didn’t deserve the second chance that Dr. B gave them, but ultimately they took advantage of it and are grateful every

day for Dr. B and the good fortune that their Pitt pharmacy degree has brought them.

It isn’t uncommon for people to say good things about someone after they have died. However, I think it is telling that the kind words spoken about Dr. B at his passing were also showered upon him for many years before. At a typical pharmacy banquet or other alumni gathering for the past 20-some years, there was a routine. The emcee, in the middle of recognizing the various past presidents of the organization, distinguished alumni award winners, guests, and so on would turn to Dr. B’s table and say,

“... and we have a special guest in the audience tonight, Dean Emeritus Joseph Bianculli. Dr. B ...”

And the audience would spontaneously burst into applause. Dr. B would stand up—although somewhat grudgingly with the modesty that was his—and acknowledge the accolades. It was always genuine and, although he didn’t like a fuss to be made over him, I know it pleased him.

Along with his wife Alice, his sons Tom, Paul, Art, and their families, we share the sadness of his passing. They just don’t make them like him anymore. But we also share the joy that we reaped through our associations with him.

Isn’t it odd that someone who held the laws of chemistry and physics so precious would himself be the subject of an unexplainable physical phenomenon? Dr. B was taller than almost no one, but we all looked up to him.

'03 Hall Gets Its Place in Modern Times

SNAPSHOT FROM PHARMACY'S PAST

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. "A 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 on line by visiting the School of Pharmacy's Web page at <http://www.pharmacy.pitt.edu> and then clicking on "Alumni and Friends" then "Virtual Museum/Displays."

Pitt Pharmacy students didn't always take elevators to get to class. Before the School of Pharmacy moved to Scaife Hall in 1954, classes were held in a five-story Victorian mansion located on the Boulevard of the Allies in Oakland. Indeed it offered no elevators (and certainly no computers!), but the old school sure had a view. Perched on the bluff overlooking the Monongahela River, the manse offered the wayward pharmacy student a sweeping view of Pittsburgh's Southside or a bird's eye view of the railroad lines and steel yards lining the riverbank. And the old school possessed a certain charm, welcoming pharmacy students with a homey front porch.

However, once inside, students had to sit straight and fly right! Roll was taken daily by professors and absences duly noted. Central to operations inside the old school, and where many a roll was counted, was '03 Hall, the main lecture amphitheater where students attended classes in Chemistry, Biology, Botany, Pharmacology, and Pharmacognosy.

"The class of '03, or 'ought 3' as people liked to call it in those days, donated money to the old school to equip the lecture hall," says Dick Lithgow '50, special assistant to the dean for alumni affairs at Pitt's pharmacy school. Lithgow attended classes in the old school from 1946 to 1950. "The hall had wooden bench seats with armrest surfaces to write on and enormous chalkboards that professors loved to fill up with notes. The professor's desk at the front of the room was equipped with a

gas supply for demonstrating the properties of certain medicinals."

Recently, a plaque that had adorned '03 Hall was found in the current School of Pharmacy and is on display in the Elmer H. Grimm Sr. Pharmacy Museum in Salk Hall, says Lithgow, who is the museum's curator. Its discovery spurred plans to refurbish one of Salk Hall's existing 4th floor lecture rooms to become a modern-day '03 Hall. Those plans are underway, says Lithgow, and the room to be transformed has been designated.

Lithgow has fond memories of his time in 'ought 3' Hall when, dressed in the required shirt and tie, he occupied one of the alphabetically assigned seats. "I was always seated beside Louise Longwell," Lithgow notes. "A great bit of luck as there were only six women in my class of 100."

"Our first class of the day was Dr. John Wurdack's chemistry class," Lithgow recalls. Wurdack was head of the chemistry department in the old pharmacy school.

"I was always running late because I thumbed my way into school to save money," Lithgow says.

"One rainy morning, I was late, and there was an old, shaggy, wet dog on the front porch and the guys took pity on it and brought it in. They put the dog in my

seat and Dr. Wurdack, who wore these really thick glasses, began to take roll and everyone was snickering. But Wurdack never let on and when he got to the end of the roll, he looked at the dog and said, 'Lithgow, you're going to have to get up early enough in the morning to shave.' Well that just cracked everyone up. And of course I had no rejoinder. What can you say to something like that? It showed the old boy had a sense of humor!"

Pharmacy grads can be assured that '03 Hall (and all the memories it conjures up) will live on via its new incarnation, even though the building on the Boulevard of the Allies no longer stands. As for the dog who served as Lithgow's stand-in? "You know, I never knew what happened to him," says Lithgow.

Maybe he graduated!



Pharmacy Breaks into NIH Top 10

Over \$4 million in funding to Pitt's School of Pharmacy

Funding is an essential component in keeping any research-oriented field afloat. Not only is the money important to start and maintain projects, but the respect garnered from being a top receiving institution only invites more funding and increased, complex research, producing more exceptionally talented professionals.

The School of Pharmacy was recently ranked in the top 10 of schools and colleges of pharmacy that receive research funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Competition for NIH funding is stiff, requiring a rigorous peer review process, and to receive funds is viewed as a benchmark for a school's research program.

The School of Pharmacy ranked 7th this year, leaping from its position at 33rd in

1999, according to data compiled by the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy. This vault in ranking is unusual in NIH history, where top schools' rankings tend to change little.

"This is a highly significant jump," says Patricia Dowley Kroboth, PhD, professor and chair of pharmaceutical sciences and associate dean for faculty and academic planning. "We've been awarded this money for research excellence to fund specific research proposals."

The School of Pharmacy received more than \$4 million from NIH in 2000, taking in 8.11 percent of the funding in the top 10 schools. 1999 saw the school importing less than \$1million from NIH.

"To be placed in the same company as the leading schools of pharmacy is an endorsement of the excellent work being performed here," says Arthur S. Levine, MD, senior vice chancellor for health sciences.

One of the newest projects the School of Pharmacy has taken on is the creation of the Center for Pharmacogenetics to study the interface between drug response and genetics. The strengthening of the school's research programs in neuroendocrine psychopharmacology and drug and alcohol abuse, coupled with this new grant money, will push the school to the forefront of student and faculty recruitment.

"We have an elevated, new level of respect across the country because of this accomplishment," says Kroboth. "We will be able to attract new faculty, students, and professionals to take part in our program."

RANK	INSTITUTION	DIRECT COST
1	University of California (San Francisco)	\$12,801,861
2	University of Arizona	6,412,018
3	Purdue University	6,095,715
4	University of Illinois (at Chicago)	4,545,786
5	University of Utah	4,354,216
6	University of Kansas	4,312,489
7	University of Pittsburgh	4,271,214
8	University of Florida	3,811,310
9	University of Texas (at Austin)	3,079,645
10	Florida A & M University	2,995,558

An Advanced Degree in Pharmacy

Continued Success for MS & PhD Graduates



Dr. Regis Vollmer

There are plenty of advantages to earning an advanced pharmacy degree, and there are specific advantages to getting that degree at Pitt. One of the biggest is the program's small size, said Regis Vollmer, director of the graduate program in pharmaceutical sciences, chair of the graduate program committee, and a professor of pharmacy.

"We know every student and we know them well," says Vollmer, who has taught pharmacy at Pitt since 1977. Currently, approximately 30 full- and part-time students are working toward a master's or doctoral degree at the School.

Only five percent of applicants are accepted, Vollmer says—last year the School accepted six candidates out of 50 applicants.

Founded in the 1960s, the graduate program has evolved to offer three focus areas: molecular biology, pharmaceuticals/pharmacokinetics, and neuroscience.

"Science has changed, pharmacy has changed, and the program has adapted to all of the new technology. The curriculum is very different than it was in the 1960s. There have

been so many advances—now there is more emphasis on molecular biology and gene targeting," says Vollmer.

The demand for PhD graduates to work in academics, government, and industry is great, he says. Completed in five years, the PhD requires students to conduct and defend a unique piece of research. The degree is much different from a PharmD, a professional degree that leads to work in a clinical or community setting. As the pharmacy profession continues to change, the school has adapted to fill certain needs.

"One thing we've done really well is our Clinical Pharmaceutical Scientist Program—our clinical scientist track, where we take students with clinical health sciences degrees (primarily the PharmD) and turn them into clinical scientists," says Vollmer, who expects the graduate program to continue to grow in focus as the School has done. That means continued success for its graduates.

Salk Hall



Dr. Rolland Poust (BS '66, MS '68)

Rolland Poust PhD (MS '68, BS '66) is director of the Division of Pharmaceutical Service and a professor of pharmaceutics at the University of Iowa College of Pharmacy, a position he has held since 1991. He also works with companies and government agencies to develop pharmaceutical formulations and manufacturing products to be tested in clinical trials.

Poust was on Pitt's School of Pharmacy faculty from 1971 to 1979, and then took a position at Burroughs Wellcome, where he managed the preformulation and drug stability programs. He contributed to the development of a number of products currently on the market, including the AIDS treatment drug AZT (Retrovir). Poust, who earned a PhD from Purdue University, said he chose Pitt because of the School's reputation and the fact that his father had graduated from the School of Pharmacy in 1939.

Dr. R. Duane Sofia (PhD '71)

R. Duane Sofia (PhD '71) said Pitt was close to home for him and his wife, natives of Ellwood City and New Castle, respectively. But he also appreciated how the PhD program fit with his interest in the pharmaceutical industry. "At the time, most other grad programs in pharmacology in medical schools and pharmacy schools tended to shy away from the industry for idealistic reasons," he says.

Now the vice president of preclinical research for Wallace Laboratories in New Jersey, Sofia supervises the company's departments of pharmacology, toxicology, biochemistry, and developmental research. Sofia joined Wallace Laboratories in 1971 as a senior pharmacologist.

Dr. Gene Bush (BS '77, PhD '81)

As an undergraduate student at Pitt, Gene Bush (PhD '81, BS '77) became interested in work Dr. Regis Vollmer was doing on neuroendocrine control of cardiovascular function. That interest prompted the Pittsburgh native to stay and obtain his PhD, concentrating on cardiovascular pharmacology.

"The basic experience I got working with him and in the labs at Pitt were of critical importance to my career," said Bush, now the associate volwiler fellow at Abbott Laboratories in Chicago. He is currently doing research and development on metabolic diseases such as diabetes and obesity. Bush also spent 10 years at TAP Pharmaceuticals looking for agents to treat prostate cancer, and he is credited with helping to discover the prostate cancer treatment lupron.

Dr. Richard M. Lush (BS '87, PhD '94)

Interacting with faculty members at the School of Pharmacy prompted Richard M. Lush (PhD '94, BS '87) to consider graduate education. He chose to stay at Pitt, he said, because the program was unique. "Unlike other graduate programs, the issues of clinical trial design, conduct, and data analysis are emphasized throughout the program," he said.

Lush is currently director of Clinical Research at the H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute at the University of South Florida in Tampa. His advanced degree from Pitt, he said, prepared him for his career with a "very strong basis of clinical pharmacology and clinical research." Lush went on to complete a fellowship at the National Cancer Institute.

Dr. Diane Battisti (BS '81, '84, PhD '00)

After earning bachelor's degrees in biology and medical technology, Diane Battisti (PhD '00, BS '81, '84) worked at Pitt for 10 years as a lab researcher and director and started taking graduate courses at the School because of the available tuition benefits for employees.

"My education has prepared me to do many things. But more importantly, my education has provided me with the skills to teach myself how to do things that I do not now know how to do."

Battisti is principal scientist at Advanced Sterilization Products, a Johnson & Johnson company. Battisti accepted a position in Johnson & Johnson's Corporate Sterilization Sciences Group in 1995. She was responsible for developing new sterilization technologies, including one that was the focus of her dissertation on gaseous chlorine dioxide sterilization.

Distinguished Alumni Nominations Sought for 2002

The School of Pharmacy Alumni Society invites alumni to nominate a fellow alumnus for the 2002 School of Pharmacy's Distinguished Alumni Award. This award is presented annually to one or more alumni based on outstanding professional achievements. Over the years, the award has been given to alumni with a wide range of interests and accomplishments. Alumni can help carry on this tradition through their nominations, which will ensure that deserving alumni are recognized for their achievements.

The Alumni Society board members will make the final selection(s) based on several criteria, including contributions to the profession of pharmacy, professional recognition and awards, promotion of the pharmacy profession at the community and/or institutional level, and innovative discoveries in the field of pharmacy. Alumni will also be considered for their support of the school through service to the Alumni Society, student mentoring, and other activities.

The 2002 Distinguished Alumni Award(s) will be presented at the Eighth Annual Pharmacy Alumni Weekend, June 7-9, 2002. All nominations are due by Friday, August 31, 2001 for the 2002 award(s).

For more information on the award and its criteria, please contact Laraine Kuchma, alumni coordinator at (412) 648-3304, or kuchmalm@msx.upmc.edu or, to nominate someone, fill out the ballot on this page or visit our Web site at <http://www.pharmacy.pitt.edu>

NOMINATION FORM

NAME OF NOMINEE:

CLASS YEAR:

HOME ADDRESS:

REASON FOR NOMINATION:

(CONTINUE ON A SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY)

NAME OF NOMINATOR:

HOME ADDRESS:

PHONE NUMBER:

E-MAIL:

RETURN NOMINATIONS TO:

SCHOOL OF PHARMACY ALUMNI SOCIETY

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

1104 SALK HALL

PITTSBURGH, PA 15213-3405

FAX: (412) 648-1086

DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS IS AUGUST 31, 2001.

A Virtual Garden

Notable pharmacy alum nurtures online database of plants that heal, ease pain, or prevent illness.

For 30 years, Norm Farnsworth has toiled over a garden that will never bloom, yet which bears fruit every day. Farnsworth, research professor of pharmacognosy at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC), has taken his penchant for plants and natural products and branched out onto the World Wide Web. The garden he has rooted there is one of beneficial information, an online database cataloging the attributes of 75,000 species of plants that heal injury, ease pain, defeat disease, or otherwise promote health and wellness.

The NAPRALERT (NATural PRoducts ALERT) database contains 175,000 scientific abstracts from 1650 to the present, and is the only resource of its kind for pharmacists, physicians, researchers, and students. The database is routinely accessed by government agencies, pharmaceutical and herbal companies, small businesses, libraries, and non-profit organizations. In fact, anyone interested in natural products research may subscribe to NAPRALERT via the Internet. The World Health Organization Collaborating Centre for Traditional Medicine at UIC, directed by Farnsworth, maintains the database.

Farnsworth, who earned his PhD in pharmacognosy at the University of Pittsburgh in 1959, has a history of championing innovative approaches to pharmacognosy. He helped found the American Society of Pharmacognosy in the late '50s, and which now has more than 1,500 members whose interests are in the area of natural product research.

Before going to UIC, Farnsworth was chairman of the Department of Pharmacognosy at the University of Pittsburgh, a position he had risen to in less than five years, beginning as an instructor in biological sciences. Recruited in 1970 to head UIC's Department of



Norm Farnsworth

Pharmacognosy and Pharmacology, he spearheaded the development of UIC's Program for Collaborative Research in the Pharmaceutical Sciences and became director of that program. Today the program serves as a model for cross-disciplinary research in the fields of biomedical and pharmaceutical sciences.

An expert in herbal remedies and medical botany, Farnsworth was recently called upon to serve on the Presidential Commission on Dietary Supplement Labels. A member of the Expert Panel on Traditional Medicine of the World Health Organization, he travels often to advise organizations and hospitals. In March, he traveled to Japan as a member of an advisory committee to Toyama Medical and Pharmaceutical Hospital, a center that practices Kampo medicine, a modified form of Chinese Traditional Medicine.

He serves on the Scientific Advisory Board of the Herb Research Foundation and the Board of Directors of the American Botanical Council, and is the primary author of three World Health Organization "Monographs on Major Medicinal Plants," the first of which has been published; the second is at press.

Among his many achievements, he recently received a UIC "Inventor of the Year" award for establishing the NAPRALERT database. UIC also established an endowed chair in their College of Pharmacy, the Dr. Norman R. Farnsworth Chair in Pharmacognosy, which will help assure that Farnsworth's work is continued and expanded upon by scholars following in his field. This year, he was named a UIC Distinguished University Professor, a title held by only five other professors at UIC.

The University of Pittsburgh recently honored Farnsworth's outstanding contributions to pharmacy by naming him the Legacy Laureate for the School of Pharmacy. When Pitt celebrated the launch of the Campaign for the University of Pittsburgh in October 2000, Norm Farnsworth returned to campus to speak and to be recognized as one of the University's shining stars.

The University actually played a key role in the development of Farnsworth's NAPRALERT database. It started as a paper and pen class assignment for Farnsworth's graduate students. "I couldn't get the students to go to the library," says Farnsworth. "So I assigned each one of them a journal abstract to copy." From that seed grew the database that today has its sources in abstracts, books, government reports, journals, newsletters, and patents.

NAPRALERT's exponential growth may be attributed not only to the increasing demand for information on natural products, but also to the tenacity of a man who applied high standards to a self-defined mission.

Farnsworth is proud to be intimately involved with the field of pharmacognosy and cannot speak too highly of its importance: "I consider pharmacognosy to be pharmacy's unique contribution to the sciences."

Bridging the Gaps

*Unique Internship—Seven Pitt Students
Help the Underserved*

Fall Symposium Highlights Student Accomplishments



Holly Lingenfelter and Paula Biscup

All participating students presented highlights of their internships at a poster session held during the Fall Symposium on September 6, 2000, at UPMC Montefiore. In addition, several students made oral presentations on their internship projects, including pharmacy students **Paula Biscup** and **Holly Lingenfelter**.

Christopher Moore, producer and host at WQED Pittsburgh, was guest speaker for the gathering, bringing keen, pertinent insights, garnered from his family's own recent experiences with health care providers, on the extreme importance of listening effectively to patients and their families.

Robert Cook, MD, and **Thuy Bui, MD**, serve as co-directors for the University of Pittsburgh's Bridging the Gaps Program; **Joyce Holl** serves as program coordinator. **Thistle Elias, MPH**, is director of the Pittsburgh Summer Institute.



School of Pharmacy students—Front row (left to right): Jennifer Beiger, Heather Brennan, Kristin Mitchem. Back row (left to right): Stephanie Obrochta, Holly Lingenfelter, Megan Chanadet, Paula Biscup

I had some experience working with a homeless population in a medical clinic," Holly Lingenfelter, a fourth-year School of Pharmacy student recounts, "and I took a class on pharmaceutical care for the underserved. But I never really got to know the individual patients and their situations."

This past summer that changed for Holly and 23 other students from the University of Pittsburgh—seven of whom are from the School of Pharmacy—as they participated in the Pittsburgh Summer Institute, a collaboration of Bridging the Gaps: Community Health Internship Program and the Women's Health Summer Internship Program. Founded in 1991, Bridging the Gaps includes all academic health institutions in Pennsylvania and is designed to provide health-related services to underserved communities while training community-responsive health and social service professionals.

The internships are rigorous, community-based, service-linked experiences created to teach health professional students about the non-medical factors which influence the health of individuals and communities. Students are placed in community-based health and social service settings where they work directly with underserved populations. Under the guidance of faculty preceptors, students collaborate with a community preceptor in their host organization to develop a project that benefits that host organization's clientele. Projects may entail a health assessment, investigation of specific community health problems, or health promotion and outreach activities.

Holly was teamed up with Rashmi Ganesan from the Graduate School of Public Health to do an internship at Bethlehem Haven, a shelter for homeless women in Pittsburgh. Over the course of seven weeks, Holly and Rashmi spent a great deal of time with the women at Bethlehem Haven, getting to really know them and chronicling their stories—what led to their homelessness and what issues they face: substance abuse, domestic violence, sexual abuse, and mental illness.

Holly and Rashmi also interviewed the professional staff at Bethlehem Haven, eliciting their views regarding their clients' needs and circumstances. From these, the interns developed a pamphlet containing both the residents' stories and the perspectives provided by the staff, thereby creating a discussion tool that has helped enhance the dialogue between the clients and staff at Bethlehem.

"The internship totally changed my view about homelessness, addiction, and the surrounding issues. I realized that a lot of things in their childhood and their families led to these women's addictions. The internship helped me to understand that better and not stereotype people," Holly explains.

"Rashmi and I worked together closely during the internship," says Holly, supporting one another when things got really challenging. "We were dealing with a lot of addiction."

One young woman at Bethlehem Haven, close to the interns' ages, had gotten involved with drugs early in college, dropped out, and went progressively from marijuana to

cocaine to heroin. She was having a hard time getting and staying clean and kept going back to the streets. When Holly and Rashmi met her at Bethlehem Haven, she seemed to be doing really well. Then, one day, she didn't show up. She'd been gang raped trying to score some heroin and wound up in the hospital.

"We had to deal with that when she returned to the program," Holly says. "I learned how addictive these substances are and how they just take control over peoples' lives. I was able to be more sensitive and supportive, because I knew how hard she was trying. I realized how vulnerable she was.

"I definitely recommend the program. One time, a woman just grabbed my hand and said, 'You have no idea how much it means to us that you care about us,'" says Holly, explaining that her internship experience made her realize what a difference it can make to simply treat another human being with respect, to show somebody that you value their life.

Given the dual objectives of Bridging the Gaps—to provide health-related services to underserved communities while training community-responsive health and social service professionals—one couldn't ask for a better outcome.



Sheweta Magendra (MED), and Paula Biscup (PHA)

Pharmacy Student Projects

A Child's Journey to a Successful Future Begins with One Small Step

Heather Brennan, School of Pharmacy and Michelle Dorsten, School of Medicine

Assessment of Needs at the Harbor Light Center

Stephanie Obrochta, School of Pharmacy and Vetena Wallace, School of Social Work

Health Assessment of Youth at the Hub

Jennifer Bieger, School of Pharmacy and Brett McAninch, School of Medicine

Lifestyles of the Young and the Restless: An Interactive Approach to Children's Health Education

Paula Biscup, School of Pharmacy and Sheweta Nagendra, School of Medicine

The Benefits of Asthma Education in the Community

Megan Chanadet, School of Pharmacy and Amber Gilchrist, School of Medicine

The Pressure's On: Screening Blood Pressure in Addison Terrace

Kristin Mitchem, School of Pharmacy and Emalee Ranalli, School of Social Work

The Women of Bethlehem Haven: A Collection of Stories about the Lives of Homeless Women and Perspectives from Professionals Who Serve This Population

Holly Lingenfelter, School of Pharmacy and Rashmi Ganesan, Graduate School of Public Health

Philanthropy for Pharmacy

School gains over \$200,000 in private funding

PHARMACIA & UPJOHN CO.

Thanks to a \$100,000 gift from Pharmacia & Upjohn Co., the School of Pharmacy will be able to develop a new Center for Pharmacoinformatics and Outcomes Research, an initiative aimed at improving the safety and quality of patient care.

Randy Smith, associate dean for research, says the goal of the center is to use “financial, humanistic, and clinical outcomes” to evaluate different methods of delivering pharmaceutical services and how those methods impact health care.

“This project is important for the development of the school,” says Smith.

The Pharmacia & Upjohn contribution also is expected to help boost other funding. Smith says the school has applied to the federal Agency for Health Research and Quality for grant money to conduct interdisciplinary research on patient safety issues.

“We’re pleased to be part of this unique opportunity in improving healthcare,” says Mark De Santis, institutional district sales manager at Pharmacia Upjohn. Smith and Robert Weber, chair of the school’s Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics, will serve as co-directors of the center until a new director is hired. Smith says he expects to have four or five people on the center staff within six months.

The school is already working on research projects that will fall within the scope of the center, says Smith.

“We’re looking at how services are being delivered and how it impacts care,” says Smith.



Left to right: Denny Palko, employee relations manager, Rite Aid; Jack Mullen, regional vice president, Rite Aid; Sherry McQuiston (BS '81), pharmacy development manager, Rite Aid; Michele Belsey, director, college and professional recruitment, Rite Aid; Randy Juhl, Dean; Michael Zemaitis (BS '69), associate professor and; Christopher Wheeler, and Kristin Mitchem, student members, Dean's Advisory Board.

RITE AID

The Rite Aid Corporation has contributed \$100,000 to renovate the School of Pharmacy Rite Aid E.C. Reif Memorial Laboratory, keeping student work areas up to date with changes in the profession of pharmacy.

Michael Zemaitis, PhD, associate professor of pharmaceutical sciences who has been working with architects on the project, says the gift will be used to remodel existing laboratory bench space, build a computer work area, and add three patient counseling rooms. Zemaitis says the latest changes will “make those work areas more in line with modern pharmacy work areas.”

Headquartered in Camp Hill, Pennsylvania, Rite Aid Corp. generously funded renovations to the same Salk Hall laboratory more than 10 years ago, in support of the students and curriculum.

“Rite Aid is very happy to be working with the School of Pharmacy, once again, to help fund the renovation of the practice lab for future pharmacists,” says Michele Belsey, director of college and professional recruitment for Rite Aid Corp.

GALEN

The Galen Pharmaceutical Society and the Women of Galen have contributed to the school’s endowment to help an Academy of Students of Pharmacy (ASP) representative attend the annual meeting of the American Pharmaceutical Association. An annual award from the gift will be made to assist the school’s ASP president in his or her plans to travel to the meeting.

A Pittsburgh chapter of the Galen Pharmaceutical Society was established in 1938. That same year, the wives of the Galen Society established the Women of Galen auxiliary group, which organized social, educational, and fundraising activities. Both Galen groups established scholarship funds to help pharmacy students at the University of Pittsburgh and Duquesne University.

Award Honors Beloved Dr. B

The School of Pharmacy learned with great sadness of the passing of a dear friend, Dean Emeritus Joseph A. Bianculli. Bianculli died December 8, 2000, at age 89.

Family and friends have decided to honor his memory and extend a helping hand to future Pitt students by establishing the Dr. Joseph A. Bianculli Pharmacy Award—an endowed fund that will honor him in perpetuity.

The award recognizes two of Dr. B's passions, chemistry and research. The award will be given annually to a PharmD student recognized by the faculty as achieving in chemistry or related subjects, or to a student as a stipend for a summer research experience at the School.

Bianculli devoted much of his career to Pitt, received three degrees from the University, and received the School of Pharmacy Distinguished Alumni Award in 1967. Bianculli earned a BS in chemistry (1932) and in pharmacy (1935), as well as a PhD in chemistry (1941). Known fondly as Dr. B to his students and colleagues, he joined Pitt's faculty in 1948 and served the University until his retirement in 1981.

If you would like to honor Dr. B and follow his commitment to helping students by making a donation to the Dr. Joseph A. Bianculli Pharmacy Award endowed fund send your gift to:

Dr. Joseph A. Bianculli Pharmacy Award Fund
School of Pharmacy
University of Pittsburgh
1104 Salk Hall
Pittsburgh, PA 15261
(Please make your check payable to the University of Pittsburgh.)



Dr. Joseph A. Bianculli

For more information, or to transfer a gift of securities, contact:

Renée M. Pekor
Senior Executive Director of Development
School of Pharmacy
(412) 383-7434
E-mail: pekorm@msx.upmc.edu

March 2, 2001

Randy P. Juhl, Ph.D.
Dean, School of Pharmacy
University of Pittsburgh
1104 Salk Hall
Pittsburgh, PA 15261

Dear Dean Juhl,

I received the news of the death of Dr. Bianculli with no less sadness than I felt when my own father died less than 3 years ago. If I count on one hand those who had a major influence on my life, "Dr. B" would be there along with my father and mother, my first commander in the Army and a crusty colonel in Vietnam whose friendship and wise counsel led me to success beyond my imagination. I count "Dr B" among these because he truly cared about me, had confidence when I didn't, and went the extra mile to help me graduate.

I completed my sophomore year at Pitt with less than sterling academic credentials and was, in fact, on academic probation. It was during that year that Pitt changed its status from a private university to one funded in part by the Commonwealth. As a result, those of us from across the borders were to begin to pay out-of-state fees beginning with our junior year. I remember conversations about my academic status with "Dr. B" and plans to retake two courses during the summer to improve my GPA. When I learned of the new fees, I approached "Dr. B." I told him that I would not be returning for my junior year because, though I was working to pay some expenses, I did not believe my father, with two sons in college and six younger at home, could afford the additional cost. "Dr. B's" response was immediate and emphatic and I recall his words today: "You go home and get your grades up this summer and let me worry about the fee." I returned to Pitt to register for the fall trimester and, when given the bill, found a credit. I had received an academic scholarship to cover my out-of-state fee. I still get emotional when I think about this act of kindness, confidence and trust. Periodically over my military career, I wrote to him about my experiences in the hopes that he would understand that I had not squandered what he had given me.

Enclosed is a check in memory of this wonderful man. I hope that the recipients of this scholarship will, in some small way, understand the love that generated these funds and the reverence with which we held our beloved "Dr. B."

Sincerely,

Bernard J. Dunlevy, R.Ph.
Colonel, U.S. Army (Retired)

Scholarships

SCHOOL OF PHARMACY 2000-2001

For the 2000-2001 academic year, 120 pharmacy students received \$179,066 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

DON BELL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Jennifer Casciato

LOUIS BISCHOFF AND MARY V. BISCHOFF SCHOLARSHIP

John Hays
Jeffrey Kotwica
Meggan Landman
Julie Mannello

WILLIAM L. BLOCKSTEIN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Cassandra Cooper

DR. FREDERICK J. BLUMENSCHNEIN SCHOLARSHIP

Kevin McCaffrey

FRANK MILLER COAD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Justin Coyle
Christy Kelso
Julie Kramer
Amanda Sallade
Lauren Schmidt
Brian Simpkins
Lauren Topolosky

STAN COHEN MEMORIAL AWARD

Stephanie Stine

JOHN P. AND CONSTANCE A. CURRAN SCHOLARSHIP

Terri Hamilton
Camille Stuart



Dean Juhl joins Brian Bosnic (far left) and Michael Calli (far right) from CVS in honoring the student recipients of the CVS scholarship.

CVS SCHOLARSHIP

Brandon Baker
Alison Reese
Timothy Rhinehart
Jennifer Uphold
Christopher Wheeler

ECKERD SCHOLARSHIP

Jennifer Casciato
Cassandra Cooper
Damon Jones
Jessica Sheasley
Paul Stephan
Amy Zakrzewski



Getz Scholarship Recipients, Tara Young (L) and Cristen Smithmyer

RONALD S. GETZ MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Cristen Smithmyer
Tara Young

WILLIAM W. GOODE, SR. MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Iris Gill

REUBEN HELFANT PHARMACEUTICAL SCHOLARSHIP

Karen Epstein
Shane Lorenzo

PHILIP HOFFMAN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

John Haines, III

SCOTT HORTON MEMORIAL (RITE AID) SCHOLARSHIP

Patricia Gelatko
Tim Muccino

HOWARD W. JEFFREYS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Albert Morgan
Terri Subrick

EVELYN AND MILTON JUDD SCHOLARSHIP

Alexander Pytlarz

RALPH R. KARTUB "MR. RALPH" SCHOLARSHIP

Jeremy Fredell

JAMA URBANSKI KEY MEMORIAL (GIANT EAGLE) SCHOLARSHIP

Lindsay Pell

THE KLINGENSMITH SCHOLARSHIP

John Agyemang
Rebecca Godesky
Brooke Johnson
Michelle Speice
Christine Shearer
Stephanie Stichert
Jacqueline Wellman

JOSEPH KOSLOW SCHOLARSHIP

Paula Biscup
Gina Carbonara
Natalie Ciliberto
Lindsay Pell
Juliann Sandy
Jaime White

SAMUEL L. LEFKOWITZ SCHOLARSHIP

Sara Bristol
Nacole Kubat

HERMAN R. LEVEN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Elizabeth Baker
Daniel Calvert

MAURICE MERVIS SCHOLARSHIP

Jeff Rodgers
Cathy Stevenson
Stephanie Stine

DANIEL T. MOSSE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Melissa Baranko
Paula Biscup

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CHAIN
DRUG STORES SCHOLARSHIP**

Courtney Cable
Sarah Middleton

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

Deanna Candek
James Coons
Debra Davis
Kristopher Getzik
Jodie Kaetzel
Mary Beth Kinkus
Brandon Krug
Elaina Mallets
Kimberly Niklewicz
Michelle Pecika

PHARMACISTS MUTUAL COMPANIES

Michele Allen

PHAR-MOR SCHOLARSHIP

Scott Groner

SCHOOL OF PHARMACY SCHOLARSHIP

Scott Borkenhagen
Elias Boulos Jr.
Travis Braatz
Jennifer Campbell
Lisa Campbell
Cassandra Cooper
Amanda Custer
Jessica Fegley
Erika Felix
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Patricia Gelatko

Marianne Gilbert
Megan Hunt
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Jesse Koehler
Holly Lingenfelter
Shane Lorenzo
David Madura
Kevin McCaffrey
Scott Mong
Thuy Nguyen
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Ernest Sanchez
Jessica Sheasley
Craig Sproul
Leslie Stabley
Rosemarie Stanavitch
Kelly Stell
Paul Stephan
Kelly Stetchock
Cathy Stevenson
Tu Tran
Addie Tyler
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Ha Vu
Jennifer Wandel
Amy Zakrzewski
Gina Zurick

**SCHOOL OF PHARMACY ALUMNI SOCIETY
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Victoria Yockelson

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SIDEHAMER SCHOLARSHIP**

Amanda Custer
Brandon Kurg

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

Iris Gill

**CARL AND VIRGINIA STOEHR MEMORIAL
SCHOLARSHIP**

Michele Allen

WALGREENS SCHOLARSHIP

Scott Borkenhagen
Natalie Boulos
Travis Braatz
Kristen Miller
Kristin Mitchem



Ron DeDermott, pharmacy district manager, Wal-Mart, presents a \$1,000 scholarship gift to Dean Juhl

WAL-MART SCHOLARSHIP

Holly Lingenfelter

LOUIS WEINBERGER ENDOWED FUND

Jonna Burger
Brian Delauter
Katrina Diehl
Jessica Fegley
Erika Felix
Joshua Fredell

**THE GALEN PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY AND
THE WOMEN OF GALEN**

Melissa Baranko
Jennifer Campbell

Student

NEWS



Walk to Cure Diabetes

Pitt's Pharmacy School Supports Walk to Cure Diabetes

School of Pharmacy faculty, staff, and students raised \$3,272—the largest amount raised by any school in the University—in the Walk to Cure Diabetes.

The walkathon, held in 170 locations throughout the year, benefits the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation. Pittsburgh's walk took place this past September in Schenley Park. School of Pharmacy organizers included Anna Schmotzer, experiential learning administrator and P-4 student Tim Davis. Scott Drab, director of professional experience programs, received an outstanding team captain award for his participation in the event.

The Juvenile Diabetes Foundation (JDF) was founded in 1970 by parents of children with diabetes. Their mission is to find a cure for the disease and its complications through the support of research. JDF is organized on a business-world model, a focus that has made it one of the nation's most cost-efficient

charities, providing at least 80 cents of every dollar to research and education.

Over 16 million people in the United States have diabetes—a chronic, debilitating disease affecting every organ system and the leading cause of kidney failure, adult blindness, and non-traumatic amputations. The U.S. spends \$105 billion annually in health-related costs to cope with diabetes.

Next year, the School of Pharmacy's goal is to raise over \$4,000. If you are interested in making a contribution to help the School of Pharmacy reach their goal, please send a check, made payable to the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation to Dr. Scott Drab, 907 Salk Hall, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15260.

Phi Delta Chi Wins Chapter Achievement Award

Pitt's Phi Delta Chi (PDC) chapter was recently honored with a Chapter Achievement Award, given to chapters that complete 90 to 99 percent of the national requirements. Requirements include community service, chapter evaluations, and involvement in the National PDC Meeting. PDC brothers created poster presentations on topics such as Diet Supplements/Herbals and Smoking Cessation as part of their community service requirement. Three members also attended the National PDC Meeting in Atlanta.

In addition to its chapter achievement award, PDC remains active in the local community. Member Joe McTish started a monthly street cleaning effort; the chapter has adopted Zulema and Wellsford streets in Oakland. And, thanks to advisor Gil Burckart, the chapter continues its involvement with Rails to Trails, an initiative that transforms old railroad lines into recreational trails for hiking and biking.

For more PDC news and photos from events, check out: www.pitt.edu/~pdchi/pdcmu.htm.

Graduate Degrees Awarded

Pharmacy Student Presents Research

Balancing coursework and research comes with snappy ease to Michelle



Michelle Allen

Allen. After successfully completing an internship with the National Association of Chain Drug Stores last term, she went on to present very interesting

findings, compiled as part of a P3 elective research course, at the Pennsylvania Society of Health Systems Pharmacists mid-year meeting held in Harrisburg on March 16.

“The idea was to see if there was a link between the quality of leisure activities and the use of drugs and alcohol,” she says of her project. “Unfortunately, there wasn’t enough variation in the data to make this leap.” According to Allen’s presentation, the sample was too small to correlate alcohol or drug use with the quality of activities during leisure time.

Allen plans on fusing her data into a paper to submit her research findings for publication. (Michelle graduated April 29, 2001.)

MASTER of SCIENCE

Payal Agarwal, BS, MS

Advisor: Robert Gibbs, PhD

Graduated: Spring 2000

Master Thesis: Examination of the Neuroprotective Effects of Estrogen on Basal Forebrain Cholinergic Neurons in Rats Following Excitotoxic Injury

Ms. Agarwal is a Research Associate in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences at the University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy

DOCTOR of PHILOSOPHY

Sangeeta Agarwala, BS, PhD

Advisor: Raman Venkataramanan, PhD

Graduated: Spring 2000

Dissertation Title: Tacrolimus and the Kidney: A Functional Assessment

Dr. Agarwala is a Research Investigator I for Bristol Meyer Squib

Diane L. Battisti, BS, MT (ASCP), PhD

Advisor: Joseph E. Knapp, PhD

Graduated: Spring 2000

Dissertation Title: Development of a Gaseous Chlorine Dioxide Sterilization System

Dr. Battisti is a principle scientist for Johnson & Johnson

Young Kook Song, MS, PhD

Advisor: Dexi Liu, PhD

Graduated: Spring 2000

Dissertation Title: Intravenous Transfection Using Cationic Liposomes as a Carrier

Dr. Song is a Post-Doctoral Fellow in the Department of Pharmacology at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine

Tawfeq A. Al-Howiriny, PhD

Advisor: Paul L. Schiff, PhD

Graduated: Summer 2000

Dissertation Title: Alkaloidal Constituents of Selected Fractions of *Thalictrum Angustifolium* L. and *Thalictrum Wangiiboivin* (Ranunculaceae)

Dr. Al-Howiriny is a Faculty member at the College of Pharmacy, King Saud University, Saudi Arabia

Fahad I. Al-Jenoobi, PhD

Advisor: Adedayo Adedoyin, PhD

Graduated: Fall 2000

Dissertation Title: “Characterization of the Metabolism of CYP3A4 Substrates: Terfenadine and Dapsone as Model Substrates”

Dr. Al-Jenoobi is a Faculty member at the College of Pharmacy, King Saud University, Saudi Arabia

Student Accomplishments

Vera Svobodova-Donnenberg received the American Society of Transplantation’s Young Investigator’s Award (2000 and 2001), the American College of Clinical Pharmacology Student Award (2000), and was a Sangstat Transplant Conference Fellow Delegate (2000).

Srividya Subramanaian received the American Society of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics Travel Award (2000).

Faculty

NEWS

Honors and Awards



Kerry Cholka

Kerry Cholka, PharmD, assistant professor of pharmacy and therapeutics, participated in the Nonprescription Medicines Academy (NMA), held September 21-23, 2000, in Cincinnati, Ohio. This two-and-a-half day educational conference was planned exclusively for college of pharmacy faculty who provide instruction on nonprescription medicines and sponsored by Proctor & Gamble Health Care.

Scott R. Drab (BS '89), PharmD, has been promoted to assistant professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences in the School of Pharmacy's Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences.

Gary R. Matzke, PharmD, professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences, was honored with the Award for Achievement for Sustained Contributions to the Literature of Pharmacy Practice in Health Systems. The American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) Research and Education Foundation presented this award to Matzke at the ASHP's December 2000 meeting.

Michael Romano, assistant professor in the Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics, traveled to China in January to attend a pharmacy continuing education conference at the Second Affiliated Hospital of the Harbin Medical University. He spoke about clinical pharmacy practice, pharmacy education, and automation in the U.S. Approximately 60 Chinese pharmacists from various provinces attended the conference. Last summer, Romano hosted the Harbin hospital president and director of pharmacy when they visited the University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy.

Moe Schwartz, PharmD, associate professor in the Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics, received the Pennsylvania Society of Health System Pharmacists Joe E. Smith Award in March 2001. The award recognizes a pharmacist who demonstrates excellence in patient care and outstanding service to her

institution, the community, and the profession. Schwartz is known for bringing national renown to the pharmaceutical care program at the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute. She has also received the School of Pharmacy's Teacher of the Year Award from several graduating classes during her tenure at Pitt.

Dennis P. Swanson, professor and assistant dean in the School of Pharmacy, and director of the University of Pittsburgh's Institutional Review Board Office, was recently honored with the William H. Briner Distinguished Achievement Award in Nuclear Pharmacy Practice. Selected by the American Pharmaceutical Association (APhA), Swanson was chosen in recognition of his work as a distinguished educator, innovator, and researcher in pharmacy. The award was presented to Swanson at the APhA's 148th Annual Meeting and Exposition on March 16-20, 2001, in San Francisco, California.

165 Years of Combined Service

Several members of the faculty and staff celebrated employment anniversaries with the University of Pittsburgh this year. Dean Juhl recognized the following people at the School's Holiday Party in December 2000.

Faculty

Balwant N. Dixit, PhD '66	35 years
Joseph E. Knapp, PhD	30 years
Paul L. Schiff, PhD	30 years
Michael A. Zemaitis, BS '69, PhD	25 years

Staff

Anna Stracci	30 years
Anna Schmotzer	10 years
Lori Schmotzer	5 years

Alumni Transcripts

Tom Fairfull From Scotland to Hawaii

It took **Tom Fairfull '32** nearly 80 years to get from Scotland to Hawaii, where he now lives with his son, Tom (Education '64). His life journey began in 1908 in the Scottish town of Windygates in Fifeshire, where his father was a coal miner. The family immigrated to Westmoreland County in 1920.

After graduation from Jeannette High School, Fairfull commuted to get his pharmacy degree at Pitt. Fairfull continued to practice pharmacy until a year after his wife's death in 1982. In 1986, Fairfull returned to Scotland for the first time since his childhood. "I was amazed that he could remember the places he'd lived as a boy, the very houses," his son said. Fairfull remarried that same year and enjoyed his retirement in Columbia, Maryland. He moved to Honolulu after his second wife died in 1998.

Freeman Poorbaugh Deist Comes out of Retirement

Freeman Poorbaugh Deist '43 had been retired for four or five years when the local Hyndman, Pennsylvania drugstore owner asked if he could fill in on short notice. Twelve years later, Deist still works part-time at the Potomac Valley Pharmacy near his Bedford County home.

"I never dreamed I'd be working for someone else," said Deist, who with his late wife and father-in-law owned and operated pharmacies in Hyndman as well as Frostburg, Grantsville, Lonaconing, and Cumberland, Maryland. It was a pharmacy family: Deist married the only woman to graduate in the School's Class of '43, Mariana Kooser. Her father, William Johnston Kooser, graduated from Pitt School of Pharmacy in 1919.

Deist Drugstore in Hyndman was the family's first venture, and Deist said if he filled 35 prescriptions it was a "big day." A soda

fountain inside and benches outside made the store the town's favorite hangout, he said, even after he caused an uproar by doubling the price of a Coke to a dime.

Deist had to learn computers for his return to pharmacy, and he said he still cannot believe how the number of doctors and patients and prescriptions has grown. But he enjoys the work and plans to keep at it.

"Pharmacy is what I know," he said.

David Smith Helps Define Role of Pharmacist

As president of the Pennsylvania Pharmacists Association (PPA), **David Smith '76** will have limited time to try to accomplish big things.

Smith began his one-year term in July. A longtime PPA delegate representing Indiana County, Smith owns Means-Lauf Super Drug in Brookville and Gatti Pharmacy in Indiana, Pennsylvania.

After 10 years of success running Means-Lauf, Smith bought Gatti Pharmacy in 1999. As the owner of two independent stores, Smith said one of his pet issues is making sure small pharmacies have a chance to compete with the market giants. Another is getting the state to approve revisions to its Pharmacy Act, a piece of legislation that defines pharmacists' roles and responsibilities that has not been updated for 40 years, he said.

"The real issue is where pharmacists can prove their worth," said Smith, who believes pharmacists can play more of a role in educating patients and controlling health care costs.

Educational Horizons, Inc. in Hershey

Dr. Walter Severs (PHA '60, '63, and '65), Jim Kirkwood (PHA '65), and Frank Santalucia (PHA '66), the founders of Educational Horizons, Inc., will host a 15-hour Pharmacy CE Program in Hershey, Pennsylvania on August 14, 15, and 16. One of the

featured speakers will be another Pitt Pharmacy alumnus, **Dr. Joseph Hensley, DPM (BS '81)**. To obtain information on this and other seminars, call (800) 285-4059 or send an E-mail to pharmacycysvc@aol.com.

1960s

Donald R. Hamilton '62 of Sylcesville, Maryland, was honored as a Nuclear Pharmacy Pioneer at the APhA meeting in Washington, DC, in March 2000. Hamilton retired from the U.S. Public Health Service in 1994; he has spent the last 20 years of his career working at the FDA. He is currently consulting and practicing community pharmacy.

1990s

Erin Conley '99 has been appointed by the Pitt Alumni Association to be the St. Louis area representative.

Zane H. Gates BS '90, MD '95, was one of three Thanksgiving Tuesday Honorees recognized by La Roche College in November 2000. A physician from Altoona, Pennsylvania, Gates was honored for his work among the homeless and indigent. Through the Gloria Gates Memorial Foundation, Gates provides free medical care to those in need.

Dolores Kutzer '90 of Delmont, Pennsylvania, received her PharmD in December 2000 from Shenandoah University in Winchester, Virginia.

2000s

Anita Pytlarz CAS '97, sister of **Alexander Pytlarz '01**, has been elected president of the New York Pitt Club.

Show Your Pitt Pride

The Pharmacy Gift Shop is fully stocked with gear to outfit you this summer.

Best of all, proceeds benefit Pharmacy Alumni Society student programs.



To order, simply fill out this form and mail with your check payable to the University of Pittsburgh, or call (800) 833-7488 and mention the School of Pharmacy.

School of Pharmacy Alumni Society

Attn: Laraine Kuchma
University of Pittsburgh
1104 Salk Hall
Pittsburgh, PA 15261

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To order by credit card, call 1-800-833-7488 and mention the School of Pharmacy.

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A. T-shirt (100% cotton, ash gray)	S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> L <input type="checkbox"/> XL <input type="checkbox"/>	\$13	
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C. Navy Polo (100% cotton)	S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> L <input type="checkbox"/> XL <input type="checkbox"/> XXL <input type="checkbox"/>	\$50	
D. White Polo (100% cotton pique)	S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> L <input type="checkbox"/> XL <input type="checkbox"/> XXL <input type="checkbox"/>	\$40	
E. Navy Sweatshirt (80% cotton)	M <input type="checkbox"/> L <input type="checkbox"/> XL <input type="checkbox"/> XXL <input type="checkbox"/>	\$40	
Shipping and Handling		\$3.95	

Total \$ _____

Please allow four to six weeks for delivery.

Alumna's Tribute to Her Father

Speranzo '42 Honored in Pharmacy's Brick Walkway

When Anita Speranzo Barchetti '84 was a senior at Pitt's School of Pharmacy, she won the Swanson Award for an essay she wrote about her father, Milo Speranzo '42, and his career. She continues to pay tribute to him today, most recently by contributing to the School of Pharmacy Brick Walkway. Two bricks, one inscribed with Barchetti's name and one with her father's, have been installed side by side in the Brick Walkway outside the Salk Hall entrance.

Barchetti always knew she wanted to be a pharmacist. At the tender age of 11, Barchetti started cleaning, stocking shelves, and making deliveries for Milo's Pharmacy in Wilmerding, Pennsylvania, the family drugstore her father opened in 1954. Like many people of his era, Barchetti says, Speranzo contributed a great deal to the community where he lived and worked.

"He ran tabs for people who couldn't pay, and never let a sick kid go without medicine if the family couldn't afford it," she says.

In its early years, Milo's had a soda fountain and sold more sandwiches than prescriptions, says Barchetti. The soda shop was gone by the time Barchetti, the youngest of three children,

began spending time at the drugstore with the man she calls her idol. She followed in his footsteps to Pitt, came home on weekends to work in the store, and went to work with her father immediately after graduation.

"I was a little nervous at first, but working with him every day was great," she says.

Milo Speranzo died in 1997, and Barchetti, a Trafford, Pennsylvania, resident, took over the business. In 1999, she sold the business to Eckerd and now works as a pharmacist in the company's East McKeesport store, close to Wilmerding. Barchetti says she knows her father would have understood her decision to sell the business. Before he died, she says they talked often about how insurance companies were changing things. Her father would be happy to know, she says, that she has kept about 70 percent of the customers from Milo's Pharmacy, and that Eckerd continues to deliver to people in Wilmerding who can't get out.

"[The brick] is a great tribute to him, and a way to support the school," she says.

Questions may be directed to:

Renée M. Pekor
Senior Executive Director of Development
School of Pharmacy
(412) 383-7434
E-mail: pekorm@msx.upmc.edu



Please note that your gift to the School of Pharmacy Brick Walkway is tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law. Your donation can be made all at once or over two years, in which case periodic reminders will be sent for each installment.

Thank you for your gift.

Make your check payable to the University of Pittsburgh and mail it with this form to:

School of Pharmacy
Development Office
University of Pittsburgh
1104 Salk Hall
Pittsburgh, PA 15261

Name: _____

Graduation Year (if applicable): _____

Address: _____

Telephone: (____) _____

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Please check one option and enclose appropriate gift payment.

- Enclosed is my check for \$400
- I would like to spread out my contributions over two years by sending:
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If you are making your gift over a two-year period, for your convenience a reminder will be sent to you for each gift installment due.

Please print the name to be inscribed in block letters:

First Name Middle Initial

Last Name

Year (Optional)

A Tribute to Dr. B

Dean Emeritus School of Pharmacy



In Memoriam

Samuel Arlow '54

Frank Bono '31

Jerome Stern '37

Joseph A. Bianculli '35

Virgil Bianculli '44

Jacqueline A. Crum Everett '74

Maurice Fierman '36

Marcella Kunz Friburg '39

John T. Kinn '56

Morton Kuber '54

Patricia Rider '83

Fred Ross Jr. '43

Philip Singer '41

Cora Jean Taucher '39

Thomas Elder Stokes Jr., '49, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, retired pharmacist and active community leader, died at age 81 on January 24, 2001.

Stokes began his studies at Duquesne University, but was called to service as a sergeant in the U.S. Air Corps during World War II. Upon his return, Stokes attended the University of Pittsburgh and earned his pharmacy degree in 1949. For 10 years, Stokes owned and operated the Stokes Pharmacy in Clairton, Pennsylvania. He also worked as an associate pharmacist for Thrift Drug before he retired.

Stokes was involved with many civic, community, and social groups, including the Allegheny County Pharmaceutical Association, Clairton Branch NAACP, Boy Scouts of America, Pittsburgh Jazz Society, and Chi Delta Mu Medical Fraternity.

Irvin K. Poust, '39, formerly of Warren, Pennsylvania, died February 19, 2001. Poust was a longtime supporter of the School of Pharmacy and a loyal Pitt Panthers football fan. Poust is survived by his two sons, Rolland I. Poust, PhD, a Pharmacy alumnus (BS '66, MS '68) and professor in the College of Pharmacy at University of Iowa, and Douglas Poust of Tucson, Arizona. Poust was preceded in death by his wife, Vivian W. Erickson Poust and a son, Allan K. Poust.

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.

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Pharmacy Alumni News

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