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PRESS RELEASES

ALUMNUS RECEIVES DISTINGUISHED YOUNG PHARMACIST AWARD

Eric Kutscher, '01 PharmD, Associate Professor of Pharmacy Practice at South Dakota State University, received the Distinguished Young Pharmacist award presented by Pharmacists Mutual. The award was given at the annual meeting of the South Dakota Pharmacists Association held in Watertown, SD. The qualifications for this award looked at pharmacist who practiced retail, institutional, or consulting pharmacy and participated in national pharmacy associations, professional programs, state association activities or community service. Kutscher practices clinical pharmacy, specializing in psychiatry, at the Avera Behavioral Health Center in Sioux Falls.



PROFESSOR AWARDED GRANT FOR PROJECT

Aliasger Salem, Associate Professor, has been awarded a RO3 NIH grant for \$150,000 for a project called *Development of a Univalent Vaccine Against Group B Streptococci Infection*. Group B Streptococci (GBS) has emerged as one of the most important infectious causes of neonatal morbidity and mortality and pregnancy-related morbidity. A GBS infection in the pregnant patient places the mother and child at high risk for complications. Their goal is to design a safe, univalent vaccine that would eliminate any serotype GBS infection in the mother and protect the child from acquiring GBS disease. Salem is working with Stephen Hunter (PI), Associate Professor, Carver College of Medicine, on this project.

SPRING 2009 STAFF RECOGNITION CEREMONY

The College of Pharmacy Staff Recognition Ceremony was held on Wednesday, May 20th at the Oakdale Hall Auditorium on the University of Iowa campus. Dean Donald Letendre welcomed all staff and thanked the 2009 Staff Council Committee for organizing the event. He presented the first annual College of Pharmacy Diversity Stimulus Award to Associate Professor Horacio Olivo. In addition, Service Awards were presented to staff members celebrating 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, and 45 years of service. The honorees included:

Diversity Stimulus Award



Horacio Olivo and Dean Letendre

5 Years of Service



Jonathan Doorn, Aliasger Salem,
Leslie Stodden
Not Pictured: Paul Imming,
Tanner Morrison,
and Arthur Vrchticky

10 Years of Service



Barbara Kelley, Rebecca Ellis,
Mandi Niebes Lueck
Not Pictured: Kris Brown,
Jordan Cohen, Jill Lynch, Daphne
Miller, Lindsay Sand, Julie Urmie

15 Years of Service



James Bradley, Michael Kelly,
Jeffrey Millard,
Dean Donald Letendre
Not Pictured: Lucinda Buys,
Cynthia Gallo, Ronald Herman,
and Lee Kirsch

20 Years of Service

Mary Ann Cull, Maureen Donovan,
Barb Gericke, and Melody Smith

25 Years of Service

ThaiBinh Ton-That, Jay Currie,
Peter Veng-Pedersen
Not Pictured: Bernard Sorofman

45 Years of Service

Dean Donald Letendre and
Kenneth Shaw

2005 ALUMNUS AWARDED APHA RESEARCH PAPER AWARD

The American Pharmacists Association (APhA) announced that Joseph P. Vande Griend, PharmD, BCPS, of Denver, Colorado, as the recipient of the 2009 APhA Clinical Research Paper Award. The award was presented during the APhA Annual Meeting and Exposition in San Antonio, Texas, April 3-6, 2009.

Established in 2006, the Clinical Research Paper Award is intended to promote and encourage high-quality clinical research or practice based research in the clinical sciences by recognizing an original research article published in the Journal of the American Pharmacists Association (JAPhA). APhA's awards program is pharmacy's most comprehensive recognition program. Vande Griend was selected for this award for his innovative paper, "Vitamin D intervention by pharmacists in geriatric outpatients," appearing in the July-August 2008 issue of JAPhA. Co-authors include: Sunny A. Linnebur, PharmD, J. Mark Ruscin, PharmD, Sheryl F. Vondracek, PharmD, Pamela Wolfe, MS, and Michael T. McDermott, MD.



Vande Griend is currently an Assistant Professor at the University of Colorado Denver School of Pharmacy. He also works as a clinical pharmacist with the University of Colorado Senior's Clinic. At the clinic, he provides medication therapy management (MTM) services, drug therapy consultations, and serves as a preceptor for PharmD students. Dr. Vande Griend graduated with his PharmD from the University of Iowa in 2005 and served as class president his P4 year.

JORDAN UNIVERSITY DEAN VISITS THE COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

Dean Khoulood Alkhamis visited the College of Pharmacy on May 13th as part of the Jordan University of Science and Technology's delegation visiting the Carver College of Medicine to establish their inter-institutional exchange program. She visited the College of Pharmacy to further the relationship the JUST College of Pharmacy has with our college, to train Ph.D. students in Pharmaceutics and Clinical Pharmaceutical Sciences, and to establish agreements between our two institutions regarding residency and fellowship training opportunities.

**CLASS OF 2009 GRADUATES**

The College of Pharmacy Commencement Ceremony was held on Thursday, May 14th in the Grand Ballrooms of the Marriott Hotel in Coralville, Iowa. Dean Donald E. Letendre, PharmD, welcomed the 109 graduating students and the family and friends who came to witness the culmination of their accomplishments.

Class of 2009 President Jack Kampf provided opening remarks at the ceremony. "I say goodbye to you with a challenge, and that challenge is to become irreplaceable. Whatever your setting, become irreplaceable," said Kampf. Victor Yanchick, Dean of Virginia Commonwealth University School of Pharmacy, gave the keynote address, advising the graduates to "get a life in which you marvel at the wonders of nature." The presentation of the graduates was given by Associate Dean Michael Kelly while UI President Sally Mason conferred the degrees. The ceremony concluded with closing remarks by Dean Letendre. The event was videotaped and is available as an archived streaming video. Visit



www.its.uiowa.edu/tns/uitvschedule/Commencement.htm to view the video.

COLLEGE OF PHARMACY RECOGNIZES SENIORS WITH DINNER AND AWARDS

The College of Pharmacy recognized graduating seniors and distinguished alumni for their accomplishments at a ceremony on May 13, 2009. Michael Kelly, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, welcomed the seniors and their families present at the event. Thomas R. Temple, Executive Vice President and CEO of the Iowa Pharmacy Association, welcomed the new graduates to the profession. Guest speaker, Rudy Ruettiger, infamous from the movie *Rudy* and cousin of senior Danny Olszta, gave inspirational words to the graduating



students.

Twenty-one graduating College of Pharmacy students were presented awards by Dean Donald Letendre and Associate Dean Michael Kelly as a result of their achievements. Following are the names of the student award recipients and the awards they received:

Michael Hirsch	College of Pharmacy Faculty Outstanding Scholastic Achievement Award
Tram Anh Nguyen	College of Pharmacy Faculty Superior Scholastic Achievement Award
Lynne Dunlay	College of Pharmacy Faculty Superior Scholastic Achievement Award
Paul Heid	College of Pharmacy Collegiate Award
Breanna Manders	College of Pharmacy Distinguished Student Award
Ann Schwemm	College of Pharmacy Faculty Professional Achievement Award
Thomas Fisher	College of Pharmacy Service Award
Charles Howald	College of Pharmacy Service Award
Adam Harris	APHA-ASP Senior Recognition Certificate
Graziela Kalil	Dean's Achievement Award
Karma Huffman	Facts & Comparisons Award of Excellence in Clinical Communication
Amanda Conley	GlaxoSmithKline Award
Tony Nguyen	Kappa Psi Asklepios Key
Rachael Doebel	Lilly Achievement Award
Minh Ngo	Merck Prize Award
Lindsey Tieden	Merck Prize Award
Christopher Frosaker	Mylan Pharmaceuticals Award
Kara Haun	Perrigo Company Award
Laura Elliott	Roche Pharmacy Communications Award
Jack Kampf	Senior Class President Award
Andrew Dorsey	TEVA Company Award
Jack Kampf	United States Public Health Service Excellence in Public Health Pharmacy Practice Award

ALUMNUS RECEIVES ACCREDITATION

The National Association of Boards of Pharmacy® (NABP®) announced that the first Veterinary-Verified Internet Pharmacy Practice Sites™ (Vet-VIPPS™) accreditation has been awarded to VetRxDirect, Inc. Online veterinary pharmacy practice sites that obtain Vet-VIPPS accreditation exhibit their willingness to operate legitimately, assuring animal care providers that they are purchasing drugs and devices from a facility that meets the licensing requirements of the state in which the facility is based and each state to which it dispenses pharmaceuticals.

"VetRxDirect is honored to be accredited as a Vet-VIPPS pharmacy by NABP. We will take this accreditation seriously, and we will continue to foster a closer relationship between the veterinarian, patient, and pharmacy. The Vet-VIPPS accreditation is very important to us. It helps our customers understand that we are appropriately licensed and comply with all federal and state laws and regulations. It also helps in the trust-building process with veterinarians who provide the prescriptions for their clients' pets," says T.J. Johnsrud, president of VetCara, LLC. "The Vet-VIPPS accreditation process from the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy will help all state pharmacy boards deal with the multiple issues involved in the licensing of online veterinary pharmacies. It should also help veterinarians clarify the advice that they give their clients."



Launched by NABP in January 2009, the Vet-VIPPS program provides a vehicle for evaluating and accrediting legitimately operating online veterinary pharmacy practice sites in an effort to protect companion animals as well as non-food producing animals. It is designed to assist the states in their efforts to maintain control over the Internet-based distribution of prescription drugs and devices for these animals.

T.J. Johnsrud, '66 BSpH, is the president and CEO of NuCara Management Group. NuCara is an Iowa based company with pharmacies in Ackley, Conrad, Nevada, Story City, Washington, Traer, Ottumwa, Waterloo, and Coralville, IA, Elmhurst, IL, and Austin, TX.

DOCTORATE CANDIDATE SELECTED AS ONE WORLD DELEGATE

Phoebe Sebhatsu, Class of 2012, was selected to represent the University of Iowa in the One World Foundation's Summer Programs for Young Leaders. As a delegate, she will receive a \$3500 scholarship from the University of Iowa's Office for Study Abroad, International Programs, and the Center for Diversity and Enrichment to cover travel and accommodation expenses, as well as medical evacuation insurance, training sessions, and a food and bottled water stipend. She will be going to either India or Cambodia for an 8 week program.



The One World Foundation's summer programs take students of color from across the United States on service learning volunteer projects in developing countries. Its mission is to encourage young people to become actively engaged in the human rights and development arenas, particularly as they affect indigenous and minority rights.

The Center for Diversity and Enrichment provides a university-wide effort to facilitate recruitment and retention efforts of under-represented minority students, and creating and maintaining a welcoming and inclusive environment. University of Iowa International Programs enables UI students, faculty, staff and the public to learn from and about the world.

GRADUATE STUDENTS RECEIVE NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

The American Foundation for Pharmaceutical Education awarded six College of Pharmacy students scholarships of \$6000 for the 2009-2010 academic year.

Amber Goedken, Pharmaceutical Socioeconomics	Erin Allen, Medicinal and Natural Products Chemistry
Mark Ericson, Medicinal and Natural Products Chemistry	David Anderson, Medicinal and Natural Products Chemistry
Heidi Schwanz, Medicinal and Natural Products Chemistry	Amanda Fenner, Medicinal and Natural Products Chemistry

The mission of the American Foundation for Pharmaceutical Education is to advance and support pharmaceutical sciences education at U.S. schools and colleges of pharmacy. AFPE achieves its mission by funding scholarships and fellowships.

SMALL DISCOVERY HAS BIG "GREEN" POTENTIAL



Professor Emeritus **Jack Rosazza**, Medicinal and Natural Products Chemistry, is going green on a cellular level with Andrew Lamm, visiting Assistant Professor of Chemistry and Research Scholar. Rosazza and Lamm have identified and named a bacterial species that could be used in greener, cleaner ways of producing renewable fuels and biorenewable chemicals. The bacterium, *Nocardia iowensis*, is named to reflect its Iowa roots. It was first discovered in a vial of garden soil collected in Osceola, and much work on the organism was done here at The University of Iowa.

N. iowensis contains enzymes that can be used as biocatalysts to induce chemical reactions that are difficult, expensive, or dangerous to produce in other ways. Plus, any byproducts are nontoxic and easily recycled. Additionally, the bacterium is a renewable resource, unlike oil. "You can cultivate it anytime you want. We keep it in the deep freeze, and at anytime can resurrect it and grow more," Rosazza says.

Enzymes from the bacterium can, for example, be used in the creation of imitation vanilla extract. Other possible applications include using the enzymes to convert carboxylic acids into renewable fuels or readily available fatty acids into fatty alcohols, which are used in foods, cosmetics, and lubricants. *N. iowensis* also produces a unique compound called noformycin, which has antiviral properties and inhibits mammalian nitric oxide synthase (NOS) systems. NOS is an enzyme that contributes to neuron transmission, the immune system and blood vessel dilation. A research article that officially names the organism and outlines its properties will be published in an upcoming edition of the International Journal of Systematic and Evolutionary Microbiology. The article is courtesy of the May 18th issue of *fyi*, The University of Iowa's online journal for faculty and staff news.

COLLEGE OF PHARMACY FACULTY EARN TEACHING AWARDS

Four faculty members from the Department of Clinical and Administrative Pharmacy in the University of Iowa College of Pharmacy have been recognized for outstanding teaching in 2008-09. "Teacher of the Year" awards are based on student recommendations and reviewed by the previous year's award recipients. The winners will be formally recognized at the college's scholarship reception in November.

John Swegle is the college's recipient of the UI Collegiate Teaching Award, the highest honor a college can bestow on faculty for excellence in teaching. He currently is an Associate Professor (Clinical) with the University of Iowa and clinical pharmacist with the Mercy Family Medicine Residency Program. In addition, he works with Hospice of North Iowa serving as a consultant pharmacist and as a faculty member for the Mercy Medical Center - North Iowa Palliative Medicine Fellowship.

Michelle Fravel, selected by third-year students, is an Assistant Professor (Clinical) at the University of Iowa College of Pharmacy with primary teaching roles in the Pharmacy Practice Lab series and the Non-Prescription Pharmacotherapy elective course. She is also a Clinical Pharmacist in the Internal Medicine and Family Medicine Anticoagulation Clinics and the Internal Medicine Renal/Hypertension Clinic. She serves as a preceptor to residents in both of these clinical settings.

Michael Ernst, selected by second-year students, is a Professor (Clinical) in the College of Pharmacy and in the Department of Family Medicine, Carver College of Medicine, of The University of Iowa. Dr. Ernst provides collaborative patient care in the Department of Family Medicine, and is involved in interdisciplinary education of students from the UI Colleges of Pharmacy and Medicine and medical residents in the Family Medicine training program. He is an active participant in both investigator-initiated and departmental research Initiatives, and is widely-published in several areas related to pharmacotherapy in primary care. He established and directs the Ambulatory Blood Pressure Monitoring referral service in the Family Care Center of the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics.

Jeffrey Reist, selected by first-year students, is an Assistant Professor (Clinical) and Director of the Pharmacy Practice Laboratory at the University of Iowa College of Pharmacy. He also practices as a Clinical Pharmacy Specialist in Ambulatory Care at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics in the areas of geriatrics and anticoagulation. Jeff is a member of the American Pharmacists Association, American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy, American Society of Consultant Pharmacists, American College of Clinical Pharmacy, and the Iowa Pharmacy Association.

Kris DeMali, is an Assistant Professor at the University of Iowa, Carver College of Medicine, earned special recognition from first-year students for *Biochemistry for Pharmacy Students*.

COLLEGE OF PHARMACY FACULTY MEMBERS PROMOTED



Michael Ernst, Division of Clinical and Administrative Pharmacy, and **Aliasger Salem**, Division of Pharmaceutics, were both promoted this spring. Ernst was promoted to Full Professor. He received his Doctor of Pharmacy from the University of Iowa in 1997 and returned in 2004 to teach as an Associate Professor (Clinical). Ernst has been awarded P2 Teacher of the Year several times, including for the 2008-2009 academic year.



Salem was promoted to Associate Professor with Tenure. Salem has been at the UI College of Pharmacy since 2004 as an Assistant Professor. His research interests are primarily focused on self-assembling systems, the rational design of novel drug and gene delivery systems and on the development of vaccines that stimulate potent antigen-specific immune responses.

PHARMACY STUDENT GROUPS PRESENT AT GIRLS GO GLOBAL



Two College of Pharmacy student organizations presented to Eastern Iowa Girl Scouts on May 9th. The presentations were part of Girls Go Global, an event that empowers girls to change the world through issues that affect youth in their own neighborhoods and all over the globe. This year's event was Healthier Horizons, which emphasizes healthy lifestyles.

Members of the American Pharmacists Association - Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP) presented Katy's Kids. **Christina Banks**, **Cady Ploessl** and Katy the Kangaroo advised kindergarten to fourth grade girls about appropriate and responsible medication use. They stressed the importance of poison prevention and proper use of prescription medications.

University of Iowa Pharmacy Recovery Network (UI-PRN) members **Colleen Kann** and **Angela Yee** gave a Drugs of Abuse presentation to sixth grade to twelfth grade girls. They gave an interactive presentation about the dangers of abusing prescription drugs, over the counter medications, and the effects of mixing medications with alcohol.

IOWA BASEBALL HOSTS COLLEGE OF PHARMACY



The Iowa baseball team and the College of Pharmacy Professional Outreach and Development Societies (PODS) teamed up for the April 29th baseball game against Creighton University. The Iowa baseball team invited College of Pharmacy students and faculty to Duane Banks Field for complimentary pre-game pizza and key chains. Pharmacy students were admitted to the baseball game free of charge with their student IDs. To generate enthusiasm in the weeks leading up to the event, students, faculty and staff were able to nominate someone from the College of Pharmacy to throw the first pitch of the game! Nominations were accepted between classes, and Matt Cantrell, Assistant Professor (Clinical), Clinical and Administrative Pharmacy, won the prize. Even though Iowa was defeated, the students enjoyed the



opportunity to interact with the baseball team and cheer on the Hawkeyes.

UI FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS TO ATTEND COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

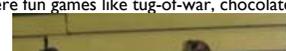
Four recipients of University of Iowa Graduate Fellowship programs will be attending the College of Pharmacy in the fall: **Tom Crowley**, **Carrie Morris**, **Elizabeth Chang** and **Edwin Squirewell**. **Crowley**, Division of Medicinal and Natural Products Chemistry, received the Presidential Fellowship. He comes from Missouri Western State University in St. Joseph, Missouri, with a BS in Biochemistry. **Morris**, Clinical Pharmaceutical Sciences, also received the Presidential Fellowship and is from Cedar Rapids, Iowa. She received her BA in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from Cornell College and her PharmD from Creighton University. **Chang**, Pharmaceutical Socioeconomics, received the UI Presidential Fellowship as well. She received an MS in Pharmaceutical Administration in 2008 and will receive her PharmD in June of 2009 from Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio. **Squirewell**, Medicinal and Natural Products Chemistry, received the Dean's Fellowship. Squirewell will graduate from Charleston Southern University in Charleston, South Carolina next month with an BS in Biochemistry.

The Presidential Graduate Fellowship program is a premier fellowship program sponsored by the Graduate College that provides outstanding financial support. Approximately 30 scholars are awarded this fellowship annually. The Dean's Graduate Fellowship program promotes recruitment of outstanding students who are underrepresented in their graduate discipline. It provides broad financial support to approximately 30 fellows each year.

PHI LAMBDA SIGMA PARTICIPATES IN RELAY FOR LIFE



The UI chapter of Phi Lambda Sigma (PLS) participated in the Relay for Life at Iowa from 7:00pm on April 24 until 7:00am on April 25. Paige Berens, PLS President, organized the team of eight members to walk. The group raised \$1373.00 for Relay for Life, which was the highest amount raised by PLS ever. Several incredibly inspiring cancer survivors spoke at the event, and there were fun games like tug-of-war, chocolate pudding slip-n-slide, root beer



pong, and many others.

The Relay for Life offers everyone in a community an opportunity to fight against cancer. The PLS team, along with other UI students, camped out at the UI Recreational Center and took turns walking or running around a track or path. A member of PLS was walking around the track at all times during the event. The funds raised at the Relay For Life save lives by funding cutting-edge cancer research, early detection and prevention education, advocacy efforts, and life-affirming patient services.

UI PHARMACY STUDENTS NAMED TO LEADERSHIP HONOR SOCIETY



Twelve UI College of Pharmacy students were inducted into Phi Lambda Sigma, the national Pharmacy Leadership Society, during an initiation ceremony April 28 in Iowa City. The students joined the UI's Beta Epsilon Chapter. Members are chosen by peer recognition.

The students were Christina Balmer, Jenny Bongartz, Courtney Creary, Elisabeth Donahey, Audra Hudriik, Stacy Livingston, Stephanie Lukas, Joseph Paulsen, Eric Paulus, Genesis Sezate, Joel Van Heukekelom, and Pamela Wong. Phi Lambda Sigma recognizes and fosters pharmacy leadership development. Paige Berens is the current president of the UI chapter, and Karen

Farris serves as faculty advisor.

FOUR COLLEGE OF PHARMACY WAL-MART SCHOLARS NAMED

Four College of Pharmacy student and faculty pairs are recipients of the 2009 American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) and Wal-Mart Scholars Program. The goal of this scholarship program is to strengthen the recipient's skills and commitment to a career in academic pharmacy through participation in programming and activities at the 2009 AACP Annual Meeting and Seminars.

The program provides \$1,000 travel scholarships to 65 student-faculty pairs from AACP member institutions to attend the AACP Annual Meeting and the AACP Teachers Seminar in Boston, MA from July 18-22, 2009. This momentous program continues to grow each year. AACP and Wal-Mart share the commitment to help colleges and schools of pharmacy ensure there are an adequate number of well-prepared individuals who aspire to join the faculties of our expanding programs across the country.

The four College of Pharmacy student and faculty pairs selected as recipients are: **Brandon J. Patterson** and faculty mentor Dr. William R. Doucette; **Stuart K. Pitman** and faculty mentor Dr. Bernard Sorofman; **Ann K. Schwemm** and faculty mentor Dr. Karen Farris; and **Matthew Witry** and faculty mentor Dr. Michelle Fravel.

PHD CANDIDATES HONORED AT POSTER SESSION

Four College of Pharmacy PhD candidates were honored for their posters at the 10th Annual Student Interdisciplinary Health Research Poster Session on April 23. **Amal Al Omari**, Clinical and Administrative Pharmacy, **Erin Allen**, Medicinal and Natural Products Chemistry, and **Laurie Eckert**, Medicinal and Natural Products Chemistry, all received Merit Awards and **Olayinka Oladimeji**, Pharmaceutical Socioeconomics, received the Center on Aging Award.

The University of Iowa Interdisciplinary Health Group sponsors this poster session to give all University of Iowa students an opportunity to present health-related research and to encourage students to interact with researchers from areas other than their respective disciplines. The award winners were selected based on quality and potential for, or actual relevance to, clinical and/or policy issues.



Amal Al Omari



Olayinka
Oladimeji



Erin Allen



Laurie Eckert

'79 BSPH ALUMNI WINS HANCHER-FINKBINE MEDALLION



Karen Baker, '79 BSPH, was awarded the Hancher-Finkbine Medallion, which recognizes leadership, learning and loyalty. Baker joined the College of Dentistry's Dental Pharmacy Services in 1981 after obtaining her M.S. in clinical pharmacy from the University of Iowa's College of Pharmacy. In 1991 she became Director of Dental Pharmacy. She is an associate professor in both the Department of Oral Pathology and Medicine and the Division of Pharmacy Practice. Baker's unique professional focus in dental practice and education is patient-specific drug therapy. She is very active with daily clinical work as well as pre- and post-doctoral teaching. Her reputation as an outstanding educator has resulted in 20 collegiate teaching awards from appreciative dental students. She has also mentored numerous graduate students and sat on more than 20 graduate thesis committees. In addition to serving on the American Pharmaceutical Association's Oral Health Curriculum Task Force, Professor Baker has been a member of the Iowa Pharmacists Association Board of Trustees, the UI Faculty

Senate and Faculty Council and the UI Council on Teaching.

PHARMACY AWARD WINNERS AT UI RESEARCH WEEK

College of Pharmacy Dean Donald Letendre, Laurie Eckert and College of Medicine Dean Paul Rothman

PhD Candidate **Laurie Eckert**, Medicinal & Natural Products Chemistry, and **Julianna Kula**, Family Medicine Resident at the Northeast Iowa Medical Education Foundation in Waterloo, were award winners at the 2009 Research Week Poster Session. The poster sessions were part of Research Week for the UI Health Sciences, which was co-sponsored by the College of Pharmacy, College of Medicine, College of Public Health, Iowa City Veteran Affairs Medical Center, and the Institute for Clinical and Translational Research.

The 2009 event recognized health science research at Iowa and focused on

cardiovascular research and excitable cell biology. Following that theme, organizers scheduled four nationally and internationally known speakers to present during the week. Award winners were selected based on the judging of their abstract in conjunction with the poster. The winners and their mentors were also invited to a recognition banquet the evening of April 15th.



College of Pharmacy Dean Donald Letendre, Julianna Kula and College of Medicine Dean Paul Rothman

The title of Eckert's poster was "Aldehydes Generated Endogenously via Dopamine Catabolism: Reactivity and Microglial Activation". Kula's poster was entitled "Relationship between medication intolerance and achieving therapeutic goals for hypertension, diabetes and hyperlipidemia".

CLINICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE PHARMACY PROFESSOR RECEIVES FIVE-YEAR GRANT

Barry Carter, Professor, Clinical and Administrative Pharmacy, has received a five-year grant through the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute of the National Institutes of Health. The study will focus on people with high blood pressure who receive clinical care through a doctor's office, yet, for various reasons, have not achieved control of their condition. Carter, as the principal investigator of the study, will manage study clinical interventions and personnel. The study's second principal investigator, William Clarke, Ph.D., UI professor of biostatistics, will lead the collection, review and analysis of data.

To study whether physician-pharmacist collaboration can improve control rates, particularly among minorities, the University of Iowa College of Pharmacy and College of Public Health have received a total of \$8.5 million. The five-year grants, which were effective April 15, include \$4.8 million awarded to the College of

Pharmacy, the largest award ever received by a principal investigator in the college. The grants also include \$3.7 million to the College of Public Health and investigators in the Carver College of Medicine.

Approximately 1,200 study participants will take part in the investigation at 27 physician offices nationwide, including several in Iowa. Study participants will be seen by their regular doctors and be assigned to one of three groups: regular care, nine months of collaborative care involving a clinical pharmacist, or the collaborative model for two years. Many of the sites care for large numbers of minority populations.

"We're fortunate at the UI to be able to put together interdisciplinary teams and serve as leaders in interventional research on blood pressure, especially efforts involving team-based care provided by physicians, pharmacists and public health specialists," Carter said.

10TH ANNUAL RESEARCH ACHIEVEMENT SYMPOSIUM AND POSTER SESSION

The UI College of Pharmacy's Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science sponsored the 10th Annual Research Achievement Symposium and Poster Session. The event was held April 20th in the Eckstein Medical Research Building Atrium. The poster session allowed pharmacy students to display their research and hard work over the year. The students presented in the Pharm.D. Student, Clinical Resident or Graduate Student category, with three students selected as finalists in each. After the finalists presented their posters to the faculty, students and judges, and a winner in each category was announced during the Research Symposium in the afternoon. In addition to the poster presentations, there was also a keynote symposium with Dr. Kathy Johnson, Associate Professor of Clinical Pharmacy from the University of Southern California College of Pharmacy. The topic of her lecture was "Ticket to your Success: Conducting Practice Based Research or Why Should Residents Have to do a Project?" The finalists are as follows, with the overall winners listed first:

Pharm.D. Student Category: Doug Hansen, Michael Hirsch, Claire Sauter
 Clinical Resident Category: Audrey Housel, Julianna Kula, Christine Rupp
 Graduate Student Category: Amal Al Omari, Puttarin Kulchaitanaroaj, Olayinka Oladimeji





Amal Al Omari,
Graduate Student
Winner

Audrey Housel, Clinical
Resident Winner

Doug Hansen,
Pharm.D. Student
Winner

UI COLLEGE OF PHARMACY ALUMNI EXCHANGE PHARMACY OWNERSHIP



The ownership of Schwenke Pharmacy in LeClaire, Iowa, is being transferred from one UI College of Pharmacy alumni to another. **Chuck Schwenke**, '64 BSPH, the owner of Schwenke Pharmacy, is "passing the pill counter" to **Yvonne Levetzow**, '91 BSPH after 40 years of practicing pharmacy in the area.

Yvonne and her husband, Marcus, recently purchased the pharmacy at 126 South Cody Road in downtown LeClaire, but plan to keep the Schwenke Pharmacy name. Yvonne, a pharmacist for 18 years, has worked in the area's hospitals before making the decision to purchase the local, independent business. "It was time for a change, a change in direction, a change for my family and a long-term plan," she says. Owning Schwenke Pharmacy, she says, will fulfill one of her dreams and she plans to keep the business intact except for installing a new computer system, adding more herbal products and eventually putting in an old-fashioned soda fountain. Her ideas and desire to keep Schwenke Pharmacy an independent part of the business community and her credentials convinced Chuck that this was the right decision for all; the buyer, seller and the community.

In nearly 40 years, Chuck has seen plenty of changes in the pharmacy business, including much more competition, but says his business survived because of the loyalty of his customers and employees. "I've always felt that people don't get sick from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. or whatever hours you're open. I have always believed that you contribute to the community and, in turn, the community supports you," he says. Chuck held a special reception to introduce Yvonne to the community was held from 1 to 4 p.m. on Sunday, April 19, at the LeClaire Civic Center. An article about the pharmacy ownership exchange was featured in the Quad Cities Online Newspaper on April 17.

NEW COLLEGE OF PHARMACY FACULTY MEMBER

Jill Fowler, Pharm.D., recently joined the College of Pharmacy as an Assistant Professor (Clinical) in the Division of Clinical and Administrative Pharmacy. Fowler has a shared appointment with the Inpatient Care Units Pharmacy in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics. She received both her Bachelor's degree and Doctor of Pharmacy from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She is currently in an MS program in Pharmacy Practice and Administration at the University of Texas at Austin.



RHO CHI SOCIETY INDUCTS EIGHTEEN NEW MEMBERS



The University of Iowa's Delta Chapter of Rho Chi Society inducted eighteen new members on April 10th. Rho Chi, a national organization, is pharmacy's academic honor society. The event's keynote speaker was Dean Donald Letendre. Rho Chi aims to instill the desire to pursue intellectual excellence and critical inquiry to advance the profession. It encourages and recognizes excellence in intellectual achievement and fosters fellowship among its members. Further, the Society encourages high standards of conduct and character, and advocates critical inquiry in all aspects of pharmacy. The 2009 initiates into the Rho Chi Society are:

Chris Arp
Michelle Breitwisch
Ashley Copes
Kanghee Derocher
Kristi Dimke
Christina Gaard

Alyssa Huinker
Ashley Kessler
Kristin Knight
Kelly McLeese
Robert Moss
Bradley Olcott

Eric Paulus
Tim Rockey
Cara Schmale
Kyle Slings
Alicen Wagenbach
Bryan Zobeck

2009 AMERICAN PHARMACISTS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

The UI College of Pharmacy chapter of the American Pharmacists Association-Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP) received three regional awards at the "APhA 2009: Where the Stars of Pharmacy Shine!" The meeting was held April 3 to April 6 in San Antonio, Texas. The annual meeting is held every year to discover the latest trends and best practices in pharmacy, while sharing experiences and ideas with 7,000 pharmacy professionals from every practice setting.



The UI pharmacy students were awarded for their participation in Operation Immunization, Operation Diabetes and Heartburn Awareness. The three separate campaigns are local initiatives by UI pharmacy students to provide information and increase the public's knowledge about immunizations, diabetes and heartburn respectively.

The College of Pharmacy was well represented at the conference. Twenty-one Doctor of Pharmacy candidates attended the meeting, along with **Dean Donald Letendre**; faculty members **Bernard Sorofman**, **Jay Currie**, **Karen Farris**, **Julie Urmie**, **James Ponto**, **Coralynn Trewet** and **Susan Staggs**; Community Pharmacy Practice Residents **Melinda Guerra**, **Sue Kim**, **Morgan Sayler** and **Natasha Musgrove**; and graduate students **Brandon Patterson**, **Daniel Ashwood**, **Olayinka Oladimeji** and **Amber Goedken**.

KAPPA PSI STUDENTS VOLUNTEER AT RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE

Members of the pharmacy student organization Kappa Psi volunteered at the Ronald McDonald House in Iowa City on March 25. The Ronald McDonald House is a "home away from home" for families with children receiving critical medical care in Iowa City. Five students helped prepare and serve a dinner of lasagna, garlic bread, dessert and cookies for 40 people residents and their families. The pharmacy student volunteers (from left) were **Libby Donahey**, **Megan Brockman**, **Randy Shaw**, **Tony Nguyen** and **Stacy Livingston**. The Kappa Psi volunteers will return on April 9th to prepare another dinner and go grocery shopping with the current residents.



GRADUATE STUDENT HONORED FOR BUSINESS PLAN



Erin Thatcher, Ph.D. candidate in Pharmaceutical Socioeconomics, was a first place winner at the 2009 Regional Pappajohn NewVenture Business Plan Competition. Eleven teams from across the university competed and Thatcher was among three winners selected for her business SMARTERx. As a winner, Thatcher was selected to continue to the state competition where she pitched her plans to John Pappajohn. Thatcher's business plan was also awarded first place in the John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center Elevator Pitch Competition.

For the past year and a half, Thatcher has been working on beginning the business SMARTERx, which will manufacture and distribute medication dispensing machines that assist in medication adherence and management to community pharmacies throughout the United States. The machines, called C-PACS (Customized Patient Adherence Calendar System), are unique devices that can organize and package medication according to each patient's needs and prescription directions. They are currently patent pending. Thatcher said, "C-PACS has the ability to further the pharmacy profession, while providing an additional service for the elderly and their caregivers."

PRE-PHARMACY CLUB GAINS LAB EXPERIENCE

The Pre-Pharmacy club participated in a hands-on learning experience in the Practice Pharmacy Lab on March 26th. The students learned about pharmacy compounding while making hand cream. The lab was supervised by Jeff Reist, Assistant Professor (Clinical), Clinical and Administrative Pharmacy, and several current UI pharmacy students. The Pre-Pharmacy club is open to all students interested in attending the College of Pharmacy and is sponsored by Jennifer Bertrand, Program Associate, Office of Academic Affairs.



GRADUATE STUDENT RECOGNITION RECEPTION



March 23-27 marked Graduate Student Recognition week at the University of Iowa, and the College of Pharmacy recognized their graduate students at a special reception honoring their achievements on March 26th. Michael Duffel, Associate Dean of Research and Graduate Affairs, and Dean Donald Letendre thanked the students for their tireless efforts and dedication on behalf of the College. Students were given College of Pharmacy recycle bags in appreciation of their hard work. There are over 80 graduate students in four program areas: Pharmaceutical Socioeconomics, Pharmaceutics, Medicinal and Natural Products Chemistry and Clinical Pharmaceutical Sciences.

ALUMNUS SPEAKS AT THE THIRD WHITE HOUSE REGIONAL FORUM ON HEALTH REFORM



APhA Board of Trustee Member and Iowa pharmacist **Matt Osterhaus**, '80 BSPH, provided a pharmacists' perspective in the March 23 Regional White House Forum on Health Reform held in Des Moines, Iowa. The regional forums were designed by the White House to bring people together from across the country with a stake in the health reform debate to engage in discussions on ways to improve the health care system.

Osterhaus addressed the ways in which pharmacists can have a positive effect on the health care delivery system. Osterhaus explained that pharmacists help keep healthcare costs down through pharmacist-provided patient care services, such as educating patients on how to take their prescription medications properly and safely, as well as administering health screenings and immunizations. Osterhaus stressed the importance of payment reform, integrating pharmacy with the rest of health care, providing incentives for collaborative team-based care, and focusing more on achieving positive outcomes from pharmaceutical therapy.

Other pharmacists in attendance at the meeting were: Bob Osterhaus, '52 BSP, past president of APhA; Tom Temple, '77 MS, executive vice president and chief executive officer of the Iowa Pharmacy Association; Bernard Sorofman, associate dean of UI College of Pharmacy; and Paul Abramowitz, director of the Department of Pharmaceutical Care, University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics.

ALUMNUS RECEIVES AWARD IN COMMUNITY AND AMBULATORY PRACTICE

The American Pharmacists Association (APhA) has announced that **Nicole Gattas**, '02 PharmD, is the 2009 recipient of the APhA Academy of Pharmacy Practice and Management (APhA-APPM) Distinguished Achievement Award in Community and Ambulatory Practice. Gattas will be officially recognized at the APhA Annual Meeting and Exposition April 3-6, 2009 in San Antonio, Texas. The award was established to recognize the achievements of an individual who has made a significant contribution or sustained contributions to the provision of pharmaceutical care within community and ambulatory practice.

Gattas was selected in recognition of her extensive work in diabetes care, immunizations and medication disposal. Dr. Gattas delivered numerous hours of the self-management education programs to patients in the metropolitan St. Louis area, coordinated 21 immunizing pharmacists covering several stores, and developed and organized a monthly unwanted medication disposal program in more than 20 locations in Missouri and Illinois.

Gattas graduated with her Doctor of Pharmacy degree with high honors in 2002 from the University of Iowa, College of Pharmacy and currently teaches at St. Louis College of Pharmacy, focusing on self-care, pharmaceutical care, immunizations, and other community pharmacy related subjects.

ASSOCIATE DEAN APPOINTED MEMBER OF ADVISORY GROUP



Mike Kelly, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, was appointed a member of the Membership Development Advisory Group of American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) Councils, Commissions, Committees and other bodies for 2009-2010. The group consists of representatives from the executive committees of sections and forums and other individuals with the purpose of advising ASHP on membership recruitment and retention programs. It acts as an advisory body to the ASHP board. He joins twelve other members from different states on the board.

ASHP is a 35,000-member national professional association that represents pharmacists who practice in hospitals, health maintenance organizations, long-term care facilities, home care, and other components of health care systems. ASHP is the only national organization of hospital and health-system pharmacists and has a long history of improving medication use and enhancing patient safety.

FACULTY MEMBER RECEIVES 2009 APHA-APPM AWARD

Jay Currie, '84 PharmD, '80 BSPH, is the 2009 recipient of the APhA Academy of Pharmacy Practice and Management (APhA-APPM) Distinguished Achievement Award in Clinical/Pharmacotherapeutic Practice. Currie is a Clinical Professor and Associate Head of the Division of Clinical and Administrative Pharmacy at the University of Iowa, College of Pharmacy. Currie will be officially recognized at the APhA Annual Meeting and Exposition April 3-6, 2009 in San Antonio, Texas.



The award was established to recognize the achievements of an individual who has made a significant contribution or sustained contributions to the provision of pharmaceutical care within clinical/pharmacotherapeutic practice. Currie was selected in recognition of his efforts to implement pharmaceutical care in pharmacy practice. He was a co-investigator on a pioneering study to measure the impact of pharmaceutical care in a community pharmacy setting. It was this work that became the impetus for the Iowa Center for Pharmaceutical Care (ICPC) in which Currie was a founding member.

Currie's nominator noted, "Not only has Dr. Currie been active in state and national pharmacy organizations, he has also served the local community. He has served as a faculty advisor and volunteer pharmacist/supervisor for The University of Iowa College of Medicine Interdisciplinary Mobile Clinic."