

# Buffalo Pharmacy

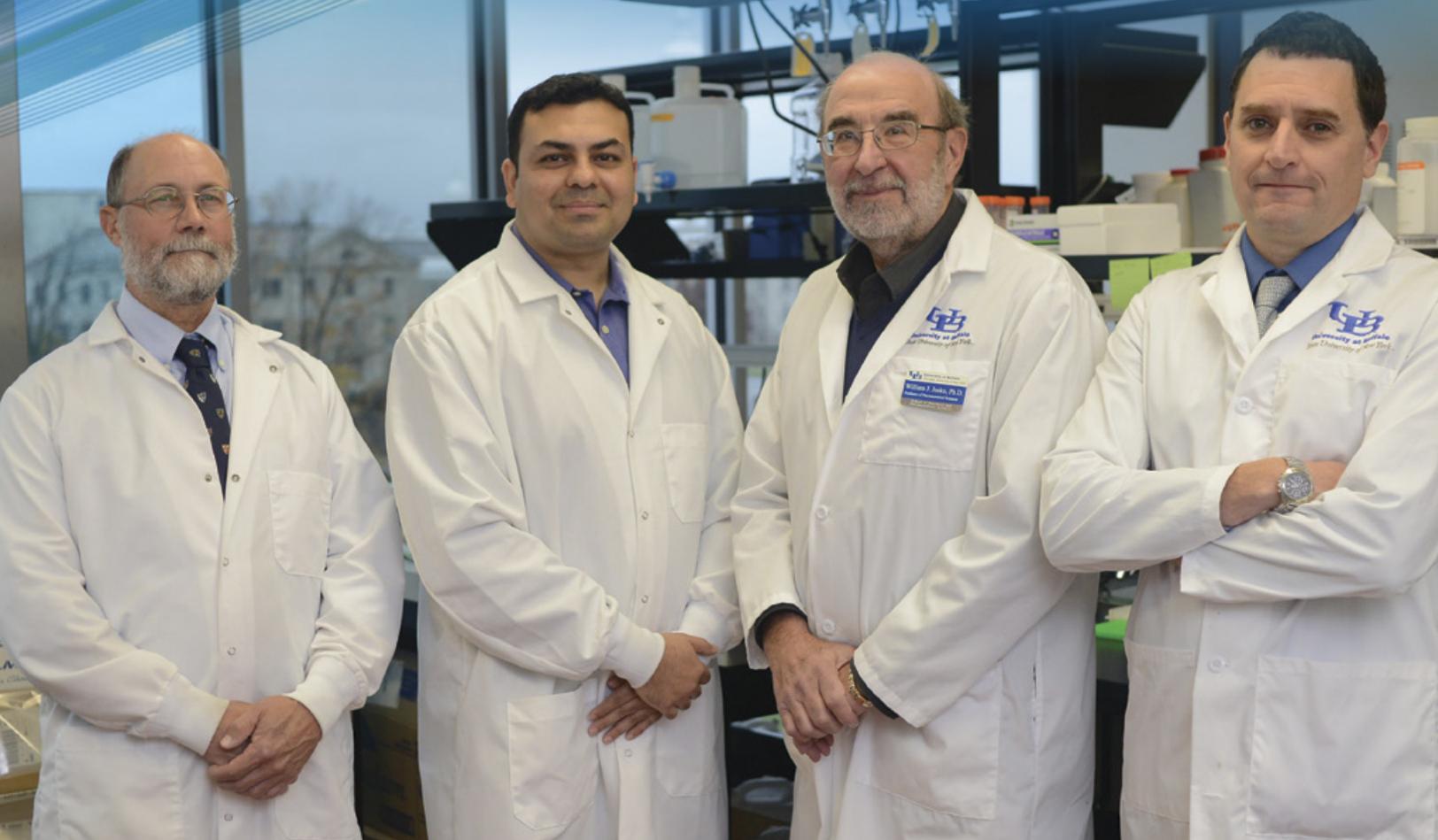
pharmacy.buffalo.edu

Volume 15, 2016

A publication of the Office of External Affairs, University at Buffalo School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences

NEWSLETTER

## Researchers find novel new approaches to fight some of the most devastating diseases





Welcome to the 2016 edition of the Buffalo Pharmacy Newsletter, showcasing the talent and dedication of our faculty and their innovative research work.

I invite you to read about the many outstanding accomplishments of our faculty, staff and students. Their collective ability to lead and shape the professions of pharmacy and the pharmaceutical sciences is truly remarkable and continually inspires me to work towards even greater accomplishments on behalf of the school.

During 2015, our faculty were successful in securing over \$8M+ to find new approaches to society's most devastating diseases, including cancer, HIV/AIDS and autoimmune diseases. The results of their research have the potential for long-term positive benefits for the global population. These innovative scientist-educators, along with our entire faculty, allow us to provide an educational experience like no other for our students.

I thank all our alumni and friends for their continued support and partnership over the past year. Your feedback and guidance has been instrumental in our success and I look forward to an even more dynamic 2016.

With warm regards,

James M. O'Donnell, PhD  
Professor and Dean

IN THIS ISSUE

- 3 Innovative Translational Research
- 5 Center for Protein Therapeutics
- 6 Dual Degrees: PharmD/MPH
- 8 Alumni Profile: Alfonse Muto, '08
- 9 Alumni Notes
- 10 Student Scholarship Golf Tournament

- 12 Student Notes
- 14 Faculty/Staff Notes

*Buffalo Pharmacy Newsletter* is an annual publication of the University at Buffalo School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences.

Please address inquiries to:  
University at Buffalo  
School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences  
Office of External Affairs  
160 Kapoor Hall  
Buffalo, NY 14214-8033

Phone: 716-645-3340  
Email: [phm-alumni@buffalo.edu](mailto:phm-alumni@buffalo.edu)



## Luminary SPPS Faculty Capture \$19M in NIH Funding and Support WNY CTSA Grant

**COLLECTIVELY AND COLLABORATIVELY, THE BENCH-TO-BEDSIDE EFFORTS** of the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences faculty contributed to the ability of the University at Buffalo to capture its first Clinical and Translational Sciences Award (CTSA). And secure millions of dollars in highly competitive federal funding.

The UB School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences has earned international renown for the discovery of new scientific knowledge, and is recognized for savvy faculty members who are capable of securing the capital needed to advance research paradigms and support innovative investigations.

The CTSA grant, led by UB with Buffalo Translational Consortium (BTC) partners Roswell Park Cancer Institute, the Great Lakes Health System, and UBMD and regional community health entities, will speed the development of new drugs, diagnostics and medical devices to patients. Over the coming years, the elite federal funding will anchor UB and its Clinical and Translational Research Center as the cornerstone of the Buffalo Translational Consortium.

SPPS faculty members William J. Jusko, PhD, and Gene D. Morse, PharmD – both SUNY Distinguished Professors – will lead school-based efforts within the BTC and support drug development and community outreach intended to help the expansion of translational research results into clinical practice.

The research strength and leadership of the school has provided the continued foundation for five faculty members to secure highly competitive research grants. These federal grants of \$1M or more are for innovative research work and ongoing investigations to optimize therapeutics for aggressive cancers, HIV/AIDS, and autoimmune and inflammatory disorders.

## FACULTY SECURE \$19M..

continued from page 3



Gene D. Morse

■ Morse garnered a NIH \$12M seven-year Clinical Pharmacology Quality Assurance Contract (CPQA) – an elusive competitive renewal grant to monitor agents used in worldwide clinical pharmacology research on HIV/AIDS and related infectious diseases. UB researchers will conduct quality assurance on clinical pharmacology research into HIV prevention, cure and eradication; antiretroviral treatment strategies, viral hepatitis drug development and tuberculosis treatment, among other areas.

“The emphasis on clinical practice and applied drug therapy creates an excellent blend of a clinician and a researcher who is well suited for a role as a translational scientist and in drug development. These attributes provide the Doctor of Pharmacy graduates with a balanced toolbox of clinical and research skills that bode well for competitive funding in an environment of biomedical innovation,” says Morse, who is associate director of the New York State Center of Excellence in Bioinformatics and Life Sciences.



Robert M. Straubinger

■ Professor Robert M. Straubinger, PhD, received a \$2.1M NIH grant to support the U.S. component of a \$3.8M five-year tripartite international novel research initiative mounted through the U.S.-Ireland R&D Partnership Programme to improve therapies for pancreatic cancer.

Working with Roswell Park Cancer Institute (RPCI), he is using a class of drugs nicknamed “hedgehog inhibitors” to advance previous research that identifies FDA-approved liposome nanoparticles as a viable way to improve the delivery of small molecule drugs to a tumor by making the tumor’s blood vessels leaky.

“What this grant is about is referred to as tumor priming. The idea is that you have a multiple step treatment where the first step compromises the tumor barriers to drug delivery,” Straubinger says, explaining that pancreatic cancer is characterized by dense tumors with a poor blood supply.

“If blood vessels are what bring an intravenous drug into the tumor, you don’t get much delivery. The hedgehog inhibitors both increase the number of leaky blood vessels inside the tumor and thin its outside covering, making it easier to deliver the drugs used to treat pancreatic cancer.”

Using mathematical PK/PD simulation to optimize timing sequences for administration of the tumor priming drug and nanoparticle follow-up, Straubinger’s novel research is also testing the hypothesis that, once inside, large molecule proteins like the anticancer drug Taxol will remain enmeshed in a tumor longer than small molecule drugs, potentially increasing therapeutic efficacy.



Dhavalkumar Shah

■ Assistant Professor Dhavalkumar Shah, PhD, is also using mathematical modeling – to advance pharmacokinetic / pharmacodynamic knowledge related to novel anticancer protein drugs. Funded by a \$1.4M five-year grant entitled “Translational Systems Pharmacokinetic Models of Novel Anticancer Biologies,” he is investigating the quantitative structure pharmacokinetic relationship (QSPR) of varying protein size, antibody conjugates and bi-specific proteins.

“There is a push from NIH that research should be translational,” Shah says. “We are developing pharmacokinetic translational models for these three different kinds of proteins. Once you make the model, it can be translated to the clinic very well.”

In addition to Morse, Associate Professor Javier G. Blanco, PhD, and SUNY Distinguished Professor William J. Jusko, preeminent chair of the SPPS Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, also received NIH competitive renewal grants.

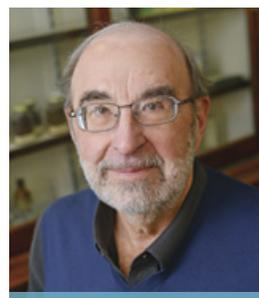


Javier G. Blanco

■ Blanco was awarded \$1.2M in NIH funding from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences to define genetic variants in breast cancer patients that may predict or prevent chemotherapy-induced cardiotoxicity, which can lead to congestive heart failure. His investigative partners include

Vijay Iyer, MD, medical director of cardiology at Kaleida Health and Tracey O’Connor, MD, of Roswell Park Cancer Institute – both of whom are part of the UB School of Medicine faculty – and the bi-national Children’s Oncology Group.

“We are getting close to at least defining a panel of genetic variants that will give us an idea if a patient undergoing chemotherapy has an increased risk or abnormal risk for cardiotoxicity. These patients might be candidates for being treated with certain medications to improve cardiac function or for increased follow up after treatment.”



William J. Jusko

■ Jusko captured \$2.7M to continue his four decades-long investigative work to improve the safety and efficacy of corticosteroid therapies for arthritis and other inflammatory and autoimmune conditions. The new funding for “Corticosteroid, Pharmacokinetics and Pharmacodynamics” follows a

prestigious 10-year NIH Method to Extend Research in Time (MERIT) award.

“I don’t know if they give repeat MERIT awards but we received a wonderful score and now have funds for four more years,” he says with a smile.

He is collaborating with UB Biological Sciences Professors Richard Almon and Debra DuBois, and Biomedical Engineering Professor Ioannis P. Androulakis of Rutgers University to explore the implications of circadian rhythm on dosing regimen, and compare sex-based mechanisms of corticosteroid actions and efficacy.

“Our department is famous for pharmacokinetics and phar-

“It’s a combination of better understanding underlying mechanisms and working toward better ways of using drugs to treat disease conditions.”

macodynamics. We try to find rules of biology and pharmacology that explain how drugs act in the body. Our mathematical models are ways of expressing those rules and explaining how many different factors interact to control drug responses,” says Jusko.

“It’s a combination of better understanding underlying mechanisms and working toward better ways of using drugs to treat disease conditions.”



The School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences also recently received competitive and highly scored NIH grants for innovative investigations by pharmaceutical sciences Professor Sathy Balu-Iyer and by Assistant Professor Juliane Nguyen.

These new successes further position SPPS and its research programs as international leaders in clinical and translational science, with projections robust for continued high-level external funding.

## Center for Protein Therapeutics: Leading-edge research and training

Interest in the development of protein drugs is rapidly increasing, and it has been projected that the majority of new drugs approved in the next decade will be proteins. But current limitations often make correct formulation and administration of such drugs difficult.

Protein-based therapeutics can treat a wide variety of conditions with remarkable effectiveness. For example, more than 30 monoclonal antibodies, a class of protein drugs, have been approved by the US Food and Drug Administration to treat asthma, hypercholesterolemia, rheumatoid arthritis, ulcerative colitis, bone loss, and cancer.

The Center for Protein Therapeutics (CPT), under the direction of Dr. Joseph Balthasar, professor, pharmaceutical sciences, advances the development of next-generation protein drugs, providing improved effectiveness and convenience for users. Innovative research conducted by the CPT has been made possible through collaborative partnerships with ten of the leading pharmaceutical companies.

“The companies are involved in the nomination of project ideas for investigation, evaluating and ranking proposals submitted by the faculty, and working with our faculty and students on teams to guide the completion of each project,” said Balthasar.

### PRIMARY AREAS OF CPT RESEARCH INCLUDE:

- Investigation of determinants of protein pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics
- Development of improved bioanalytical methods for quantification of proteins in biological samples
- Development of improved methods for bioproduct engineering and formulation

### A highly productive partnership between academia and industry

The CPT, which conducts research within UB’s Kapoor Hall and within the New York State Center of Excellence in Bioinformatics and Life Sciences (CBLS), receives over \$1 million each year to fund up to 15 research projects. To date, 86 projects have received support. New findings made by the CPT are presented at national and international meetings and reported within leading pharmaceutical journals. During 2014-15, 26 research articles were published from CPT projects in journals that include *Journal of Pharmacokinetics and Pharmacodynamics*, *Pharmaceutical Research*, *Drug Metabolism and Disposition*, *Analytical Chemistry* and the *AAPS Journal*.

### Fellows in high-demand

CPT fellows are a skilled group comprised of graduate students and post-doctoral scholars. Their training blends coursework with hands-on experimentation and mathematical modeling. Fellows are immersed in our unique and dynamic seminar program, journal clubs, and group research meetings. “Due to the relevance of our research to areas of interest in the pharmaceutical industry, our fellows are in very high demand for employment following completion of their training,” stated Balthasar. The majority of fellow graduates go on to work in the pharmaceutical industry.



Dr. Joseph Balthasar  
Associate Dean for Research

# Dual Degrees: Enhance your PharmD experience and expand your career opportunities

**THE ABILITY TO POSITION YOURSELF FOR CAREER SUCCESS IS AN IMPORTANT FACTOR DURING PHARMD TRAINING**

The University at Buffalo School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences offers five dual degree programs: PharmD/MBA, PharmD/MPH, PharmD/PhD, PharmD/MS and PharmD/JD.

Taking advantage of dual degree programs is an excellent way to enhance your skill set, integrate with faculty across disciplines and expose yourself to multiple facets of health care.

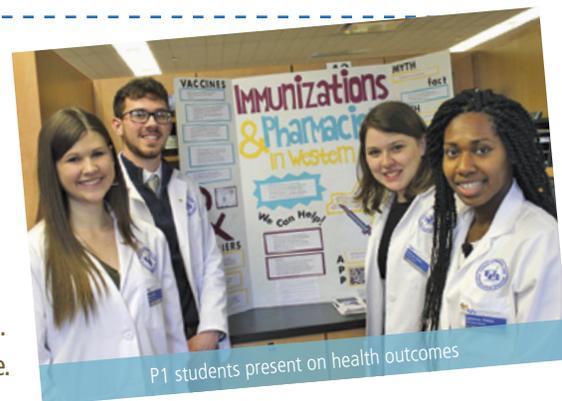
## Dual Degree Spotlight: PharmD/MPH

This dual degree is a five-year program, affording students both a Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) degree and a Master in Public Health (MPH) degree. The multidisciplinary program integrates the skills and knowledge of pharmaceutical sciences and pharmacy practice with public health, health promotion, disease investigation, chronic disease prevention, and medication safety.

This program, which began in 2012, has grown and is of high interest to our students with nine currently enrolled and two graduates.

## PharmD/MPH students: Helping the global community better understand health care for improved health outcomes

Michael Burns, '16, Angela Pieprzak, '17, and Jessica Ashbaugh, '17, were some of the first students to begin the PharmD/MPH program. Collectively, these students were intrigued by the diverse curriculum and wanted to learn more about global community health care. Here is what they have to say about their dual degree journey and what they hope to achieve.



### MICHAEL BURNS

In 2011, Michael joined the PharmD program and began the MPH component of his dual degree program in 2013. He will complete the dual degree program in 2016.

*What interested you in the PharmD/MPH?*

I wanted to learn how to assess, design, and roll out health programs to improve the lives of the American people. In my eyes, these skills perfectly complement those provided by the PharmD curriculum, which will enable me to become a well-versed healthcare provider and reach as many

people as possible.

*What do you want to do with your PharmD/MPH degree?*

I would like to be a licensed pharmacist and practice as an outpatient clinical services administrator within the private sector or a government agency. I hope to utilize both my PharmD and MPH degrees in playing an integral role in community outreach programs and other public health initiatives.

*What has been interesting, gratifying or unexpected during your MPH training?*

What most surprised me

about the MPH program was its ability to integrate the five concentrations of epidemiology, biostatistics, health services administration, community health and health behavior, and environmental health into a well-structured curriculum that can be applied to many public health challenges. It is extremely gratifying to know that I will be so well-prepared to administer health programs upon graduation. This year I will be completing my MPH Integrative Research Project, which seeks to quantify the impact of ambulatory care pharmacists on Medicare

STAR Ratings in collaboration with Lifetime Health Medical Group.

### ANGELA PIEPRZAK

In 2012, Angela joined the PharmD program and began the MPH component of her dual degree program in 2014.

*What interested you in the PharmD/MPH?*

I was interested when I applied to UB. I had worked as a technician at a retail and independent pharmacy during my undergraduate years and wanted a different work experience as a pharmacist. I felt that the MPH, specifically in health services administration, would allow

me to use my clinical pharmacy skills in different ways and would open the door to non-traditional pharmacy roles.

*What do you want to do with your PharmD/MPH degree?*

I currently work at Univera Healthcare as a managed care pharmacy intern and really enjoy being able to incorporate information that I learned during my MPH program into this experience: information about the overall healthcare system, Affordable Care Act, exchanges and reimbursement strategies, as well as how to assess and utilize nationally recognized

guidelines are impact areas I am beginning to apply while interning. I hope to have a career within managed care, whether it be in a health plan, an accountable care organization or in a government setting.

*What has been interesting, gratifying or unexpected during your MPH training?*

One of my favorite aspects of the program was learning and working with a diversity of students: other dual degree students, medical residents, social work students, MBA students, and others. It was interesting to work in groups of students from different backgrounds to see how their viewpoints differ from someone with a medical or pharmacy background.

#### **JESSICA ASHBAUGH**

In 2012, Jessica also joined the PharmD program and began the MPH component of her dual degree program in 2014 along with Angela. She also anticipates graduating in 2017.

*What interested you in the PharmD/MPH?*

The broad view of healthcare was most interesting. The focus of the PharmD is treating the patient but the focus of public health is being aware of what is going on in Buffalo, Erie County, New York State, and nationwide along with what preventive measures and monitoring programs are being utilized and the laws impacting these programs. I was interested in a big picture view of healthcare.

*What do you want to do with your PharmD/MPH degree?*

The combination has opened a lot of doors when it comes to my future career, and I am not sure where I want to go yet. I am completing a PharmD/MPH experience at the New York State Department of Health in January and hope that this will further guide me.

*What has been interesting, gratifying or unexpected during your MPH training?*

I was pleasantly surprised by the variation of healthcare-related students who take public health courses. The MPH program requires multiple group projects and having group members who were physicians, social workers or researchers, or who worked for nonprofits or insurance companies, brought a range of ideas and views to the table.

## DAVID JACOBS, '11, PharmD:

Part Time clinical assistant professor, pharmacy practice and PharmD/MPH program faculty liaison

Full Time PhD Student: UB School of Public Health and Health Professions, Epidemiology and Public Health



### 1) *What are your current responsibilities?*

I lecture in infectious disease pharmacotherapy, biostatistics and pharmacoepidemiology, as well as precept students at Erie County Medical Center on the infectious disease consult service. My research focus is clinical epidemiology, population health and outcomes of healthcare-associated infections utilizing large database design and analysis. I involve students in multiple phases of this research so they can be exposed to clinical research methodologies early in their academic careers.

### 2) *What made you want to go back and pursue your PhD in Epidemiology and Environmental Health?*

I felt additional training in research design, methodology and analysis was necessary to distinguish myself as a researcher. A PhD in Epidemiology would provide those skills, helping me become an independent clinical researcher, where I can investigate the outcomes of healthcare-associated infections allowing for the translation of clinical research findings into practice.

### 3) *What should PharmD students consider when evaluating interest in the PharmD/MPH degree?*

I think students that are interested in epidemiology, community health or health services should consider a dual PharmD/MPH degree. The healthcare system is rapidly changing and this degree can put them ahead of the curve as well as distinguish themselves as a professional. Also, the PharmD/MPH allows students to complete the MPH in one year instead of the 2-3 years it would take after graduation. For students interested in pursuing a career as an independent researcher, they should consider a PhD in their discipline of interest.

### 4) *In your role as the PharmD/MPH advisor, what insights you have gained while also being a 'student' and how do these insights help you advise students?*

One of the most important insights that I discuss with students is that if I could do my PharmD education again, I would have completed a dual degree at that time. As a student, the decision to pursue a dual degree program is difficult; it takes additional time, money and resources. However, the opportunity to complete a graduate program, whether it be an MPH, MBA or MS, in half the time should be heavily considered. I try to meet with students that are interested in the PharmD/MPH and gauge their interest in the program as well as ask them why they are interested. As I have completed many of the classes they will encounter, I can provide insight on the differences between pharmacy school and graduate school.

Dr. Jacobs admits the pressures that come from being a part-time faculty member and a full-time student can be at times overwhelming, but he believes all will be worth it in the long run. He eagerly anticipates completing his PhD so he can apply these new assessment and analytical skills to his practice of pharmacy, education of PharmD students and his translational research program.

## Alfonse J. Muto, Jr., '08

Graduate of the last decade gives back through mentorship, leadership and educational support



Alfonse Muto practices in the field of compounding pharmacy and is an owner of PCAB-accredited Pine Pharmacy, with locations in Williamsville and Niagara Falls.

He is heavily involved in local and state associations: the current president for the Pharmacists' Association of Western New York (PAWNY) and the current chairman of the IV, Nuclear, and Compounding Academy of the

Pharmacists Society of the State of New York (PSSNY), as well as a board member for PSSNY.

### Q&A

#### How did the UB SPSS prepare you for your career path?

UB School of Pharmacy was instrumental in my preparation as a pharmacist. The curriculum was such that it exposed me to a wide variety of practice settings and gave me the tools to be an effective pharmacist no matter which path I chose.

#### What advice would you give students considering your career path?

Most of my career is focused around compounding. I think it's important to find a niche within the practice of pharmacy. Think about the future of the profession, what aspects are likely

to be around in 10 years and which ones will be extinct. The thing I like about compounding is the customizability. The possibilities are endless and the art of compounding is unlikely to be accomplished by robotics.

#### What career accomplishments are you most proud of and why?

The career accomplishment I'm most proud of is the opening of our 503B Outsourcing Facility. Outsourcing facilities are a new entity that pharmacists must oversee. Outsourcers must comply with FDA's Current Good Manufacturing Practices (CGMP), which is a complete unknown to most

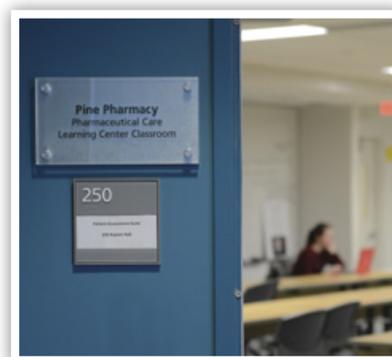
pharmacists. I take great satisfaction in working with our team at Pine to develop and implement standard operating procedures compliant with FDA's Current Good Manufacturing Practices (CGMPs).

#### What don't people know about your field that you wish they did?

I wish compounding was taught in greater detail to practitioners. Oftentimes their prescribing patterns are steered by marketing by drug manufacturers. There are many cases where there is a better treatment alternative that the practitioner may not even be aware exists.

Alfonse is an active supporter of the UB School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences. He is a dynamic preceptor, mentoring both IPPE and APPE students. His family's generous donation to the school's **Pine Pharmacy Pharmaceutical Care Learning Center** has inspired others to also give, allowing the school to further strengthen its national presence.

His leadership has been recognized across the profession. Alfonse is a recipient of the 2012 and 2015 National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations (NASPA) Excellence in Innovation Award, which recognizes pharmacists who have demonstrated significant innovation in practice, method or service that improved patient care and/or advancement of the profession of pharmacy. Muto is also a 2013 Fellow of the International Academy of Compounding Pharmacists (IACP), which distinguishes pharmacists who are exemplary in their professionalism and commitment to the art and skill of pharmacy compounding.



#### If you weren't a pharmacist what would you be?

Were I not a pharmacist, I'd probably be a software engineer. There are so many day-to-day scenarios that I wish I had a customized software to accomplish for me.

## 2015 Alumni Reunion

Our 2015 Reunion Celebration honored the classes of 1965, 1970, 1975, 1980, 1985, 1990, 1995, 2000, 2005 and 2010 with multiple days of events and programs. The weekend kicked off on Friday, Oct. 2, with a lively panel discussion on personalized medicine, hosted by the UB Alumni Association, and included UB alumni from medicine, law, informatics, public health and nursing. The pharmacy featured panelist was Gene Morse, '80 & '83, SUNY Distinguished Professor, pharmacy practice.

The celebration continued with alumni tours of Kapoor Hall and the University at Buffalo South Campus and a cocktail reception for all 5th year classes at the Hotel Lafayette in downtown Buffalo.

On Saturday, Oct. 3, our alumni cheered on the UB Bulls at the Homecoming tailgate party and football game. Later that evening, the Classes of 1975 and

Reunion Class 1965



2005 also held private dinners to commemorate their 40th and 10th reunions, respectively. The Class of 1975 held their dinner at Milos Restaurant in Williamsville and had a great time catching up

with the many classmates that attended. The Class of 2005 secured a private room at Big Ditch Brewery for cocktails and great conversation!

Thank you to all who celebrated with us and we look forward to our 2016 reunion events honoring the classes of 1961, 1966, 1971, 1976, 1981, 1986, 1991, 1996, 2001, 2006 and 2011!

### Willis G. Gregory Society Summer Reception

On Aug. 19, the school was pleased to host a recognition event for members of the Willis G. Gregory Society on board the deck of the U.S.S. Little Rock at the Buffalo and Erie County Naval and Military Park. Over 40 alumni and friends attended and enjoyed a beautiful summer night overlooking Buffalo's waterfront.

Donors to the Willis G. Gregory Society make annual gifts of \$1,000 or more to the school. The society represents distinguished donors who share the school's vision and commitment to innovative pharmacy practice, pharmaceutical and clinical research, and high-quality instruction.

### International Society of Pharmacometrics Alumni Dinner



Alumni from the department of pharmaceutical sciences met for dinner after William Jusko, '65, SUNY Distinguished Professor and department chair, pharmaceutical sciences, presented a lecture entitled, "Transitioning from Basic PK/PD to Systems Pharmacology" at the July NJ/PA meeting of the International Society of Pharmacometrics (ISoP). ISoP president Donald Mager, associate professor, pharmaceutical sciences, provided introductory comments.

### Nine Lives: UB and the Madejski family

Rose Mary Crimaldi-Madejski, '59, and her multi-generational UB School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences family were profiled in the *Drug Topics* article "U.B. and beyond: Nine Lives in pharmacy." Rose Mary discussed their pharmacy journey as it began in 1926 when her father-in-law, Julian Madejski, '28, entered the UB School of Pharmacy. Rose Mary met her husband, Jan Madejski, '59, while in pharmacy school and her sister, Margaret Crimaldi-Quinn, '60, graduated a year later. Rose Mary and Jan had three children, two of whom also entered the UB pharmacy school: Thomas Madjeski, '82, and Linda Madjeski, '83. When Rose Mary retired from community pharmacy practice, she joined the school as a faculty member from 1990 to 2001. We are so proud of the Crimaldi-Madejski family legacy and we look forward to being part of their extended family for years to come!

### Individual Accomplishments

#### Diehl recipient of Inaugural Rochester Young Alumni Award

**Christopher Diehl, '12**, was honored by the Rochester Chapter of the UB Alumni Association with the Young Alumni Award, which recognizes recent alumni who demonstrate leadership and community outreach on behalf of their professions and the University at Buffalo. Chris was recognized for his leadership while a student as well as during the launch of his career with Lifetime Health Medical Group and Excellus Blue Cross Blue Shield, where he works on behalf of underserved populations in the greater Rochester area. Chris also is a preceptor and guest lecturer for the school.



**Craig Brozek, '70**, received the IPPE Outstanding Contribution Award at the 2015 Preceptor Awards.

**Susan Ksiazek, '82**, presented "Regulating Team Based Care – Where Do We Start?" at the 2015 Annual Meeting of the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (NABP) in New Orleans in May.

**Tammie Lee Demler, '92 & '02**, was recognized by the American College of Clinical Pharmacy (ACCP) for her authorship and significant contributions to the 2013-2015 Ambulatory Care Self-Assessment Program.

**Michelle Rainka, '05**, received the Stephen Kelly Award for Professionals on the Move from the National Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Society at their annual Champions on the Move luncheon.

**Charles Greenberg, '07**, was promoted to supervising pharmacist with Reliant

Medical Pharmacy, where he provides medication therapy management and enhanced pharmacy services, including medication synchronization plans designed to minimize pharmacy visits and enhance patient education.

**James Bartlett, '09**, was recognized as Inpatient Care Preceptor of the Year at the 2015 Preceptor Awards.

**Sarah Thompson** has been awarded the prestigious Providence, Rhode Island Business News 40 Under Forty award. Sarah completed the UB SPPS two-year Novartis drug development fellowship in 2008.

**Heather Rodman, '13**, accepted a position as a pediatric pharmacist at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center.

**Gregory Koopman, '14**, was promoted to pharmacist-in-charge at CVS in Laurel, MD.

**Justin Lenhard, '14**, took first place and **Liz Lakota, '15**, took second place at the International Polymyxin Combinations Conference among a group of young investigators from Israel, Brazil, Greece, China, Australia and other countries.

**Lisa Garza**, a 2015 graduate of the UB SPPS/Middleport Family Health PGY1 Community Pharmacy Residency, authored an article entitled "To be or not to be a resident... that is the question" featured by APhA that explored how students can decide if a residency is right for them.

### In Memoriam:

- John Evans, '51
- Paul Marone, '51
- Sherwin Miller, '52
- Samuel Piazza, '52
- Robert Winship, '52
- Roger Richard, '53
- Alfred Brownell, '54
- Ronald Dawes, '54
- Ronald Culp, '55
- Ralph S. Vescio, '55
- Zalman Garten, '56
- Ira J. Krause, '57
- John W. Dalin, '60
- Linda Alfieri Wailan, '66
- Richard C. Cavestri, '70
- David W. Dougherty, '71
- Edward Renkas, Jr., '73
- Philip T. Berkowitz, '75
- Stephen J. Bruski, '82
- Judith Niemie, '90

### McGlynn blogs for the Huffington Post on International AIDS impact on women

**Margie McGlynn, '82**, former President and CEO of International AIDS Vaccine Initiative, blogged for the *Huffington Post* regarding the high impact AIDS has on women internationally. AIDS is the world's leading cause of death among women of child-bearing age – this tragic statistic has great negative impact on the families, societies and economies women support across the globe. Margie's work through the International AIDS Vaccine Initiative is bringing together women leaders throughout science, health care and advocacy to bring the world an AIDS vaccine. In the *Huffington Post* article, she profiled four dynamic women who are making a difference in India, Kenya, Nairobi and South Africa.





Brian Houston

## Gerhard Levy Distinguished Lectureship

Brian Houston, DSc, Professor of Drug Metabolism & Pharmaceutics, School of Pharmacy, University of Manchester, England, delivered the Gerhard Levy Distinguished Lecture Thursday, Oct. 22, in Kapoor Hall.

His presentation on "Prediction of Human Pharmacokinetics" was attended by faculty and students from the department of pharmaceutical sciences as well as PharmD students and pharmacy practice faculty.

Dr. Houston is the director of the Centre for Applied Pharmacokinetic Research (CAPKR) and head of the pharmaceutical sciences at the University of Manchester. He is a member of several scientific journal editorial boards, has experience on national science funding bodies and is a consultant to a number of pharmaceutical companies. His recent research work has focused on promoting the use of *in vitro* and *in silico* systems for predicting human metabolism and pharmacokinetics.

Houston earned a Bsc from Queen Mary College, London; PhD from the University of Surrey; and DSc from the University of Manchester. An evening reception was held in his honor at the Ramada Inn, Amherst, NY.

The UB Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences established the Gerhard Levy Distinguished Lectureship in 2000 in honor of Dr. Levy, who is considered the father of pharmacodynamics, for his role as a pioneer and principal contributor in the fields of biopharmaceutics, pharmacokinetics, clinical pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics.

# 2015 Student Scholarship Golf Tournament

On Monday, June 8, the UB School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences Student Scholarship Golf Tournament celebrated its 12th year on the greens of the Lockport Town and Country Club with over 100 golfers.

Through the generosity of alumni, friends and sponsors, \$23,000 was raised to support student scholarships. Tournament scholarships are awarded to students who have demonstrated academic merit during their tenure at the school. By recognizing superior students, we encourage and support all students to strive for excellence in their pharmacy practice and pharmaceutical sciences studies.

### Congratulations to our 2015 student scholarship awardees:

- |                                  |                          |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Brian Bowman, '16 (not pictured) | Ryan St. James, '16      |
| Ciera Patzke, '16                | Catherine Gawronski, '17 |
| Mia Magliazzo, '16               | Laura Bielecki, '17      |
| Carly Poccia, '16 (not pictured) |                          |



Student Scholarship Awardees



1st Place Winning Foursome

### We'd like to extend a special thanks to our 2015 tournament sponsors:

- Grand Sponsor:** Rochester Drug Cooperative
- Platinum Sponsor:** Rite Aid Pharmacy
- Silver Sponsor:** McKesson HealthMart Pharmacy
- Bronze Sponsors:** Cuba, Fillmore, Fisher's Pharmacies; Forster's Pharmacy; Independent Health; Middleport Family Health Center; J. Rutowski & Sons, Pharmacies, Inc.; Woodmark Pharmacy
- Hole-In-One Sponsor,** Acura College Alumni Team Championship

### Tournament Contest Winners:

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <b>1st Place Winning Foursome (with a score of 59):</b><br><i>and qualifiers for a four day / three night trip for four to the Acura Alumni College Team Championship at the Pinehurst Golf Resort in North Carolina:</i><br>Steve Giroux, '81      Don Crosby<br>Zachary Giroux      Tim Smith | <b>2nd Place Winning Foursome (with a score of 61):</b><br>William Prescott, '02      Patrick Smith<br>Nick Norgard      Mark Jaccarino        |   |
|   | <b>3rd Place Winning Foursome (with a score of 63):</b><br>Jeff Lombardo, '04      Kyle Kapturowski<br>William Bartz, '16      Gene Morse, '83 |   |
|   | <b>Closest to the Line, Hole 4:</b><br>Men: Mark Scibilia<br>Women: Maria Mintskovsky, '18   | <b>Closest to the Pin, Hole 6:</b><br>Men: Chris Daly, '12<br>Women: Emily Obrist |

Visit [pharmacy.buffalo.edu/golf2015](http://pharmacy.buffalo.edu/golf2015) for a photo gallery of the event!

## Class of 2019 is the largest PharmD class in school history

The White Coat Ceremony symbolizes passage into the initial stages of the profession of pharmacy practice and represents a contract for excellence in providing compassionate patient care.

The event also highlights the importance of scientific scholarship and emphasizes the highest principles of moral, ethical and legal conduct.

One hundred and thirty-eight students took their first public step toward becoming pharmacists at the annual White Coat Ceremony on Aug. 27, 2015. The Class of 2019 is the largest PharmD class in the history of the school.

During the "Calling of the Class," each of the students in the Class of 2019 were called to the stage and presented with their coat by **Karl Fiebelkorn, '78**, senior associate dean for student, professional, and community affairs and associate professor in the department of pharmacy practice.

**Amanda McEvoy, '08**, director of the Community Pharmacy Residency Program, clinical coordinator at Middleport Family Health Center and president-elect of the Pharmacists Association of Western New York (PAWNY), gave the keynote address, which included her top four tips for the first-year students.



1. 90% of life is showing up on time.
2. Don't be a late bloomer – start networking now!
3. Be a problem solver.
4. When in doubt, put the patient first.

## Orientation 2015

At this year's orientation, incoming students learned about everything that encompasses being a pharmacy student, including academic program requirements, career opportunities, expectations, professionalism, and academic performance.

The busy two days were filled with activities intended to create a bond between students and their peers, the school and the university community.

Students participated in an engaging panel discussion on careers in pharmacy, featuring alumni **Tina Fiebelkorn, '79**, **Amanda McEvoy, '08**, and **Kyle Mack, '11**.

More than 25 student organizations gave poster presentations to the Class of 2019, showcasing the many opportunities for experiential education and networking.

The School of Nursing and the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences joined forces to form a pilot interprofessional clinic offering early influenza shots to the Class of 2019.

This unique outreach program created an opportunity for collaboration, as nursing students worked with faculty and teaching assistants from both disciplines.

Our first-annual Meet Your Advisor luncheon allowed students the opportunity to have a casual conversation with their advisors while dining on authentic Buffalo cuisine.

View photos from the Orientation Weekend and the 2015 White Coat Ceremony at [pharmacy.buffalo.edu/whitecoat2015](http://pharmacy.buffalo.edu/whitecoat2015).





### Class of 2015 Farewell Celebration

On May 15, 2015, the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences Alumni Association hosted the PharmD Class of 2015 as they celebrated their graduation at the Hotel Lafayette in downtown Buffalo. James O'Donnell, dean, and Karl Fiebelkorn, senior associate dean, provided comments and distributed Class of 2015 pins to the soon-to-be alumni.

Class officers Jinhee Park, president, Caitlin Hoar, vice president, Brittany Slocum, treasurer, and Nicholas Ladziak, curriculum coordinator, offered comments to their classmates and honored Joshua Sawyer, clinical assistant professor, pharmacy practice, with the Class of 2015 Faculty Recognition award.

### Student Pharmacists for Global Outreach serves the underserved

Members of the UB Student Pharmacists for Global Outreach (SPGO) organization spent an "alternative" spring break in Chicago, where they learned about the homeless and helped the underserved.

SPGO also spent a weekend in Wise County, VA, over the summer volunteering with Remote Area Medical (RAM) in one of the largest annual free clinic settings. Students assisted with medication reconciliations, vaccinations, counseling and other clinical services.

### "The Right Prescription for Internationalization"

*International Educator and Academic Pharmacy Now* explored how pharmacy schools on university campuses are balancing various options to deliver the best solutions to influence local and global health. The prestigious and well-established international experiences offered by the University at Buffalo School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences were highlighted in the articles, with special focus given to two class of 2016 PharmD students, Sara DiTursi and Ciera Patzke.

### Phi Delta Chi gives back to the community



Phi Delta Chi raised over \$3,700 at its fifth annual charity outreach event and basket raffle. The event, held in April, benefited Dog Tags Niagara, an agency of SPCA Niagara, where local animal shelters partner with veterans to nurture shelter dogs. Each spring, PDC chooses a different local charitable organization to support for its fundraising event.

### SPPS students shine at UB's 2015 Celebration of Academic Excellence

- PhD candidate **Sheryl Trueman-Fathallah** won the top award for UB's Sigma Xi Graduate Research Competition. Her winning poster was titled "Optimization of pancreatic tumor priming by dovitinib to enhance gemcitabine uptake and efficacy."
- **Kemji Eke, '16**, and **Sara DiTursi, '16**, presented posters in the Collegiate Sciences and Technology Entry Program (CSTEP).
- **Negin Salehi, '15**, was recognized with UB's Undergraduate Award for Excellence in Research at the Celebration of Excellence for his paper "Optimizing Combination Chemotherapy of Trastuzumab with Paclitaxel in HER2-positive Breast Cancer." His faculty mentor was Sihem Bihorel, research assistant professor, pharmaceutical sciences.

### Compounding Boot Camp

A group of students from the Class of 2018 attended the Professional Compounding Centers of America Compounding Boot Camp in Houston, TX, over the summer, an opportunity for students to explore the field of compounding pharmacy and its potential career paths. "[It] was worthwhile and an invaluable experience," **Morgan Lebrecht, '18**, said.

### 2015 Pharmacy Day in Albany

**Karl Fiebelkorn, '78**, senior associate dean, traveled with a group of students to Albany in April for a day devoted solely to student advocacy on issues they will face as pharmacists. **Ryan St. James, '16**, president of the Student Pharmacists Society of the State of New York, addressed 800 pharmacists and student pharmacists.

### Pharmacy students and faculty spend winter break helping those in need

Professors Gina Prescott and Alfred Reiman escorted groups of PharmD students on medical mission trips over the 2015 winter break. Dr. Prescott hosted four PharmD students on a trip to the Dominican Republic with SCORE International where they saw 455 patients in SCORE International headquarters in Juan Dolio. Professor Reiman hosted nine students on a trip to Santa Lucia, Honduras, with the Shoulder to Shoulder Brigade, where the UB team conducted workshops and offered counseling on maternal care, home health care and preventative strategies.



Santa Lucia, Honduras

### Half-Way Gala

The PharmD Class of 2017 hosted the annual Half-Way Gala on Feb. 7, 2015, at the Adams Mark Hotel. The event raised money for Camp Good Days and Special Times, a no-charge recreational camp for families whose lives have been touched by cancer. Liza Booz, regional director for Camp Good Days and Special Times, attended and accepted a donation of \$2,867.70 from the school.

### SPSA networking event

The School of Pharmacy Student Association (SPSA) hosted their annual fall networking event at the Hotel Lafayette on Oct. 8, 2015. The event gave students the opportunity to network with local and regional pharmacy professionals as well as other students. In attendance were representatives from Independent Health, Middleport Family Health Center, ECMC, Tops Markets, Rite Aid, and Rochester Drug Cooperative.

## Individual Accomplishments



**Madeline Waldron, '15**, was featured in the April issue of *Pharmacy Times*. The profile focused on her school leadership as SPSA President and her numerous other volunteer efforts. Madeline was a 2015 recipient of the *Pharmacy Times* and Walmart Respect, Excellence and Service in Pharmacy (RESPy) Award, presented to extraordinary pharmacy students who have made a difference in their communities by demonstrating excellence in pharmaceutical care and advancing the profession of pharmacy.



**Elizabeth Lakota, PharmD/MS '15**, was recognized with the 2015 SUNY Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence. This special award honors SUNY students who have best demonstrated and been recognized for their integration of academic excellence with other aspects of their lives, which may include leadership, athletics, career achievement, community service or creative and performing arts.

**Ciera Patzke, '16**, was selected as a 2015 American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) Walmart Scholar Program Recipient. The program provides \$1,000 travel scholarships from AACP member institutions to attend the AACP Annual Meeting and the AACP Teachers Seminar.

**Sara DiTursi, '16**, was recently selected as a recipient of a 2015 American College of Clinical Pharmacy (ACCP) Global Conference Student Travel Award. She presented her poster at the annual conference in San Francisco: "A feasibility analysis for the development of an international introductory/advanced pharmacy practice experience program in Taiwan."

**Kerry Archer, '16**, and **Ryan St. James, '16**, were accepted into the summer 2015 VALOR Program at the White River Junction VA Medical Center in Vermont. The VALOR program is designed to attract academically successful students of doctor of pharmacy programs to work at a Veteran's Affairs (VA) facility.

Thirty-three UB School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences students traveled to NYC to attend the Pharmacists Society of the State of New York Summer Convention. Congratulations to the 2015 Jeopardy Self Care Challenge Winning Team (beating out all the other NYS schools of pharmacy): **Mia Magliazzo, '16**, **Ali Scrimenti, '17**, **Anthony DeGelorm, '18**, and **Christian Bernhardt, '18**.

**Sharif Soleman, '17**, was chosen for an internship at Roche Pharmaceuticals Translational

and Clinical Research Center in New York City. He will be involved in pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamics mathematical modeling and clinical trial design.

**Ciera Patzke, '16**, **Collin Clark, '17**, and **Faisal Minhaj, '17**, won the 2015 American College of Clinical Pharmacy (ACCP) Clinical Pharmacy Challenge Local Competition. They moved on to the first round of the national competition and placed in the top 32.

**Charvi Nanavati, '16**, pharmaceutical sciences PhD student, was elected Trainee Committee Chair for the American Conference on Pharmacometrics (ACoP) for 2015. She was responsible for organizing two trainee events at the ACoP annual meeting.

**The UB student chapter of the Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy (AMCP)** was nationally recognized for developing a successful new pharmacy and therapeutics shadowing program for members. The UB chapter was one of eight schools asked to present its project during the Chapter Leadership Academy at the AMCP Annual Meeting in San Diego this past April.



Brian Bowman and Karl Fiebelkorn

strated interest in independent pharmacy, as well as involvement in extracurricular activities and academic achievement.

Pharmaceutical Sciences Graduate students **Gurkishan Chadha** and **Radha Ramakrishnan** were chosen for the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists Biotechnology Graduate Student Symposium where they also gave presentations.

**Erik Hefti, PharmD '14, MS '17**, and **Javier Blanco**, associate professor, pharmaceutical sciences, published a scientific manuscript in the *Journal of Cardiovascular Toxicology* entitled "Anthracycline-Related Cardiotoxicity in Patients with Acute Myeloid Leukemia and Down Syndrome: A Literature Review." The concise review compiles literature relating to the incidence of anthracycline-related cardiotoxicity in pediatric patients with Down Syndrome.

Seven students from SPPS attended the National Community Pharmacists Association (NCPA) Annual Convention in National Harbor, MD. **Sarah Reed, '17**, serves on the NCPA Student Leadership Council and assisted with the "future pharmacists" programming at the convention.

**Alexandra Markus, '16**, is currently serving on the AMCP National Student Pharmacist Committee as vice-chair. The committee supports the AMCP student chapter program and promotes the interests of student pharmacists in managed care pharmacy.

*The AMA Journal of Ethics* published an article by **David F. Essi, '18**, titled "Mixing Dinner and Drugs – Is It Ethically Contraindicated?" The article argues that pharmaceutical representatives, compliance companies and restaurants lack incentives for ensuring compliance with industry regulations for pharmaceutical speaker programs.

**Brian Bowman, PharmD/MBA '16**, received a \$3,000 Presidential Scholarship from the National Community Pharmacists Association (NCPA) Foundation. NCPA Foundation Presidential Scholarship recipients are evaluated by the NCPA Foundation Scholarship Committee on the basis of leadership qualities and accomplishments with a demonstrated interest in independent pharmacy, as well as involvement in extracurricular activities and academic achievement.

## UB Pharmacy students make an impact at the federal, state and local levels

Our students demonstrate the strength of our school through a wealth of leadership roles at the national, regional and local levels.



**Maya Holsen, '17**, was appointed to the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) Pharmacy Student Forum Student Society Development Advisory Group (SSDAG), whose focus is benefits and services for ASHP student members. Maya is the first SPPS student that has been appointed to a national post within ASHP!

As president of the UB Student Society of Health-System Pharmacists (SSHP), Holsen organizes a variety of events that help pharmacy students become competitive residency candidates. "My position in the ASHP Advisory Group allows me to share my experiences with these events and explore how we can improve them," Holsen said.

**Olivia Dioguardi, '18**, **Stacy Fredrick, '18**, and **Adam Heiermann, '16**, represented UB at the APhA-ASP Summer Leadership Institute in Washington, DC. The students conducted Capitol Hill visits with their legislators and attended various workshops to further their leadership skills. Olivia is the Region 1 Delegate for APhA-ASP, Stacy is the president-elect for UB's APhA-ASP chapter and Adam is serving on the APhA-ASP Policy Standing Committee.



### Regional leadership and advocacy

Regionally, UB SPPS is well-represented in SPSSNY, the student chapter of Pharmacists Society of the State of New York, and SPAWNY, the student chapter of the Pharmacists Society of Western New York, who advocate for important pharmacy issues and the advancement of the pharmacy profession while maintaining a high professional and ethical standard. SPSSNY and SPAWNY actively promote and support Pharmacy Day in Albany, Pharmacy Legislative Advocacy Day (PLAID) and national Drug Take Back Days. They also attend PSSNY annual meetings, where various pieces of legislation and other professional advocacy issues are discussed.

The two organizations are working together to reach out to legislators across the state to secure support for pharmacy students as immunizers in New York. SPSSNY President **Corey Wells, '17**, is leading this effort along with SPAWNY President **Ali Scrimenti, '17**.

"If students were able to immunize under the supervision of a certified pharmacist, it would add to the protection of the patients from preventable diseases and increase overall immunization rates," says Scrimenti.



**Gene Morse, '80 & '83: 2015 State University of New York Distinguished Professor Award**

Internationally recognized as a pioneering pharmacology researcher and one of the most productive and visible faculty members at the school, at UB and in SUNY, Dr. Morse is a leader in assessing the pharmacokinetics of new HIV and infectious disease medications.

Dr. Morse's leadership is widespread, from directing the Translational Pharmacology Research Core to heading the HIV Treatment and Education program and Adherence Pharmacology Unit at Erie County Medical Center since 1988. His call to action regarding the HIV/AIDS epidemic in Africa resulted in the creation and oversight of an HIV research program with the University of Zimbabwe.

His development of national clinical pharmacology groups to pursue therapeutic drug monitoring and pharmacogenomics led to the establishment of the National HIV TDM Registry for protease inhibitors. He has also created groundbreaking methodologies for measuring drug concentrations in humans. Throughout his career he has maintained strong and consistent external funding, including a recent \$12 million NIH grant to lead a clinical pharmacology quality assurance program focused on HIV/AIDS and related diseases.

Dr. Morse's service as faculty member in the school is equally as strong as his professional service. He has been a member of the faculty since 1983 and served as chair of the department of pharmacy practice and Associate Dean of Clinical Education and Research from 1996 to 2007. He has supervised over 50 PharmD students, over 15 residents and over 30 national and international fellows. The many school and university committees Dr. Morse has steered have helped form policies and directives for health science education and research at UB as well as SUNY.



**William J. Prescott, Jr., '02: 2015 University at Buffalo Teaching Innovation Award**

Dr. Prescott is an exceptional educator who incorporates innovative pedagogical techniques and technology into his teaching as well as the PharmD curriculum. An advocate of active learning, his teaching methods include simulation-based and inter-professional education, flipped classroom, and team- and case-based learning. He is a strong advocate for post-graduate educational training and was past director of the pharmacy school's residency program. He was also responsible for the creation of the school's scholar program, designed to identify and mentor students who show interest in post graduate training.

Dr. Prescott currently serves as vice-chair of the department of pharmacy practice and is the PharmD program director. His educational leadership is further supported by his focused engagement in various educational and scholarly outreach initiatives within the school as well as across campus and within the community. He was chosen as the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy Teacher of the Year in 2007 and 2011, the Albert E. Rosica, Jr. Memorial Award recipient in 2013 and the UB School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences Faculty Preceptor of the Year recipient in 2014. His strong professional impact is evidenced through his work and leadership as the current Director of Chapter Events for the New York State Council of Health-system Pharmacists as well as via his past appointments as secretary and faculty liaison for the Western New York Society of Health-system Pharmacists.

**New Hires**

**Terry E. Dunn, '83 & '89**, clinical assistant professor, pharmacy practice

**Robert Bies**, associate professor, pharmaceutical sciences

**Promotions/Changes**

**Jennifer Hess**, associate dean for admissions, enrollment planning and pre-pharmacy advising

**Fred Doloresco**, clinical associate professor, pharmacy practice



Jean-Michel Scherrmann, Dean of Faculty, Paris Descartes University, and William Jusko

**Jusko receives Doctor Honoris Causa**

**William Jusko, '65**, SUNY Distinguished Professor and department chair, pharmaceutical sciences, was presented with the insignia of Doctor Honoris Causa from the University of Paris Descartes. The title of doctor honoris causa is the highest distinction which can be awarded by a French university. This degree is a mark of honorary distinction given to a scientist; it honors not only the scientific excellence of men and women, all of whom are involved in the advancement of science, but also their commitment to humanism and their contribution to the evolution of society as a whole.



**Woodruff honored as AACP Teacher of the Year**

**Ashley Woodruff, '09**, clinical assistant professor, pharmacy practice, was recognized at the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACCP) national meeting as the UB School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences Teacher of the Year.

**Partners from Jamaica, UB and Buffalo plan new center for infectious disease research**

Dignitaries from Jamaica and Western New York convened in Buffalo for the first annual meeting of the Buffalo Jamaica Innovation Enterprise (BJIE), which was formed to create the foundation for a partnership that will lead to a number of collaborative projects, including the Jamaica Center for Infectious Diseases Research (CIDR). CIDR, a national program that will be located in Kingston, Jamaica, will partner with UB and the SUNY Global Health Institute, a system-wide initiative co-directed by SUNY Distinguished Professors **Gene Morse, '80 & '83**, UB School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, and Jack DeHovitz, SUNY Downstate Medical Center.

**Faculty and staff present at American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy Annual Meeting**

- **William Prescott, '02**, clinical associate professor and department vice-chair, pharmacy practice: *Sowing The Seeds of Peds: Designing a Pediatrics Elective* (Identifying topics for a pediatric elective course)
- **Gina Prescott**, clinical associate professor, pharmacy practice, and William Prescott: *Global Health Education in US Pharmacy Schools* (Co-author includes Betty N. Vu, '16)
- **Rebecca Brierley**, assistant dean, external affairs: *Administrative Services Section: Higher Education Communication and Outreach Planning*

## Awards and Honors

### UB SPPS HIV research gains international recognition

In January 2015, the University at Buffalo was accepted as a Center of Excellence in Antiviral Clinical Pharmacology by the Global Virus Network (GVN) Scientific Review Board, a coalition of the world's leading medical virologists from more than 25 countries. The effort, led by **Gene Morse, '80 & '83**, SUNY Distinguished Professor, pharmacy practice, demonstrates the strength of the UB HIV and HCV Clinical Pharmacology Laboratory as an internationally-recognized leader in antiviral pharmacology and therapeutics.

**Alice Ceacareanu**, assistant professor, pharmacy practice, was a keynote speaker at the Annual Congress of the International Society of Regenerative Medicine and Surgery in Bucharest, Romania. Her presentation topic was "Determinants of Hormone-Receptor Status in Women with Diabetes Mellitus and Breast Cancer."

**Karl Fiebelkorn, '78**, senior associate dean, clinical associate professor, pharmacy practice, was elected as the Director of Public Policy, Board of Directors, of the Western Chapter New York State Council of Health-system Pharmacists (WNYSHSP).

**Marilyn Morris, '84**, UB Distinguished Professor and vice chair, pharmaceutical sciences, received the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists (AAPS 2015) Innovation in Biotechnology Award for her abstract submission "Effect of Type II Diabetes Mellitus (T2DM) and Diabetic Nephropathy (DN) on IgG Pharmacokinetics and Subcutaneous Bioavailability."

**Nicholas Norgard**, clinical assistant professor, pharmacy practice, was awarded 2015 Educator of the Year by the New York State Chapter of the American College of Clinical Pharmacy (AACCP).

**Gina Prescott**, clinical assistant professor, pharmacy practice, was selected as the faculty mentor for the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACCP) Walmart Scholars Program with Ciera Patzke, '16, a 2015 AACCP Walmart Scholar Program Recipient.

**Sara Robinson**, academic advisor and associate director of admissions and

advisement, won the 2015 Outstanding Academic Advising Award from the UB Undergraduate Advisement Council.



Tornatore-Morse and Anil Chandracker, FAST President-elect

**Kathleen Tornatore-Morse, '81**, professor, pharmacy practice, was designated a Fellow of the American Society of Transplantation (FAST). The FAST designation recognizes AST members who have demonstrated both an exceptional commitment to the field of transplantation and outstanding service to the AST.

**Robert Wahler, '00**, clinical assistant professor, pharmacy practice, has been recognized as a Certified Pain Educator (CPE) by the American Society of Pain Educators. Dr. Wahler was also recognized as the school's Pharmacy Practice Faculty Preceptor of the Year.

**Ying Xu**, associate professor, pharmaceutical sciences, received the 2015 American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy New Investigator Award. This award provides \$10,000 in support of Dr. Xu's research proposal "Targeting PDE2 to Treat Memory Loss Associated with Alzheimer's Disease."

## 11th Annual Awards Ceremony recognizes alumni, faculty, staff, and students

Recognition of our 2015 School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences award recipients took place Apr. 16, at UB's Center for Tomorrow. Over 120 attended to recognize our award winners for their contributions to the school, the profession of pharmacy, as well as for the pursuit of scholarly achievements.

**Willis G. Gregory Memorial Alumni Award** (the SPPS Alumni Association's most prestigious award): Joseph Serman, '52

**Orville C. Baxter Memorial Professional Practice Alumni Award:** Michael Ghobrial, '09

**Daniel H. Murray Memorial Professional Development Award:** Zakery Bulman, '15

**Outstanding Teacher Awards:** Carolyn Hempel, '11, Scott Monte, '06, and Ashley Woodruff, '09

**Staff Member of the Year:** Carol Fritsch

**United States Public Health Service Corps Excellence in Pharmacy Practice Award:** Ciera Patzke, '16

**APhA-ASP Patient Counseling Competition Award:** Ciera Patzke, '16

**APhA-ASP Chapter Service Award:** Kristina Chmiel, '15

**APhA-Senior Recognition Award:** Jennifer Murray, '15

The school's student leaders, Gregory Society members, preceptors, and Dean's Ambassadors were also recognized. The school congratulates all our award recipients and special recognition attendees!



Ciera Patzke receives USPHS award

**MEDISCA Student Pharmacist Compounding Competition:**

Brenda Basile, '16, Patrick Rose, '16, Craig Sauers, '16, and Nahid Zaman, '16

**NCPA Pruitt-Schutte Student Business Plan Competition Award:**

Peter Fendt, '16, David Huoh, '16, Francesca Sosnowski, '16, Brian Bowman, '16

**Roger Mantsavinos Award:** Jennifer Murray, '15

**UB Pharmacy Alumni Award:** Samuel Steele, '15

**Outstanding MS/BSMS Student Award:** Elizabeth Lakota, '15

**Allan Barnett Fellowship:** Scott Ferguson, '13, Xi Chen

**Outstanding Teacher Assistant Award:** Peter Bloomingdale, '12  
Sheryl Trueman-Fathallah

## In Memoriam

Dr. Walter D. Conway passed away on Sept. 1, 2015. Walt joined the department of pharmaceutical sciences in 1967 after working in Dr. B.B. Brodie's laboratory at the NIH. He served until 2000 when he retired at the rank of associate professor. He continued as an emeritus professor maintaining some research activities in Kapoor Hall in advancing counter-current chromatography. His 1986 paper on this technique in *CRC Critical Reviews in Analytical Chemistry* remains among the most highly cited in the field.



Calendar of Events  
**2016**

- Annual Half-Way Dance and Charity Gala:  
Saturday, February 7,  
Adams Mark Hotel
- Annual Awards Ceremony:  
Thursday, April 14,  
UB Center for Tomorrow
- Commencement:  
Saturday, May 14,  
UB Center for the Arts
- Student Scholarship Golf Tournament:  
Monday, June 6,  
Lockport Town and Country Club
- Alumni Reunion:  
September 23-24,  
further planning to be announced

**Angeline Walker** is a small-town girl who considers Buffalo a big city. She loves attending a large university like UB. "I really like the big school feel," says Walker, a doctoral student in pharmacy. "Coming from a small town, I found endless opportunities here." A member of UB's student chapter of the National Community Pharmacists Association, Walker works part time at a pharmacy to help pay bills. She was grateful for two UB scholarships, saying "I used them to pay for tuition. Without them, I would have to work much more than I already do!"

The best public universities  
have the strongest private support.



*I'm thankful.*