Buffalo|Pharmacy|Newsletter

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



Welcome Dean O'Donnell...

JAMES O'DONNELL, PhD USES THE WORDS "CONNECTION" AND "COLLABORATION" with pipette precision when he talks about his leadership of UB SoPPS.

"I want pharmacy to have a main role in the Great Lakes Health System, an agreement for providing clinical structure in the hospital system and patient care." "I want to see how pharmacy fits into the university at large," he says a few weeks after settling into Kapoor Hall as the new dean of the UB School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences (UB SoPPS).

"I want to better understand our existing connections, and how we can build on them. I think the more we have good solid outreach and good collaborations the stronger the school will be."

He knows the school is among the best in the country, and understands it takes tenacity to sustain that status. So his first 100 days of tenure, he says, are committed to talking with faculty to learn more about their teaching, research and scholarship, and with staff and students to gain insight about how the school functions.

Beyond that, the new dean is focused on the cultivation of meaningful partnerships that will advance its numerous strengths.

"One is the tradition of excellent education and training in the PharmD program. From what I've heard out in the community, in the hospital setting and across the state, UB trained pharmacists are the best. This has always been a strength, so I think it's important to maintain that. You can build on it."

Another core strength is the school's global renown for novel scientific investigation: "The research program in pharmaceutical sciences is unique and special. They really do it better than anyone else in the world and I think the more we can build on that the better."

With a presence at once profoundly visionary and scholarly amicable, Dean O'Donnell defines himself as a "pharmacologist committed to teaching and research." A native of Western Pennsylvania, he comes to UB from West Virginia University (WVU), where he served for eight years as associate vice president for research in its Robert C. Byrd Health Sciences Center.

He is a distinguished researcher and internationally prominent scholar in the area of molecular psychopharmacology, among many

others. He is also a principal and co-investigator on multiple grants funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

"I have a history of working across schools," Dean O'Donnell explains. He surmises this commitment to interdisciplinary collaboration helped him capture his new appointment from among an intensive national and international search of candidates.

At WVU, he helped to implement its PhD Research Training Program in Behavioral and Biomedical Sciences. Through his faculty appointment in the School of Medicine, he was also a core member of a group that developed the statewide West Virginia Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute. The project included scientists and scholars from across WVU as well as from partnering institutions throughout the state.

O'Donnell plans to leverage expertise and experience in collaborative education and integration of health care delivery in his new leadership role. A primary objective is to help solidify the role of pharmacy in the Great Lakes Health System. Comprised of Kaleida Health, the University at Buffalo, Erie County Medical Center, Visiting Nursing Association, Supportive Medical Partners, and

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School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences University at Buffalo The State University of New York

Message From the Dean

WELCOME TO THE 2014 EDITION OF THE BUFFALO PHARMACY NEWSLETTER. As I complete my first few months as Dean, the strengths and innovativeness of our School have become even more evident to me.

My meetings with faculty, staff, and students have reinforced the crucial role we play in improving and enhancing the delivery of health care to the communities we serve, the high caliber trans-disciplinary research we engage in, and the progressive educational experience we provide to our students. I look forward to continuing these discussions with our alumni, friends, and partners to gain their guidance and perspectives on these and many other important issues.



2013 has brought much excitement and change to the School. The hiring of 13 faculty members in both Pharmacy Practice and the Pharmaceutical Sciences, new leadership and our full first year in Kapoor Hall.

As we all settle in and grow with these changes I believe you will see an even more dynamic school with leading-edge programs, new external funding opportunities and enhanced educational experiences for all our students. I look forward to working with you in achieving these and many other exciting milestones.

With warm regards,

James M. O'Donnell, PhD Professor and Dean

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2013 Reunion Celebration Weekend and Recognition of Dean Anderson

OUR CELEBRATION EVENTS THIS PAST SEPTEMBER WERE A GREAT SUCCESS! Hundreds of alumni, friends, faculty, and staff attended the three days of programming.

This included the Gerhard Levy Distinguished Lectureship Series, Continuing Education Program on Medical Marijuana, Luncheon and Tours of Kapoor Hall, Gala Dinner at the Lafayette Hotel, and UB Bulls Football and Tailgate Party (Bulls won 41-12 vs. UConn!).

We were pleased to give special recognition to our alumni from the classes of: 1953, 1963, 1978, 1988, and 2003. Anniversary classes organized private breakfasts and dinners as well as participated in many other celebration events. Involvement from these classes, as well as all alumni in attendance, helped create great programs and memories.

Celebration festivities culminated at the Gala Dinner with the recognition of Dean Wayne Anderson and his retirement after serving 18 years as dean. During the dinner, Dean Anderson was presented with a unique crystal globe in recognition of his 'global' impact on the world of pharmacy, as well as for his research work in medicinal chemistry and his legacy here at UB where he has impacted the lives of thousands of students, faculty, and staff members.



Dean Anderson receives his award

Anderson's family was present to help recognize his significant contributions as dean as well as his over 40 years of service as a UB faculty member. Evening activities concluded with the welcoming of Dr. James O'Donnell to the school as the 11th Dean of the University at Buffalo School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences.



Class of 1988



Lorraine Anderson, Wayne Anderson, Bill Jusko, Margaret Jusko



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New Faculty For A New Era

WITH THE DOORS OF KAPOOR HALL OPEN JUST OVER A YEAR, and the new dean settling into its "West Wing," welcoming an impressive class of freshmen faculty seems appropriate.

"The people that they have brought in are very strong and have very good backgrounds either on the practice side or the research side. It's rare that you have a large group of faculty coming in over a short period of time," Dean O'Donnell says, attributing the new hires to the NYSUNY 2020 Plan. "It has definitely changed the finances of the school in a way that makes it possible to recruit."

William Jusko, PhD and Ed Bednarczyk, PharmD, chairs of the Pharmaceutical Sciences and Pharmacy Practice departments respectively, say their new colleagues will help to enhance and advance existing UB SoPPS strengths in research, scholarship, and service.

"Our department has long had an outstanding reputation

in pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics, and we have strengths in protein therapeutics and cancer therapeutics," explains Jusko. "All of these people will contribute in some fashion to expanding these capabilities for the future."

Since spring 2013, the school has appointed a very talented group of young faculty members. Many have an academic connection to UB SoPPS, a testament to its solid standing as a premier pharmacy school and commitment to engage the "best and brightest" in the field. With eloquently diverse credentials, they are also connected to each other and to the school through concentric scholarship, research, and professional paths.

"We were able to identify individuals who build on existing strengths along areas of practice and research that have been identified within the department and the university," reiterates Bednarczyk. "They have come through excellent training and are now building on a great educational base."

In Pharmaceutical Sciences, Assistant Professors Juliane Nguyen and Dhaval Shah, and Research Assistant Professors Melanie Felmlee and Sihem Ait-Oudhia Bihorel are advancing research and scholarship pioneered by senior faculty.

Canadian born Felmlee holds a BS in Biomedical Toxicology and MS in Pharmacy and earned her PhD in Pharmaceutical Sciences from UB in 2011. A brand new mom – for the third time – she completed her post-doctoral fellowship with Professor Marilyn Morris on quantifying renal drug transporters and predicting clearance in adults, and is continuing that benchwork with a pediatric focus.

"I utilize pharmacokinetics modeling combined with molecular approaches," Felmlee explains. In the classroom, she teaches molecular biology techniques.



Felmlee, Nguyen and Shah

Also a new mom, Bihorel was a post-doctoral fellow with Professor Donald Mager. She is pursuing research in cancer therapeutics and pharmacometrics to find ways to increase drug efficacy in the treatment of breast cancer.

In a somewhat unusual career track, Shah has come to academia after working for several years in the pharmaceutical industry.

Originally from India, where he earned a bachelor's degree in pharmacy and master's degree in pharmaceutics, he came to the U.S. to pursue a doctoral degree at North Dakota University. In search of a better program, he applied and was accepted to UB SOPPS, earning his PhD in Pharmaceutical Sciences in 2010.

After deciding not to pursue a post-doctoral fellowship, Shah left Buffalo to work at Pfizer, advancing quickly from senior to principal scientist. He was en route to employment at Genentech in California when Dr. Jusko suggested he apply for a faculty position at UB SoPPS: He now employs the principles of PK/PD modeling and simulation to improve the safety and efficacy of monoclonal antibodies.

"I want to use my expertise and industrial experience to teach a new breed of students how to approach drug development programs from a quantitative and translational perspective," says Shah.

"We are working with people who literally wrote the books in the field of PK/PD," he adds. "I hope to learn more from them by association and contribute to my field moving forward."

Assistant Professor Nguyen grew up in Germany, where she earned her PharmD degree and PhD in Pharmaceutical Sciences. She joins the faculty fresh from a post-doctoral



Woodruff, Daly, Hempel and Fusco

fellowship at the University of California at San Francisco, and is continuing her research in the areas of drug and gene delivery, and nanomedicine.

"The idea is to exploit the body's natural immune

response by loading cells that target inflammation with delivery vehicles," Nguyen explains. "I am also interested in designing genetically encoded nanomaterials. You can fine tune their properties to make them seek out disease and release therapeutics when they encounter specific environmental conditions."

In Pharmacy Practice, Chris Daly, Nick Fusco, Carolyn Hempel, Ashley Woodruff and Gauri Rao all came through the PharmD program. All but Hempel, who is from Long Island, grew up in Buffalo and Western New York.

Clinical Assistant Professors Hempel and Woodruff both practice at Buffalo General. Hempel completed her residency in cardiology at the University of Kentucky, and is now defining the role of pharmacy practice in the successful transition of cardiology patients from hospital to outpatient care.

"I was looking for a position that would provide mentorship for my cardiology interest," she says. "I really think the only way to be successful in terms of research is by working with other people, and there is a lot of opportunity for that here."

Woodruff completed her residency at Upstate University Hospital in Syracuse, and was an assistant professor at St. John Fisher College in Rochester before returning to Buffalo to join the faculty. She is interested in educational research to define technological teaching innovations and, like Hempel, in defining effective transition of care – with a clinical focus on internal medicine and infectious disease.

Assistant Professor Gauri Rao is also focused on infectious disease. She earned her PharmD in 2011 and MS in Pharmacometrics in 2013 from UB, and completed a post-doctoral fellowship with Hoffmann-La Roche pharmaceutical company, developing PK/PD models for the antiviral drug Tamilflu for the treatment of influenza.

"The major focus of my research is to understand the mechanisms by which bacteria develop resistance to antibiotics and utilize this knowledge to design optimized regimens," Rao explains.

She will be collaborating with the Department of Microbiology

and Immunology in the School of Medicine to establish an *in vivo* facility. "The animal infection models will be used to optimize dosing regimens to minimize the emergence of antibiotic resistance during therapy and ultimately improve patient treatment outcomes," she says.

Clinical Assistant Professor Nick Fusco practices at Women and Children's Hospital. He earned his PharmD from UB in 2010, and is investigating infectious disease from the perspective of pediatric therapeutics.

"It's an area that's understudied, especially from a pharmacotherapy standpoint," he says. "I'm interested from a pediatric perspective in how children metabolize and eliminate drugs. Their receptors are different than adults. I think that the pharmacokinetics, pharmaceutical sciences program here is very robust, and provides a lot of opportunities to collaborate and answer some of the questions that we don't have good data for."

Clinical Assistant Professor Chris Daly, who comes from three generations of UB-trained pharmacy professionals, earned a dual PharmD/MBA degree in 2012 and specializes in pharmacy management and emerging practice models.

"My main charge is to lead the development and execution of innovative pharmacy practice programs out of the model facilities here," he says, explaining that he hopes to develop novel business models. "Eventually my teaching focus will be on pharmaceutical care and developing students' skill sets to implement clinical knowledge in real life patient situations."

Additional new faculty members are Research Assistant Professors Yanguang Cao, Chengjian Tu and Ying Xu in Pharmaceutical Sciences; and Clinical Assistant Professor Barbara Rogler and Assistant Professor Qing Ma in Pharmacy Practice.

The entire freshman faculty is looking forward to collaborating with senior colleagues and scientists, learning with their students, making scholarly contributions, and advancing scientific knowledge that supports the vision of the school and the greater health care good.

"It's motivating to brainstorm with colleagues on innovative and advanced pharmacy practice applications that the School of Pharmacy can become involved in through its mission. We are also looking to involve other professions as we accomplish these goals," Daly says.

Nguyen appreciates the diverse, interdisciplinary background of UB students. "I look forward to exploring new ideas with them and learning with them," she says. "I think being a researcher or professor is a constant learning process. You never stop learning and acquiring new knowledge and skills."

Says Fusco: "There are a lot of challenges in health care right know. I think as a school we're doing a lot to address those challenges, so to be a part of that group moving forward is pretty exciting."

PharmD Students Secure Highly Competitive Internships and Build Their Professional Networks

Real-world experience is a Hallmark of UB's Rigorous Doctor of Pharmacy curriculum, but last summer several high-achieving PharmD students went above and beyond.

Tackling internships with some of the industry's leading organizations, the students applied lessons learned from countless hours of lab work and classroom lectures to fastpaced, professional environments.

"It's where the real learning takes place," says Kristin Hart '15, who interned at Rite Aid's Camp Hill, PA headquarters. "Experiential education is crucial to the pharmacy curriculum, and an internship only builds upon that."

Jinhee Park '15 landed at The Johns Hopkins' Hospital outpatient pharmacy, where she was one of just 20 interns selected from an applicant pool of 500, a testament to the

strong academic and extra-curricular record required by employers.

Her clinical applications internship provided unparalleled independence.

"I proposed the idea to develop a

standard operating procedure, implement changes, and see how the project panned out," Park recalls. "It definitely was an eye-opening experience — I was able to do and see a lot of things that a typical intern would not have access to."

"The pharmacy business has many

facets to it — it's more than just pharmacy," Hart adds, pointing to her work

with Rite Aid's government affairs, human resources, and clinical services departments. "My internship really built upon some core ideas that I learned in my pharmacy management classes."

"One of my main projects in government affairs involved looking at legislation in all 50 states and the District of Columbia with regards to prescription monitoring programs," Hart says of her internship. "That was the best possible department I could have been placed in — I learned so much about advocacy and legislative strategy."

Mahsa Salsabili '14 also found herself immersed in the legislative side of the business. Spending her summer at The Burchfield Group, a pharmacy benefit consulting company, she focused on managed care, an industry segment rapidly adapting to the Affordable Care Act.

Salsabili's day-to-day responsibilities put her at the center of healthcare reform, from developing a training module for employees to creating a presentation for hundreds of industry leaders attending a healthcare reform leadership summit.

Her "deep dive" into issues facing managed care didn't end with her stint at Burchfield.

"After my internship, I started the first-ever workshop

series here at the school on opportunities in managed care pharmacy," Salsabili says. "The speakers include connections I made during the internship."

> Internships, the students agree, are more than just valuable educational experiences — they are also critical in building a lifelong professional network.

Park has already leveraged her Johns Hopkins contacts for advice.

"The relationships you form at work are the most important," she says. "You never know where they can take you in the future."



Hart and Salsabili

of the industry's leading organizations, the students applied lessons learned from countless hours of lab work and classroom lectures to fast-paced, professional environments.

Tackling internships with some



Kim and Jim O'Donnell

Welcome Dean O'Donnell... continued from page 1

The Center for Hospice & Palliative Care, the Great Lakes Health System is the largest healthcare network in Western New York.

"Right now, pharmacy doesn't have an explicit role, even though we are very involved with each of the participating institutions. The UB role is primarily through the School of Medicine," O'Donnell says. "I want pharmacy to have a main role in the Great Lakes Health System, an agreement for providing clinical structure in the hospital system and patient care."

He also wants to help capture a comprehensive Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA) from NIH that will support the UB Clinical and Translational Research Center, of which faculty and staff from the school plays a major role. "In West Virginia we had a different kind of NIH award that supported clinical and translational research infrastructure, so I think a lot of what I learned might be helpful as we move forward trying to get a CTSA here."

He credits the tremendous leadership of his predecessor, acknowledging that Wayne Anderson will be a tough act to follow. He is also appreciative of the welcome he has received from faculty and staff. "Everybody's been really helpful, very interested in trying to convey what's important, and what they would like to accomplish in the future."

For Dean O'Donnell, steering UB SoPPS into the future will mean continuing to advance academic, scholarly and research excellence through a broadened network of collaboration, connection and interaction.

"I really want to be integrated completely with other schools, especially in the health sciences. I want to be well integrated with the hospital systems, to have a major role in clinical translational research and be sure we are still recognized as a leader in the PK/PD field," he says.

"You can have a strong school by itself, but the more you interact with other schools and build collaborations, establish interactions, I think the better your future is."

Carol Gloff '75 New UBAA President

The school and the University at Buffalo Alumni Association are proud to announce Carol Gloff '75 as the new President of UBAA. Carol was inducted May 2013 and has had an active presidency guiding UBAA during her first year of a two year term. She is currently Principal of Gloff and Associates providing consultative services to the medical products industry in the areas of regulatory affairs, quality assurance, compliance, product development, and pharmacokinetics.



Andrus, Trzewieczynski, Monte, and Comerford launch Mobile Pharmacy Solutions

Ken Andrus '94, Dean Trzewieczynski '98, Scott Monte '06, and Patrick Comerford '07 have transitioned their former business, Vascuscript Pharmacy into a new innovative practice, Mobile Pharmacy Solutions. MPS community pharmacy offers a full range of services including compounding, immunizations, and home delivery.

Patricia Kroboth '71 received the 2013 American College of Clinical Pharmacology Bristol-Myers Squibb Mentorship in Clinical Pharmacology Award. Patricia is the Dean of the University of Pittsburgh, School of Pharmacy.

Jean Nappi '73 selected to give the Annual Fellows Dinner Address at the 2013 American College of Clinical Pharmacy Annual Meeting. Jean is currently a Professor of Clinical Pharmacy and Outcomes Sciences, South Carolina College of Pharmacy.

Joseph Bertino '76 named the editor of the *Journal of Clinical Pharmacology*. Joseph is currently an associate professor of pharmacology at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University, and UB adjunct associate professor.

Stephen Giroux '81 recently opened Wurlitzer Family Pharmacy in North Tonawanda. Daughter Rachel Giroux, 2011 graduate of UB's residency program is the supervising pharmacist, and son Zachary Giroux, is the front-end manager.

Susan Ksiazek '82 elected to the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy Executive Committee. She will be representing the District 2 Region to develop standards to protect public health. Susan is Director of Medical Staff Quality at Erie County Medical Center.

Susan Fagan '84 named Distinguished Research Professor, a distinction only given to three other professors at the University of Georgia in 2013. Susan is Assistant Dean and Associate Department Head of Clinical and Administrative Pharmacy at the University of Georgia.

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APhA-ASP Community Patient Care Projects

HE AMERICAN PHARMACISTS ASSOCIATION ACADEMY OF STUDENT PHARMACISTS RECOGNIZES the need for patient education and increased opportunities for community outreach.

To achieve these goals, the UB chapter has been involved in these projects:

Operation Heart

Operation Heart encourages student pharmacists to work in their communities to encourage lifestyle modifications, monitor associated risk factors, and provide education about medications for heart disease.

UB Operation Heart was very active in 2013. In February, a new program was held at the Buffalo Athletic Club for Women. Women's symptoms for a heart attack present differently than men's because their symptoms tend to be nonspecific and easily confused with other disorders. Students conducted patient education sessions about the difference between heart attack, panic attack, and heartburn and measured blood pressures, a perfect way to raise awareness for heart health during "Heart Health Month." In September, the group participated at the Buffalo Niagara Heart Walk where students took blood pressures, measured waist circumference, and calculated BMI to measure cardiovascular disease risk. Operation Heart celebrated National Healthy Eating Day in November by visiting the pre-k class at the UB Childcare Center and gave the children examples of healthy eating through stories and activities. UB's APhA-ASP chapter also won the 2013 Operation Heart Regional Award at the APhA-ASP Midyear Regional Meeting. This region has many strong chapters and the team was honored to have won this award for the third time in four years!

care physicians for an evaluation of osteoporosis. Recently, Self Care has held wellness clinics at various Rite Aids, educating patients on heartburn and dry skin care, as well as a wellness clinic in a UB dormitory that had over 30 patients participating. Operation Self Care cooperated with Operation Immunization to promote healthy diet, self care to prevent cold and flu transmission, and immunization as the flu season is approaching.

Operation Diabetes

Operation Diabetes seeks to identify individuals in the community with previously undiagnosed diabetes and those who are at risk for developing the disease. In addition, the program seeks to increase overall awareness of diabetes and the role pharmacists play in prevention and managing the effects of diabetes.

UB Operation Diabetes has been active in raising money for the American Diabetes Association through raffles and event fundraisers. Members participate at events such as the Step Out Walk and the Tour de Cure Cycling event. Wellness clinics have been organized to raise awareness about diabetes with the most successful at a local library where nurses were available for blood glucose testing and students provided patient education and blood pressure and BMI testing.

Operation Immunization

Operation Immunization is an education campaign designed to increase the public's knowledge of immunizations while

Operation Self Care

Operation Self Care is APhA-ASP newest initiative and is based on the former Heartburn Awareness Challenge and focuses on making patients more aware of various self help techniques to improve wellness.

UB Operation Self Care launched a major initiative to give education presentations on topics such as heartburn, cold and flu, and bone health at public libraries in the Erie County area. The most successful was held at the West Seneca Public Library with each presentation having 15-20 patients in attendance. In May 2013, the bone density wellness clinic had over 50 patients, with many referred to their primary

increasing adult vaccination rates.



Operation Self Care

UB Operation Immunization collaborated with the UB School of Nursing and UB Student Health to provide a student flu clinic. Student pharmacists helped patients complete consent forms and screened for contraindications while nursing students administered injections - almost 200 flu shots were administered. A similar program was organized at the pharmacy school, where pharmacists administered over 180 flu shots to student pharmacists and faculty.

Several wellness clinics were organized including programs at the Amherst Senior Center informing seniors about shingles and influenza vaccines and at the UB dormitories educating students about the importance of getting the HPV and Meningitis vaccines. Operation Immunization has also collaborated with Operation Self Care and UB Student Health for a wellness clinic on North Campus to speak to undergraduate students about vaccinations, cold and flu, and acid-reflux issues. The UB Team was also the winner of the 2013 Operation Immunization Award at the ASHP-Mid Year Regional meeting for their efforts in vaccination education.

Generation Rx

The Generation Rx Initiative is an educational program that increases public awareness of prescription medication abuse and encourages health care providers, community leaders, parents, teens, and college students to actively work to prevent abuse.

UB Generation Rx regularly holds tabling sessions and wellness clinics with poster presentations and trivia questions to educate the public about the danger of prescription drug abuse. They collaborated with Student Pharmacists'

Association of Western New

York (SPAWNY) for the DEA

National Drug Take-Back

Days in the fall and spring.

Furthermore, they present

at high schools and middle

ing health classes. Recently, Generation Rx had the honor

of collaborating with Blue

Cross Blue Shield and WNED

TV on a project titled Project Hope, which shares a similar

Rx in spreading awareness in

the Buffalo community about

initiative with Generation

schools as guest speakers dur-



Generation Rx

the dangers of prescription drug abuse. Members also hold fundraising events for Kids Escaping Drugs and Horizon Health Drug Addiction Rehabilitation Centers.

Alumni Notes, continued from page 7

Gayle Brazeau '89 received a 2013 Mainebiz Nexter Award from the *Mainebiz Business News Source* to recognize individuals who help influence the future of Maine's economy. Gayle is currently Dean and Professor, University of New England College of Pharmacy.

Tammie Lee Demler '92 '02 case study contributor to *U.S. Pharmacist* 'What Would You Do' section. Tammie Lee is Director of Pharmacy Services and Psychiatry Residency Director at the Buffalo Psychiatric Center.

Michael Reilly '93 appointed president of Independent Health Association Pharmacy Benefit Dimensions division.

Holly Kimko '95 inducted as fellow in the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists. Holly is currently a Scientific Director at Johnson and Johnson.

Tammi Nicole Acquisto '05 awarded the 2013 New Preceptor Award from the American Society of Health System Pharmacists Foundation. Nicole is currently an Emergency Medicine Specialist at the University of Rochester Medical Center.

Michelle Rainka '05 Rho Chi Guest Speaker and spoke to UB students about clinical research and post graduate training. Michelle is a clinical pharmacologist, Dent Neurological Institute's Division of Neuropharmacology.

Sukyung Woo '07 received the 2013 Young Investigator Award from the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists. Sukyung is currently an Assistant Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences at the University of Oklahoma, College of Pharmacy.

Alfonse Muto '09 featured in the Phi Delta Chi winter edition of *The Communicator* for his innovative practice and professional advocacy. Alfonse is a Compounding Pharmacist at Pine Pharmacy.

James Kalabus '12 hired by Novartis as a Clinical PG-PK/PD scientist.

Jillian Venci '12 is currently Associate Consultant, Global Regulatory Affairs, Labeling (GoLD) at Eli Lilly and Company.

Xiaoyu Yan '12 received the McKenn Cattell Memorial Award at the 2013 ACCP annual meeting. Xiaoyu is a Scientist at Johnson and Johnson Pharmaceutical R&D Division.

Karen Shin '13 is currently a Visiting Scientist Fellow, Pharmaceutical Project Manager, Oncology at Eli Lilly and Company.

In Memoriam:

Benjamin Pigovat '36 Joseph Krassenbaum '39 William Bender '43 Benjamin Cohen '44 Abraham Goldfarb '44 Roberta Griswold '46 Hazel Whalen '47 Philip Stamp '53 Michael DiVincenzo '54 Martin (Buddy) Rein '55 Jan Madejski '59 G. Frank Wolfisch '61 Stephen Broadman '62 George Merz '62 Robert Begert '72 Kathleen Austin '75

Annual Awards Ceremony

THE SCHOOL WAS PROUD TO RECOGNIZE

alumni, faculty, staff, and students with honors and awards at our Annual Awards Ceremony held in April,

at UB's Center for Tomorrow. With over 100 guests looking on, our award winners were honored for their contributions to the school, the profession of pharmacy, and the pursuit of scholarly achievements. Special guest presenters included Dr. Maria Bardos who presented the Daniel H. Murray award and Commander Victoria Ferretti-Aceto from the U.S. Public Health Service who presented the USPHS Excellence in Pharmacy Practice award.



2013 Awardees and Honorees:

- Willis G. Gregory Memorial Alumni Award: Carol Gloff, BS '75
- Orville C. Baxter Memorial Professional Practice Alumni Award: Curtis Haas, PharmD '89
- Daniel H. Murray Memorial Professional Development Award: Christine Trezza '13
- SoPPS Teacher of the Year Award Finalists: Nicole Albanese. Jack Brown & Kathleen Tornatore '81
- SoPPS Staff Member of the Year: Michele Bewley
- U.S. Public Health Service Corps Excellence in Pharmacy Practice Award: Jamie Chin '13
- APhA-ASP National Patient Counseling Competition Award: Zubair Afzal '14
- ASHP Clinical Skills Competition Award: Jamie Chin '13, Michelle Mancuso '13
- NCPA Pruitt-Schutte Student Business Plan Competition Award: Georgia Di Fiore '14, Kristin Martinez '14, Samantha Mattinson '14, Stefanie Wiegand '14
- MEDISCA Student Pharmacist Compounding Competition: Ian Bader '15, Georgia Di Fiore '14, Lindsey Feuz '14, Kristen Mazurkiewicz '14

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



Preceptor Recognition Reception

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2012-2013 PRECEPTOR AWARD WINNERS that were recognized at our 5th Annual Preceptor Recognition Social held at Pearl Street Grill in June.

- IPPE Outstanding **Contribution Award:** Kevin Harbison '06. **Rite Aid Pharmacy**
- Professional Practice **Elective Preceptor of** the Year: Garv Mantz, Cardinal Health Nuclear **Pharmacy Services**
- tient Care Preceptor of the Year Award: Jeffrey Scott '02, **Tops Pharmacy**
- J. Fred Bennes Outpa- Inpatient Care Preceptor of the Year: Shreen Beshures '96, Terrace View LTC at Erie County Medical Center
- Pharmacy Practice Faculty Preceptor of the Year: Gina Prescott, **UB Erie County Medical** Center



Class Officers Heather Rodman and Michelle Creasy present Dean Anderson with Recognition Award

Class of 2013 Farewell Celebration

The Class of 2013 was recognized by the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Alumni Association with a Farewell Celebration at Banchetti's. Class officers Michelle Creasy and Heather Rodman gave comments to their classmates and presented Dean Wayne Anderson with the 2013 Faculty Recognition Award, which recognizes a faculty member of importance to the graduating class.

UB Students Shine at NCPA National Meeting

Congratulations to the following students for various recognitions at the 2013 National Community Pharmacists Association annual meeting:

- Lindsey Feuz '14: 2013 NCPA Presidential Scholarship recipient.
- Samantha Mattison '14: 2013 Neil Pruitt Sr. Memorial Scholarship for Entrepreneurism. She was also voted the NCPA Outstanding Student Member from our school.
- Justin Bader '14, Charles Hinton '14, Nick Hopwood '14, and Lindsey Feuz '14 for achieving 7th place in the 2013 National NCPA Good Neighbor Pruitt Schutte Student Business Plan Competition.
- The school's **NCPA Chapter** also received honorable mention for both the NCPA Health and Wellness Award and the NCPA Legislative Advocacy Challenge Award.



Feuz, Mattison, Hinton, Hopwood

Student Notes

Pharmacy Day in Albany

In April, students traveled to Albany for 'Pharmacy Day' where they were guided through the capitol by **Dennis Galluzzo** '76, **Tammie Lee Demler** '92 '02, **Steve Giroux** '81, **Jim Walsh** '04, and **Todd Martino** to the offices of many New York State senators and assembly members. Students had the opportunity to talk about health care issues such as Collaborative Drug Therapy Management (CDTM) and broadening the scope of pharmacists providing immunizations.

135th Annual Convention Pharmacists Society of the State of New York Elects Student Officers

Elections for student officers took place at the annual PSSNY meeting and for the 13th consecutive year, a UB student has been elected president of the Student Pharmacists Society of the State of New York. UB SPSSNY Officers are:

President- **Wesley Kufel** '14 Vice President - **Rebecca Campbell** '14 Treasurer - **Katie Meany** '14 Secretary - **Mia Magliazzo** '15 President-Elect- **Ryan St James** '15

Student Research on Ovarian Cancer Gains National Attention

PharmD students: **Michelle Amsler** '14, **Kristina Chmiel** '15, **Olesya Yaremko** '14 and **Clare Carroll** '14 (with faculty advisor Dr. Alice Ceacareanu) research work on statins reducing ovarian cancer was cited in the e-publication, *The Gupta Guide*, *April 12, 2013.* Their research was also presented at the 2013 American Association for Cancer Research Annual meeting.

Students Win Best Poster Competition at 2013 ACCP Meeting

Congratulations to **Michael Bear** '14, **Amy Suen** '14, **Justin Lenhard** '14 and **Zack Bulman** '15 for their receipt of First Prize for the Best Student Poster at the American College of Clinical Pharmacy annual meeting for their research *Novel Double and Triple Antibiotic Combinations at Clinically Relevant Concentrations Against Polymyxin B–Resistant Pseudomonas aeruginosa.* They were among six student finalist groups who were selected from a national pool of nearly 100 student poster presentations.

AMCP News

P&T Competition Winners: Congratulations to Class of 2014 Association of Managed Care student chapter team members – **Michael Bear** '14, **Kristen Mazurkieiwcz, Mahsa Salsabili** '14 and **Alexander Schepart** '14 – for winning the local student chapter Academy of Manager Care Pharmacy P&T Competition, which focuses on effective formulary management skills.

2013 Member of the Year Award: Congratulations to AMCP student chapter leaders **Mahsa Salsabili** '14, president, and **Cody Vandervort** '14, treasurer, for receiving a 2013 Member of the Year award.

LKS News

Lambda Kappa Sigma Professional Pharmacy fraternity participated in hypertension and wellness clinics at local Tops pharmacies, volunteered at the Weinberg Campus Retirement Community, supported Hospices Adopt a Family program, and participated in health fairs focusing on blood pressure screening, osteoporosis/bone density, and OTC counseling.

SPAWNY P1 Liaisons Chosen

The Student Pharmacist Association of Western New York (SPAWNY) Liaison Committee chose **Ali Scrimenti** '17 and **Corey Wells** '17 as the new P1 liaisons to the Pharmacists Association of Western New York (PAWNY). Liaisons have a place on the PAWNY Board of Directors and serve a four-year term.

SPSA Alumni Networking Program

In September, the School of Pharmacy Student Association organized its first 2013-2014 alumni networking event. SPSA Officers organized the event downtown at Templeton Landing where 30+ alumni and community pharmacists met with 130+ students to discuss career networking and professional opportunities. Alumni and guests included representatives from: Rochester Drug Company, Kaleida Health, and Independent Health.

ASCP Hosts 'Senior' Prom

The Student Chapter of the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists hosted a 'senior' prom at the Bassett Park Manor Assisted Living Facility in Williamsville. A DJ, champagne, and appetizers were provided for the residents.

Student Society of Health-Systems Pharmacist UB Counseling Competition Winners

Congratulations to 2013 SSHP counseling competition winners **Carmen Lee** '14 and **Zhi Zheng** '14. 1st runners up were **Liz Lakota** '14 and **Adam Heiermann** '16 and 2nd runners up were **Ryan Dillon** '15 and **Wesley Kufel** '15.

SoPPS Represented at Cardinal Health Student Leadership Conference

Elizabeth Lakota'15 attended the 14th Annual Cardinal Health Student Leadership Conference which provides a forum for the future leaders of pharmacy to develop leadership skills while interacting with their peers from over 25 colleges of pharmacy.

Phi Delta Chi News Raises Over \$5000 for Wings Flights of Hope

Annually a fundraiser to benefit local charities is sponsored by the Beta Tau chapter of Phi Delta Chi. This spring Phi Delta Chi Beta Tau chapter held the annual fundraiser in support of Wings Flights of Hope, a local organization that flies patients anywhere in the United States for medical treatment. Over 100 donations were raffled off at the continued on page 13



Golf scholarship recipients

10th Annual Student Scholarship Golf Tournament:

Great attendance at this year's tournament helped overcome a day of steady rain for our 10th Annual Student Scholarship Golf Tournament where over \$21,000 was raised.

Our 2013 student scholarships were: Sarah Farr '14, Charles Hinton '15, Nick Hopwood '14, Elizabeth Lakota '15, Kristen Mazurkiewicz '14, and Madeline Waldron '15. Students are chosen based on their leadership, involvement and academics. The winning foursome with a score of 63 was: Terry Bellnier, Tulio Ortega, Rob Weisman, and Chris Coyne. Winner of our grand prize golf foursome vacation package to the Pinehurst Golf Resort in North Carolina: Mike Boone.

We would like to thank all of our sponsors, especially Rite Aid and Rochester Drug Cooperative for tournament level sponsor support! Support of all our sponsors is invaluable to the school and our scholarship program.

Tournament Sponsors: Rite Aid, Rochester Drug Cooperative Silver Sponsor: McKesson Health Mart

Bronze Sponsors: Family Medical Pharmacy, Forsters Pharmacy, Independent Health, Middleport Family Health Center, Summit Park, Transit Hill and Wurlitzer Family Pharmacies, J. Rutowski & Sons Pharmacies

Hole in One Prize Sponsors: Rays Laks Acura and the Acura College Alumni Team Championship

We thank everyone who participated in and supported our 10th annual tournament!

Marilyn Morris: Innovative Research Leads to Distinction as an AAAS Fellow

For Marilyn Morris, professor of pharmaceutical sciences, the impact of research is more than just data. It has tangible results — innovative, life-saving solutions to some of medicine's most vexing problems.

Last year, Morris - whose research focuses on drug transport across membranes and spans 160 peerreviewed scientific papers - was elected a fellow by the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), the world's largest general scientific society and publisher of the journal Science. Election as an AAAS fellow is a distinction bestowed upon members by their peers. Fellows are recognized for their commendable efforts to advance science after going through a highly competitive review process.

Currently, Morris is studying how monocarboxylic acid transporters can be used as a therapeutic target in treating overdoses of the drug Gamma-Hydroxybutyric acid (GHB), which tends to be abused by young adults.

"We're looking at inhibitors of the transporter in order to prevent uptake of the drug into the brain and to increase its elimination from the body to treat overdoses and prevent death," Morris explains. Morris and her colleagues have been able to prevent GHB lethality in animals and hope to replicate that result in clinical studies and, eventually, emergency rooms.

"With research, sometimes we're only making small steps," she adds. "But eventually it leads to very



significant findings that really impact the health of society."

Morris's groundbreaking research also serves another vital function, as a real-world teaching tool for her students at UB.

"I really bring my research findings into the classroom through teaching," Morris says. "And there's a lot of opportunity for students to do research. This semester, I have two undergraduates who are working with me on different projects."

Morris remembers her life-changing exposure to research as an undergraduate, and finds great satisfaction in paying it forward.

"To be able to mentor these students and have them go on and have successful careers is very fulfilling," she says. "It encourages me to continue on."

Faculty and Students Volunteer in the Dominican Republic

How do you spend your winter break?

Members of our faculty and students spend their time volunteering with 'Viva Kids', a non-profit organization supporting the well being of underprivileged children across the world, as part of a medical mission to the Dominican Republic.

School members join with other healthcare volunteers to assist patients in various 'pop-up clinics' in San Pedro de Macoris, Dominican Republic.

Clinic services included triage (medical histories, blood pressure and blood glucose) by physicians, with the pharmacy team providing pharmacy services and patient counseling. Services included filling prescriptions, including extemporaneous compounding, and dispensing over a thousand medications to more than 500 individuals/families in just four days.

Patient presented with problems ranging from lack of multivitamins and antibiotics to parasitic and fungal infections, dermatological conditions, and hypertension.

2013 SoPPS Volunteer Group:

- Faculty: Dr. Peter Brody and Dr. William Prescott
- New York State Pharmacists: Sheri Forman '79, Charnicia Huggins, and Patrina Larmond
- Residents: Michael Parker (trip coorganizer) and Amy Moss
- Students: Jovin Panthapattu '16; translator, Zubair Afzal '14, Jinhee Park '15, Betty Vu '15, Michelle Ingalsbe '13, Lindsey Feuz '14, Ciera Patzke '16, Jessica Isaac '14, and Jacqueline Deiley '14

auction and over 200 people attended the event. Phi Delta Chi would like to recognize brothers: **Kelly Ross** '15, **Alain Nguyen** '15 and **Ian Bader** '15 for their dedication and leadership to this event as well as Wing's founder, Joe DeMarco.

2013 Student Poster Day

Congratulations to all participants of the 2013 SoPPS Student Poster Day. All posters and presentations were noted as excellent by the faculty reviewers.

Winners of the Pharmaceutical Sciences Undergraduate Poster Presentations:

1st Place: **Sophia Elie** (Balu-Iyer lab) 2nd Place: **Brittany Walker** (Balthasar lab) 3rd Place: **Sangwon Min** (Yu lab)

Winners of the PharmD PHC Research Track Poster Presentations:

1st Place: **Erik Hefti** (Blanco lab) 2nd Place: **Jeff Hui** (Blanco lab) 3rd Place (tie): **Jamie Chin** (Ramanathan lab) and **Kayla Maxwell** (Mager lab)

Kathryn Dixon '14 Receives Gumtow Award

Congratulations to Kathryn Dixon for receiving the 2013 SoPPS Gumtow Award. The award is given to a pharmacy student with the highest weighted average in PHM 531 and 532.

Lindsey Feuz '14 Receives Multiple Recognitions

Congratulations to Lindsey Feuz for her receipt of the two scholarships: The 2013 Donald Arthur, Sr. Entrepreneurial Scholarship in Pharmacy which is given to a student who has shown interest in independent pharmacy ownership, as well as the University at Buffalo Alumni Association Alumnae Scholarship which is given to female students for their academic and extracurricular accomplishments; Lindsey was nominated by SoPPS alumna, Carol Gloff '75.

Lindsey was also chosen for a 2013 Veterans Affairs Learning Opportunities Residency (VALOR) at the Buffalo Veterans Affair Medical Center.

Kristin Hart '15 Rite Aid Summer Intern

Congratulations to Kristin Hart who was chosen for the Rite Aid Corporate Internship program that gives students the opportunity to learn more about the pharmacy business by working on teams and with executives from departments which correspond directly with the pharmacy business. Only ten students nationally are chosen for this program.

David Huoh '15 Receives WNY Prosperity Scholarship

David Huoh was the recipient of the 2013 UB Western New York Prosperity Scholarship Program. The program is for entrepreneurial and civicminded students at UB, preparing for careers that further economic development and growth in Western New York.

Alexa Keller '16 Nominated for Northeastern Association of Graduate School's Best Master's Thesis.

Alexa Keller's master's thesis was selected by John T. Ho, UB vice provost for graduate education and dean of the Graduate School, for nomination as the 2013 best master's thesis of the Northeastern Association of Graduate Schools.

Alexandra Markus '16 recipient of Novartis Internship

Alexandra Markus was the recipient of a summer internship at Novartis Pharmaceuticals working in the Global Clinical Operations Management Department.

Jinhee Park '15 recipient of prestigious John's Hopkins Internship

Congratulations to Jinhee Park for being selected as an intern in the highly competitive pharmacy internship program at The John's Hopkins Health System. Only 15 students are chosen nationally for this eight-week program. Interns shadow pharmacists in a variety of clinical and non-clinical settings throughout the health care system and participate in quality control and safety checks of the surrounding pharmacy systems.

Mahsa Salsabili '14 recipient of an AMCP Internship

Mahsa Salsabili was the recipient of an Association of Managed Care Pharmacy nine week summer internship in Minnesota where she worked with pharmacy management consultants and pharmacists in various managed care pharmacies and engaged in leadership training and presentations on health care reform.

Hee Young Byun '15 recipient of a summer internship with Glaxo Smith Kline in South Korea.

Clare Carroll '14 recipient of a University at Buffalo School of Business Management Leadership Certificate. Clare is pursuing a dual degree in pharmacy and business management.

Scott Coon '13 and faculty member Dr. Mark Wrobel, presented: *Comparison of Product Knowledge* and Confidence Between Pharmacists and Health Food Store Employees, at the American System of Health Systems Pharmacists Mid Year Meeting.

Stephanie Thomas '13 and faculty members Dr. Mark Wrobel and Dr. Jack Brown published: *Bedbugs: A primer for the health-system pharmacist. Am J Health Syst Pharm.* 2013;70(2):126-30.



2013 Orientation and White Coat Ceremony

OUR 2013 ORIENTATION PROGRAM PROVIDED OUR LARGEST P1 CLASS,

130 students, an innovative program which included presentations on preparing for courses and rotations, residencies and fellowships, financial aid and feedback from current students about clubs and professional organizations.

An alumni panel comprised of: Karen Brim '82, Scott Monte '06, Brian Salvas '11, and Mark Stramaglia '81 gave students the opportunity to ask the panel members questions about how their career paths developed and how UB prepared them to meet their career objectives.

Our White Coat Ceremony, where students are inducted into the profession and receive their white lab coats, included an inspiring key note presentation by Brian Salvas '11 where he spoke to taking full advantage of the opportunities available at UB to prepare for a dynamic career in pharmacy.

We would like to thank these sponsors for their support of our orientation and white coat programs: Rite Aid, Tops Markets, Pharmacy Society of Rochester, Pharmacists Association of Western New York, Walgreens, and Collegiate Village.



Grants

Brian Tsuji, clinical assistant professor, pharmacy practice and Timothy Murphy, MD, senior associate dean, clinical and translational research center, primary investigator, received NIH funding for their R01 Grant: *Persistent H. influenza in COPD - virulence, vaccines and antibiotic resistance* in the amount of \$455,369.

Sathy Balu-Iyer, professor, pharmaceutical sciences, recipient of a \$250,000 National Institute of Health grant: *Reactivating Memory T-cells in the Micro environment of Human Tumors.*

Javier Blanco, associate professor, pharmaceutical sciences, received a \$10,000 grant from the American Kennel Club – Canine Health Foundation for Functional Characterization of Canine Carbonyl Reductase 1 (CBR1): A Key Enzyme for the Metabolism of Anthracyclines in Dogs with Cancer, January 2013 - February 2014.

Fred Doloresco, clinical assistant professor and research assistant professor, pharmacy practice, recipient of a \$15,000 grant from the Patricia H. Garman Behavioral Healthy Nursing Endowment Fund, University at Buffalo for *Relationship of Emergency Department Visits, Recidivism, and Environmental Air Quality.*

Wojciech Krzyzanski, associate professor, pharmaceutical sciences, received a \$75,000 grant from Simcyp for *PBPK Models Accounting for Effect* of *Pharmacodynamic Response on Clearance of Monoclonal Antibodies*, June 1, 2013 - May 31, 2014.

New Hires

Sihem Ait-Qudhia Bihorel, research assistant professor, pharmaceutical sciences

Christopher Daly – clinical assistant professor, pharmacy practice

Qing Ma - assistant professor, pharmacy practice **Dhaval Shah** – assistant professor, pharmaceutical sciences

Gauri Rao, assistant professor, pharmacy practice **Melanie Felmlee** – research assistant professor, pharmaceutical sciences

Nicholas Fusco – clinical assistant professor, pharmacy practice

Carolyn Hempel – clinical assistant professor, pharmacy practice

Julie Nguyen, assistant professor, pharmaceutical sciences

Barbara Rogler, clinical assistant professor, pharmacy practice

Ashley Woodruff – clinical assistant professor, pharmacy practice

Ying Xu, research assistant professor, pharmaceutical sciences

Chengjian Tu, research assistant professor, pharmaceutical sciences

continued on page 15



Murali Ramanathan (left) receiving award

Sathy Balu-lyer (left) receiving award

Pharmaceutical Sciences Faculty Recognized by AAPS

CONGRATULATIONS TO University at Buffalo faculty members who received various recognitions from the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists in 2013.

Marilyn Morris, professor, pharmaceutical sciences, was inducted as President of AAPS for a one year term.

Murali Ramanathan, professor, pharmaceutical sciences, was selected as an AAPS fellow. His selection was based on his research including: fundamental contributions he has made in the applications of pharmacogenetics and pharmacogenomics in the pharmaceutical sciences. His current research includes projects in gene-environment interaction analysis, systems pharmacology and integrating pharmacogenomics modeling in population pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics.

Sathy Balu-Iyer, professor of pharmaceutical sciences, was also selected as an AAPS fellow. His selection was based on his research including: contributions to understanding the mechanism of immune response against biotherapeutics and rationally developed strategies to mitigate immunogenicity. He has proposed a novel clinical intervention-reverse vaccination-to mitigate immunogenicity, which unlike conventional vaccination strategies, desensitizes patients towards biotherapeutics.

Presentations

Joseph Balthasar, professor, pharmaceutical sciences, presented: *In pursuit of predictive models for mAB pharmacokinetics: Striving for progress through mechanistic studies,* key note presentation at the 2nd Annual Symposium on Biotechnology, European Drug Metabolism, Discussion Group, Basel, Switzerland.

Donald Mager, associate professor, pharmaceutical sciences, presented: *Integrated Network and Systems Pharmacology Modeling and US Initiatives* at the European Federation for Pharmaceutical Sciences Workshop in Systems Pharmacology, Leiden, the Netherlands.

Scott Monte, clinical assistant professor, pharmacy practice, presented: *Revision of Gastric Bypass for Failed Weight Loss by Shortening of the Common Channel Improves Foregut and Hindgut Metabolic Response* at the 18th World Conference: International Federation for the Surgery of Obesity and Metabolic Disorders, Istanbul, Turkey.

Gene Morse, professor, pharmacy practice and **Cara Felton**, research assistant professor, pharmacy practice presented virtually at the 10th Annual HCV DrAG meeting in Amsterdam: *Translational Pharmacoinformatics: Developing an Integrated Central Resource for Planning HCV Drug Interactions Research.*

Promotions

Jun Qu, associate professor, pharmaceutical sciences Brian Tsuji, associate professor, pharmacy practice Bill Prescott, clinical associate professor, pharmacy practice

Awards and Recognitions

Nicole Albanese, clinical assistant professor, pharmacy practice, recipient, 2013 SoPPS Department of Pharmacy Practice, Faculty Service Award. Nicole was also the recipient of the 2013 Western New York Residency Preceptor of the Year Award.

Javier Blanco, associate professor, pharmaceutical sciences, research work with the Children's Oncology Group was cited in a *Nature* editorial, 27 June 2013, volume 498.

Peter Brody, clinical assistant professor, pharmacy practice, recipient, 2013 American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy Wal-Mart Scholars Program. Peter was also a recipient of the National Association of Chain Drug Stores 2013 Million Hearts award which provides schools with \$1000 to assist with hosting health fairs in support of goal of the Million Hearts Campaign.

Jack Brown, clinical assistant professor, recipient, 2013 SoPPS Teacher of the Year award.

Alice Ceacareanu, assistant professor, pharmacy practice, recipient, 2013 Faculty Research Award from the UB Institute for Research and Education on Women and Gender.

Karl Fiebelkorn, associate dean, student affairs and professional relations elected to a 2nd term as the Region I Northeast Councilor for the Rho Chi National Honor Society Executive Committee. Karl was also the recipient of the 2013 Pharmacy Society of the State of New York Distinguished Pharmacy Educator Award.

William Jusko, SUNY Distinguished Professor, pharmaceutical sciences, recipient, American Society for Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics Sheiner-Beal Pharmacometrics Award.

Cindy Konovitz, assistant dean, information management, was appointed as a member-at-large for the Western New York Library Resources Council Health Information Access Committee.

Gina Prescott, clinical assistant professor, pharmacy practice recipient, 2013 SoPPS Pharmacy Practice Preceptor of the Year Award.

William Prescott, clinical associate professor recipient, 2013 Albert E. Rosica, Jr. Memorial Award from the American College of Apothecaries.

Alfred Reiman, clinical assistant professor, pharmacy practice, recipient, MEDISCA Student Pharmacists Compounding Competition Faculty Participation Award.

Sara Robison, academic advisor, admissions office, appointed co-chair New York State Association for College Admission Counseling admissions practices committee and completed tenure as co-chair of NYSACAC Development Committee. Sara continues her second term as Treasurer for the State University of New York College Admissions Professionals and begins second term as Treasurer for the University at Buffalo Undergraduate Advisement Council.

Erin Slazak, clinical assistant professor, professor pharmacy practice, recipient, 2013 SoPPS, Department of Pharmacy Practice, Faculty Service Award.

Robert Wahler, clinical assistant professor, pharmacy practice, recipient 2013 Faculty Member of the Year, Phi Delta Chi, Pharmacy Leadership Society.

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2014 SoPPS Calendar of **Events**

Annual Half Way Dance and Charity Gala: Saturday, February 8, Adams Mark Hotel Annual Awards Ceremony: Thursday, April 10, UB Center for Tomorrow Commencement: Saturday, May 17, UB Center for the Arts Student Scholarship Golf Tournament: Monday, June 9, Lockport Town and Country Club Alumni Reunion: Thursday, September 11 – Saturday, September 13

Thanks to you,

I'll bring better drugs to market.

Erik Hefti compares being a student in the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences to a Hollywood movie. "The resources are remarkable, the facilities support meaningful, in-depth research, and I'm amazed by the raw talent among the pharmacy faculty. It's like they are great actors and I'm on the set!" says Erik, who plans to graduate with PharmD and MS degrees in 2014, then pursue a PhD. Erik pays his own education expenses, and was grateful to receive a scholarship that helped offset his student loans. Doing research and working in a hospital pharmacy have added to his graduate student experience, he says: "UB makes me much more confident as a clinician." He looks forward to working in clinical pharmacology in the pharmaceutical industry, determining which drugs to bring to market. The best reason to support UB is what students like Erik will do in the future.

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