



UNIVERSITY of MARYLAND
SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

From the Dean's Desk

News from Dean Natalie D. Eddington, PhD, FAAPS, FCP

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Dear friends and colleagues,

Another academic year is here, and our faculty and staff are excited to welcome a new group of first year student pharmacists. During the summer, we miss the energy and "buzz" having a building full of students generates. Students keep us on our toes and challenge us to think outside of the box in terms of our curriculum and how we deliver it. We value the feedback our students give us on their educational experience at the School of Pharmacy and take their input into consideration as we develop new programs and course content.



I also value your feedback as alumni, donors, and friends of the School of Pharmacy. One of the best parts of my job is the opportunity I have to interact with each of you. I look forward to seeing you during what promises to be a busy fall - one full of endowed lectures, workshops, alumni receptions, and more. I hope you are able to attend one of the many events the School hosts.

In the spirit of expertise, influence, and impact,

[Natalie D. Eddington, PhD, FAAPS, FCP](#)
[Dean and Professor](#)

EVENTS

White Coat Ceremony
Sept. 12, 2 p.m.
MSTF Auditorium
The School's annual ceremony to welcome first year students to the pharmacy profession

UMSOP Has Big Presence at AACP's Annual Meeting

I was pleased to join many of the School's faculty and staff at the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy's (AACP) Annual Meeting in Texas in July. The School was well represented with presentations, posters, session moderators, committee memberships,

School of Pharmacy
All Alumni Reunion
Sept. 12-13
Friday night Orioles
vs. Yankees game
and Saturday Taste
of Baltimore
Luncheon
Click [here](#) for details

2014 APhA
Foundation Pinnacle
Awards Innovations
in Pharmacy
Practice Lecture
Sept. 17, 1 p.m.
Pharmacy Hall,
Room N103 or via
simulcast
Representatives of
El Rio Community
Health Center,
winners of a 2014
Pinnacle Award, will
deliver the inaugural
Innovations in
Pharmacy Practice
Lecture
RSVP [here](#)

and award winners. AACP's annual meeting is an excellent forum for sharing our experiences with our colleagues and for learning from each other as we seek to provide the best pharmacy education we can to our students. Our presence at this national meeting continues to grow, and I am proud of the faculty and staff who participated or who were honored for their achievements.

- **Robert Beardsley, PhD**, professor of pharmaceutical health services research - speaker on ACPE guidelines for admissions, and speaker at an open forum on ACPE's draft standards
- **Andrew Coop, PhD**, professor and chair of pharmaceutical sciences - [2014 Dr. James E. Wynn Memorial Award](#)
- **Richard Dalby, PhD**, associate dean for academic affairs, and **Lisa Lebovitz, JD**, assistant dean for academic affairs and assessment - [2014 Excellence in Assessment Award](#)
- **Richard Dalby, PhD**, associate dean for academic affairs - poster on career preparation for off campus students, roundtable moderator, and speaker on computer-based examinations
- **Natalie Eddington, PhD**, dean and professor - chair of Research and Graduate Affairs Standing Committee
- **Stuart Haines, PharmD**, professor of pharmacy practice and science - speaker on measuring and evaluating faculty practice activities
- **Amy Ives, PharmD**, assistant professor of pharmacy practice and science - School of Pharmacy AACP delegate
- **Lisa Lebovitz, PhD**, assistant dean for academic affairs and assessment - poster presentations on programmatic assessment, admissions data and NAPLEX and MPJE performance, roundtable moderator on curriculum refinement
- **Mary Lynn McPherson, PharmD**, professor of pharmacy practice and science - moderator for roundtable on curriculum refinement
- **Jill Morgan, PharmD**, associate professor of pharmacy practice and science - immediate past chair of Student Services Special Interest Group
- **Neha Pandit, PharmD**, associate professor of pharmacy practice and science - poster presentation on national HIV/AIDS strategy goals
- **Tim Rocafort, PharmD**, assistant professor of pharmacy practice and science - poster presentation on faculty performance assessment and feedback
- **Magaly Rodriguez de Bittner, PharmD**, professor and chair of pharmacy practice and science - moderator for roundtable on multi-instructor active learning sessions
- **Fadia Shaya, PhD**, professor and vice chair for academic affairs, Academic Research Fellows Program
- **Toyin Tofade, PharmD**, assistant dean for experiential learning - speaker on preceptor training
- **Deanna Tran, PharmD**, assistant professor of pharmacy practice and science - speaker on creating opportunities for pharmacy collaborations and poster presentation on collaborative cardiovascular-focused educational program
- **Shannon Tucker**, assistant dean for instructional design and technology - moderator for roundtable on instructional design and satellite campuses, poster presentations on graduation CAPP and electronic health records, and speaker on computer-based examinations

New Chair for Department of Pharmaceutical

Health Services Research

[C. Daniel Mullins, PhD](#), professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research (PHSR), has been named chair of the department following a nationwide search. Dr. Mullins has been a trusted member of the School of Pharmacy's faculty for nearly two decades and has served PHSR in many capacities. He is an accomplished researcher, a dedicated teacher and mentor, and a thoughtful administrator. I am confident that he will be a stellar leader for PHSR as it works to expand its programmatic research within the department and across campus, and as it shapes the next generation of pharmaceutical health services researchers through its nationally renowned graduate program. Dr. Mullins, who joined the School of Pharmacy faculty in 1995, received his bachelor's degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and completed his doctorate at Duke University. He has served the PHSR department in many capacities over the years, including as graduate program director, as a previous chair, and most recently as interim chair following the retirement of former chair Ilene Zuckerman, PharmD, PhD, in December 2013. Please join me in congratulating him on his new appointment. [Read more here.](#)



School of Pharmacy Launches Advanced Pharmacy Technician Program

The School of Pharmacy has launched a new certificate program that will help pharmacy technicians with three to five years of work experience advance their practice and take their careers to the next level. Called [PharmTechX](#), the program began July 1 and is available through the School's [Center for Innovative Pharmacy Solutions \(CIPS\) Knowledge Enterprise](#), an innovative online learning platform that will allow pharmacy technicians to move through the program at their own pace and at times most convenient for them. Hospital and community pharmacy leaders across the state of Maryland have recognized the need for advanced pharmacy technician training that allows current technicians to expand their capabilities, which will enable pharmacists to spend more time delivering direct patient care. Our new PharmTechX Program offers an online, self-paced, and interactive learning environment that is designed to help practicing pharmacy technicians meet their career goals and assume more leadership responsibilities within their organizations. Led by [Jill Morgan, PharmD, BCPS](#), associate professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, the PharmTechX Program is a collaboration between the School and three local health systems in Maryland - the University of Maryland Medical System, Johns Hopkins Hospital, and MedStar Health. It includes three practice-based certificate training programs that technicians can choose from based on their individual practice interests: Leadership and Patient Care, Specialty Pharmacy Practice, and Community Pharmacy Practice and Management. [Read more here.](#)

Schools Hosts International Conferences

The School was fortunate to be able to host three international conferences in May and June that brought researchers and academics

to the School.

- **[Third International Conference on Microneedles:](#)** The School of Pharmacy, under the leadership of [Audra Stinchcomb, PhD](#), professor in in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences (PSC), hosted the Third International Conference on Microneedles, May 19-21.



The conference was a lively mix of more than 200 academic, industrial, and regulatory delegates, and included networking opportunities during poster and exhibition sessions, as well as social activities. A range of invited and keynote speakers from both business and academia presented technical highlights and reviewed state-of-the-art developments in the field. Topics included: design and technology, clinical and pre-clinical results, fabrication and materials, coatings and formulation, drug and vaccine delivery, regulatory issues, and more.

- **[US/Thai Pharmacy Education Conference:](#)** The School of Pharmacy, under the direction of [Ed Moreton, PhD](#), professor in PSC, hosted the US-Thai Consortium for the Development of Pharmacy Education in Thailand Conference, May 28-30.



The three-day conference welcomed 125 attendees from the United States and Thailand to the School to share information and best practices on pharmacy education. The consortium was founded in May 1994 when nine schools of pharmacy from the United States and the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy signed a Memorandum of Agreement with eight schools of pharmacy in Thailand and the Committee for Pharmacy Manpower Development of the Thailand Ministry of University Affairs. There are now 18 Thai and 16 US schools of pharmacy in the consortium. In July 2008, the MOA was renewed for an additional fourteen years. The Consortium fosters a formal link, on an institutional basis, that supports the long-term development plan of the Ministry of University Affairs to enhance the academic, research, and clinical programs of their schools of pharmacy and pharmaceutical sciences.

- **[Ninth Pan American Conference on Pharmaceutical Education:](#)** The School welcomed more than 90 delegates, presenters, and participants from 35 countries across the Americas to the Ninth Pan American Conference on Pharmaceutical Education held June 2-4. Hosted by [Magaly Rodriguez de Bittner, PharmD, BCPS, CDE, FAPhA](#), professor and chair of the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science (PPS) at the



School, the conference aimed to promote cooperation among

pharmacy schools across the Pan American region. Sponsored by the School of Pharmacy, the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP), and the Ministry of Health in Brazil, the conference featured presentations and panel discussions that highlighted innovative methodologies for pharmacy education and evaluation.

Three SOP Faculty Members Honored at MPhA Annual Meeting

Three faculty members from the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science (PPS) were the recipients of prestigious statewide awards from the Maryland Pharmacists Association (MPhA). [Deanna Tran, PharmD](#), an assistant professor in PPS, received MPhA's 2014 Distinguished Young Pharmacist Award, which is presented each year to a pharmacist who has graduated within the past 10 years and has made a significant contribution to the profession through service to a local, state, or national pharmacy organization. Dr. Tran completed a one-year community pharmacy residency at Virginia Commonwealth University and Martin's Pharmacy following her graduation from the School of Pharmacy in 2011. Her research and teaching focus on community pharmacy practice, including medication therapy management, diabetes, immunizations, travel health, point-of-care testing, and over-the-counter medications. She currently serves as a clinical programs consultant to Giant Pharmacy. [Mary Lynn McPherson, PharmD, BCPS, CPE](#), professor and vice chair for education in PPS, received MPhA's Seidman Distinguished Achievement Award, which recognizes her important contributions to the association, organized pharmacy, and the pharmacy profession. An international authority in the fields of pain management and palliative care, Dr.



McPherson has maintained a practice in hospice and palliative care, as well as ambulatory care, throughout her career. She teaches extensively in the School's Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) program and developed one of the first palliative care pharmacy residency programs in the United States, for which she currently serves as director. MPhA's Cardinal Health Generation Rx Champions Award was awarded to [Bethany DiPaula, PharmD, BCPP](#), associate professor in PPS, in recognition of her outstanding commitment to raising awareness about the dangers of prescription drug abuse among the general public and the pharmacy community. Dr. DiPaula received her PharmD from the School of Pharmacy, where she also completed a psychiatric pharmacy specialty residency. She now serves as director of that residency program and is a board certified psychiatric pharmacist with practices in both inpatient and outpatient psychiatry and substance abuse. [Read more here.](#)



New Members Named to School's Board of

Visitors

Seven new members have been named to the School's [Board of Visitors](#). A distinguished group of professional, business, and government leaders who are committed to the mission and goals of the School, the Board of Visitors provides advice and counsel to the dean, advocates for the School in pursuit of its aims, and assists the School with fundraising. The new members of the Board include:

- Thomas E. Menighan, BSPHarm, MBA, FAPhA, executive vice president and chief executive officer of the American Pharmacists Association (APhA)
- Stephen J. Allen, RPh, MS, FASHP, executive vice president of the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) Foundation
- Judy Britz, PhD, executive director of the Maryland Biotechnology Center
- Mary Baxter, BSP, MBA, vice president of national practice leader performance and outcomes at Cardinal Health
- Joseline A. Pena-Melnyk, representative for Anne Arundel County and Prince George's County in the Maryland House of Delegates
- John Spearman, president and chief operating officer at Laurel Regional Hospital
- Audra Stinchcomb, PhD, founder and chief scientific officer of AllTranz, Inc.
- Wenxue Wang, president and chairman of the board for China Fortune Land Development, Ltd. [Read more here.](#)

Kudos!

Our faculty, staff, and students are extremely talented individuals who are often recognized for their expertise by our School, University, and external organizations. Here is a list of recent achievements.

- **Abdalla Aly**, a graduate student in the Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, won Best Oral Presentation for Session A and the Gerontology and Geriatrics Education and Research Program Award at UMB's Graduate Research Conference.
- **Abdulla Aly** and **Viktor Chirikov**, graduate students in the Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, were named recipients of the department's 2014-2015 Donald O. Fedder Memorial Fellowship Award.
- **Robert Beardsley, PhD**, a professor of pharmaceutical health services research, received a 2014 Icons of Pharmacy Award from Oregon State University College of Pharmacy.
- **Heather Boyce** and **Jacky Lin**, graduate students in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, received Travel Awards from the 17th International Diffuse Reflectance Conference held in Chambersburg, Pa.
- **Nicole Brandt, PharmD**, a professor of pharmacy practice and science, has been reappointed as editor of the geropharmacology section of the *Journal of Gerontological Nursing*, has been named a clinical expert for the American Geriatrics Society's 2015 Beers Criteria Update, and has been named a pharmacy columnist for *Caring for the Ages*, the official newspaper of the American Medical Directors Association.

- **Mehmet Burcu** and **Xinyi Ng**, graduate students in the Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, were recipients of the department's 2014-2015 Arthur Schwartz Memorial Scholarship Award.
- **Lijia Chen** and **Maryanna Lanning**, graduate students in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, won American Chemical Society Travel Grants.
- **Bethany DiPaula, PharmD**, associate professor of pharmacy practice and science, has been appointed to the Maryland State Overdose Advisory Council's Pharmacists Prescribing Naloxene Workgroup and has been appointed to the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists' Section Advisory Group on Preceptor Skill Development.
- **Natalie D. Eddington, PhD, FAAPS, FCP**, dean and professor of the School of Pharmacy and executive director of University regional partnerships, has been named chair of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy's Research and Graduate Affairs Standing Committee.
- **Shamia Faison**, a graduate student in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, won the Graduate Translational Research Award at UMB's Graduate Research Conference.
- **Steven Fletcher, PhD**, an assistant professor of pharmaceutical sciences; **Kathleen Pincus, PharmD**, an assistant professor of pharmacy practice and science, and **C.S. Raman**, an associate professor of pharmaceutical sciences, were selected by the School of Pharmacy faculty as 2014 American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy's Teachers of the Year.
- **Brandy Garzel**, a graduate student in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, received a 2014-2015 National Institutes of Health Chemistry-Biology Interface Graduate Student Training Grant from the University of Maryland, Baltimore and the University of Maryland, Baltimore County.
- **Geoffrey Heinzl**, a graduate student in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, received a 2014 American Foundation for Pharmaceutical Education Pre-doctoral Fellowship.
- **Stephen Hoag, PhD**, a professor of pharmaceutical sciences, and **James Polli, PhD**, the Shangraw/Noxell Endowed Chair of Pharmaceutical Sciences, were awarded a United States patent for a method to evade and detect counterfeit drug products.
- **Ting-Yang "Jane" Huang**, a graduate student in the Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, won first place in AcademyHealth's Presenting Research in Compelling Ways Student Pecha Kucha Style Competition.
- **Bilal Khokhar**, a graduate student in the Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, won Best Poster for Session B and the Gerontology and Geriatrics Education and Research Program Award at UMB's Graduate Research Conference.
- **Cherokee Layson-Wolf, PharmD**, an associate professor of pharmacy practice and science and associate dean for student affairs, was named a trustee of the Maryland Pharmacists Association.
- **Joey Mattingly, PharmD, MBA**, an assistant professor of pharmacy practice and science, has been appointed to the American Pharmacists Association's Academy of Pharmaceutical Research and Science 2014-2015 Communications Standing Committee.
- **Mary Lynn McPherson, PharmD**, a professor of pharmacy practice and science, was named the founding chair of the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine's Pharmacotherapy Special Interest Group, was appointed to the

Palliative Care Research Cooperative Group, and was appointed to the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization's Part D Medication Relatedness National Working Group.

- **Xinyi Ng**, a graduate student in the Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, won third place in AcademyHealth's Presenting Research in Compelling Ways Student Pecha Kucha Style Competition.
- **Ebere Onukwugha, PhD**, an assistant professor of pharmaceutical health services research, received the Dr. Patricia Sokolove Outstanding Mentor Award from the University of Maryland, Baltimore's Graduate Student Association.
- **Brent Reed, PharmD**, an assistant professor of pharmacy practice and science, has been appointed to the 2014-2015 Communications Standing Committee for the American Pharmacists Association Academy of Pharmaceutical Research and Science. He has also been named director of the School of Pharmacy's Cardiology Pharmacy Residency Program.
- **Monet Stanford**, a fourth year student pharmacist, has been appointed to the American Pharmacists Association's Community Pharmacy Residency Program Advisory Panel for a one year term.
- **Deanna Tran, PharmD**, an assistant professor of pharmacy practice and science, was appointed to the American Pharmacists Association's New Practitioner Network Communications and Networking Standing Committee and has been reappointed to the American Pharmacists Association's Academy of Pharmacy Practice and Management Awards Standing Committee.
- **James Trovato, PharmD**, an associate professor of pharmacy practice and science, was reelected to a one-year term as chair of the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists' House of Delegates.
- **Katherine Walker, PharmD**, an associate professor of pharmacy practice and science, has been appointed to the Maryland State Overdose Advisory Council.
- **Jia Bei Wang, PhD**, a professor of pharmaceutical sciences, has been named a standing member of the National Institutes of Health's Surgery, Anesthesia and Trauma Study Section for 2014-2020.
- **Kristin Watson, PharmD**, an associate professor of pharmacy practice and science, was named the Class of 2014's Teacher of the Year.

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