Dear colleagues,

The 2013-2014 academic year ended in mid-May, providing an opportunity to reflect on the accomplishments of our faculty, staff, residents, and fellows. As you can see from these newsletters, it is remarkable the impact they have on pharmacy practice and patient care at the local, national, and even the international level. I am proud to work with such a talented group of professionals.

I look forward to seeing what the 2014-2015 academic year brings for the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, and I welcome your feedback and suggestions.

Magaly Rodriguez de Bittner, PharmD, BCPS, CDE
Professor and Chair
Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science

Two Faculty Honored with USM Board of Regents Awards

Two faculty members from PPS were recipients this spring of Faculty Awards in Mentoring and Public Service from the University System of Maryland (USM) Board of Regents. Jill Morgan, PharmD, associate professor and former associate dean for student affairs, received the USM Board of Regents Faculty Award in Mentoring for her tireless efforts to coach, advise, support, and mentor students in the School’s Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) program and residents in the Pediatric Pharmacy Residency Program, for which she serves as director. As associate dean for student affairs from 2005 to 2013, Dr. Morgan was...
instrumental in the expansion of the School's PharmD program to the Universities at Shady Grove, implementing the use of video conferencing between campuses and advocating for students' access to services such as on-site advising, tutoring, career development, and counseling and registration services. She also recognized the need to make student pharmacists more competitive in the job market, overseeing the creation of the School's Job Ready Program, which helps equip students with the tools and resources necessary to develop high quality resumes, enhanced networking skills, and superior interview techniques.

The USM Board of Regents Faculty Award for Public Service was given to Bruce Anderson, PharmD, DABAT, associate professor in PPS, in recognition of his service as director of operations for the Maryland Poison Center (MPC). A center within PPS, the MPC is certified by the American Association of Poison Control Centers as a regional poison center. It operates 24 hours a day, every day of the year, and is staffed by pharmacists and nurses who are certified as specialists in poison information. Though the Center initially only served physicians when it first moved to the School of Pharmacy 41 years ago, it has grown into a free public service that now responds to more than 60,000 calls from Maryland residents each year. Read more here...

Leading Psychiatric Pharmacy Society Votes PPS Faculty Member as President-elect
Raymond Love, PharmD, BCPP, FASHP, professor, has been named president-elect of the College of Psychiatric and Neurologic Pharmacists (CPNP). With his term scheduled to begin on July 1, Dr. Love will also serve as president of the organization for 2014-2015 and as past-president for 2015-2016. Established in 1998, CPNP is a professional pharmacy association dedicated to promoting excellence in pharmacy practice, education, and research to optimize treatment outcomes of individuals affected by psychiatric and neurologic disorders. As one of the group's founding members, Dr. Love has served in a number of positions and represented the organization on several pharmacy stakeholder groups, including one that provided input on the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and another that seeks to establish provider status for pharmacists. In 2010, he received the organization's highest honor - the Judith Saklad Award - in recognition of his continuing dedication to the practice of psychiatric pharmacy. Read more here...

PPS Faculty Member Named Co-director of UMB Center for Interprofessional Education
Heather Congdon, PharmD, BCPS, CDE, associate professor and the School's assistant dean at the Universities at Shady Grove (USG), has been named a co-director of the new Center for Interprofessional Education (IPE) at the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB). The Center is directed by Jane M. Kirschling, PhD, RN, FAAN.
dean and professor of the School of Nursing, and monitors all of the IPE initiatives in which faculty, staff, and students at UMB are engaged. Since Jay A. Perman, MD, was named president of UMB in 2010, IPE has been one of the cornerstones of the University's strategic plan. With faculty, staff, and students represented in almost all of the University's IPE initiatives -- including its IPE Task Force, first-ever IPE Day, interprofessional student competitions, as well as School-wide interprofessional courses and committees -- the School of Pharmacy has become one of the campus' leaders in this key area. At USG, Dr. Congdon also co-leads the Committee on Interprofessional and Interdisciplinary Education Strategies (CIPES). Launched in 2007, this committee has developed several elective courses, workshops, and other events to sharpen both undergraduate and graduate students' skills as interprofessional learners. Its Interprofessional Approach to the Critically Ill Patient elective is wildly popular among pharmacy, nursing, social work, and respiratory therapy students. Read more here...

Welcome New Faculty
The department is pleased to welcome the following new faculty:

- Catherine Cooke, PharmD, research associate professor
- Agnes Ann Feemster, PharmD, assistant professor
- Allison Lardieri, PharmD, assistant professor
- Joey Mattingly, PharmD, assistant professor

Kudos!
Our department's faculty are regularly recognized at the local and national level for their expertise. Here is a short list of recent accomplishments.

- **Chanel Agness**, PharmD, assistant professor, has been appointed by Governor Martin O'Malley to the Maryland State Advisory Council on Arthritis and Related Diseases.
- **Heather Congdon**, PharmD, associate professor and assistant dean at Shady Grove, has been named a Distinguished Practitioner and Fellow of the National Academies of Practice.
- **Sandeep Devabhakthuni**, PharmD, assistant professor, has been elected to the Maryland Society of Health-System Pharmacists' Board of Directors for a three year term.
- **Bethany DiPaula**, PharmD, associate professor, received the Cardinal Health Generation RX Champions Award from the Maryland Pharmacists Association.
- **Joga Gobburu**, PhD, professor and director of the Center for Translational Medicine, was appointed chair of the Pharmacometrics and Pharmacokinetics Section of the American Society for Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics.
- **Amy Ives**, PharmD, assistant professor, has been named the School of Pharmacy's delegate to the American Association of
Colleges of Pharmacy.

- **Katie Kiser**, PharmD, assistant professor, received board certification in ambulatory care pharmacy.
- **Cherokee Layson-Wolf**, PharmD, associate professor and associate dean for student affairs, was named a trustee of the Maryland Pharmacists Association.
- **Raymond Love**, PharmD, professor, has been re-appointed as co-chair of the Pharmacy Quality Alliance's Mental Health Work Group for 2014.
- **Mary Lynn McPherson**, PharmD, professor, received the Seidman Distinguished Achievement Award from the Maryland Pharmacists Association.
- **Tim Rocafort**, PharmD, assistant professor, has been named to the Editorial Advisory Board of *Pharmacy Today*.
- **Leah Sera**, PharmD, assistant professor, received board certification as a pharmacotherapy specialist.
- **Deanna Tran**, PharmD, assistant professor, received the Distinguished Young Pharmacist Award from the Maryland Pharmacists Association and has been appointed to APhA's Transitions Editorial Advisory Board for 2014-2015.
- **Kristin Watson**, PharmD, associate professor, was named the Class of 2014's Teacher of the Year.

**Grants**

- **Thomas Dowling**, PharmD, PhD, associate professor and vice chair, was awarded a new research contract for $293,521 to study the "Pharmacokinetics of MP-3180 and use of noninvasive fluorescence detection device in healthy subjects."
- The **Center for Translational Medicine** secured an agreement with Gates Foundation to help the Center with women's health product clinical development.

**Publications**

- **Sera L**, Holmes HM, **McPherson ML**. Prescribing Practices in Hospice Patients with Adult Failure to Thrive or Debility. Progress in Palliative Care 2014;22(2):69-74.
- **Tsay ME**, **Klein-Schwartz W**, **Anderson B**. Toxicity and Clinical Outcomes of Paliperidone Exposures Reported to U.S. Poison

- Sera L, Holmes HM, McPherson ML. Prescribing Practices in Hospice Patients With Adult Failure to Thrive or Debility. Progress in Palliative Care. Advance online publication.

Presentations

- Rochester C. "New and Emerging Diabetes Medications: What do Diabetes Educators Need to Know" Team Management of Diabetes Conference: MD
- **Haines ST.** It Starts With Us. Defining and Advancing Ambulatory Care Pharmacy Practice. American Society of Health System Pharmacists, Ambulatory Care Summit 2014, Dallas, TX, March 3, 2014.


