Dear friends and colleagues,

Much has happened at the School of Pharmacy since my last update - our faculty earned several large and prestigious research grants and contracts and received national awards for their excellence in research and practice; our students were the "stars" of the University's first Interprofessional Education Day; a loyal alumna made a large gift to the School, and new leaders have been appointed for several of our key programs.

This listing isn't a complete inventory of all the exciting news from the School - you'll read more in the following newsletter. We are proud of all of our faculty, staff, and students who work hard every day to fulfill the School's mission of leading pharmacy education, scientific discovery, patient care, and community engagement in the state of Maryland and beyond.

In the spirit of expertise, influence, and impact,

Natalie D. Eddington, PhD, FAAPS, FCP
Dean and Professor

Alumna Donates $1.1 Million to the School
Ellen H. Yankellow, PharmD '96, BSP '73, President and CEO of Correct Rx Pharmacy Services, Inc., the nation's leading woman-owned institutional pharmacy service provider, and chair of the School of Pharmacy's Board of Visitors, has donated $1.1 million to the School. This donation is the largest gift ever from a female graduate and will support a first-of-its-kind
Events

State of the School of Pharmacy Address

Universities at Shady Grove Auditorium of Building I
Nov. 4, 1 p.m.
Pharmacy Hall, Room N103
Nov. 6, Noon
RSVP to marketing@rx.umaryland.edu

Welcome New Faculty

Catherine Cooke, PharmD, research associate professor of pharmacy practice and science

David Goodlett, PhD, Isaac E. Emerson Chair of Pharmaceutical Sciences and director of the Mass Spectrometry Facility

Mathangi Gopalakrishnan, PhD, research assistant professor of pharmacy practice and science

Young-Ah Goo, PhD, research assistant professor of pharmaceutical sciences

Hazem Hassan, PhD, research assistant professor of pharmaceutical sciences

Vijay Ivaturi, PhD, research assistant professor of pharmacy practice and science

Eleanor Perfetto, PhD, professor of pharmaceutical health services research

Brent Reed, PharmD, assistant professor of pharmacy practice and science

Grants Totaling $5 Million Awarded to SOP Researchers

Audra Stinchcomb, PhD, professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences (PSC), has received two significant grant awards from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to support her work in the field of transdermal and topical drug delivery. Combined, the grants total $1 million and have the potential to be renewed for up to five years. One groundbreaking project that Dr. Stinchcomb and her collaborator Steve Hoag, PhD, professor in PSC and director of our Good Manufacturing Practice Facility, will undertake as part of these grant awards will test key regulatory-related hypotheses with which the FDA has grappled for years. The project aims to develop simple testing methods that can be used to determine how effective generic topical drug products, such as creams, ointments, or gels, are when compared to brand name products. Another project supported by these grants addresses a critical safety issue for individuals who use generic pain relief patches, which are often formulated differently than brand name patches. This project seeks to simulate patients' behavior when using a generic medicated patch for pain relief. In collaboration with Hazem Hassan, PhD, RPh, research assistant professor in PSC, Stinchcomb will conduct clinical trials and translate the results of those trials into an innovative approach that can be used to predict the clinical performance of generic products using a standard set of well-controlled laboratory tests.

Groundbreaking Program Launched to Engage Patients in Health Research

To help support more patient-centered outcomes research
(PCOR), the University of Maryland, Baltimore and the University of Maryland, College Park, have partnered with eight stakeholder organization to establish the Patient-Centered Involvement in Evaluating the Effectiveness of Treatments (PATIENTS) program. Directed by C. Daniel Mullins, PhD, professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research at the School of Pharmacy, the program aims to reduce health disparities by leveraging relationships with patient communities and health care systems to ensure that patients, health care providers, and other partners are actively engaged in research. Initially funded by a five-year, $5 million grant from the Agency for Healthcare Research & Quality (AHRQ), the PATIENTS program aims to foster sustainable partnerships with local, regional, and national communities of diverse patients and health care systems. Researchers participating in the program will work with those patients and health care systems to conduct PCOR and develop novel ways to publicize research results to patient communities. Read more here...

PPS Chair Recognized as UMB Entrepreneur of the Year

Magaly Rodriguez de Bittner, PharmD, professor and chair of the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, was named the University of Maryland, Baltimore's 2013 Entrepreneur of the Year as part of the University’s Founders Week festivities. Dr. Rodriguez de Bittner serves as executive director of the School's Center for Innovative Pharmacy Solutions and directs the Maryland Patients, Pharmacists, Partnerships (P3) Program, a chronic disease management program offered to employees of self-ensured employers in six states across the country. For those of us who work with Dr. Rodriguez de Bittner, we know that this is a well-deserved honor. She has a portfolio of innovation and progressive persistence that supports her selection as this year's Entrepreneur of the Year. She is not only a social entrepreneur, but also a savvy businesswoman, patient advocate, dedicated team-based player, innovative pioneer, and devoted pharmacy practitioner. Read more about this honor here...

PSC Named Partner in Waters Center of Innovation Program

The School of Pharmacy has become the first pharmacy school to be named a partner in Waters Corporation's Centers of Innovation Program, a designation that honors the School's commitment to advancing science through its new Mass Spectrometry Facility. The Waters Corporation, a leading developer and manufacturer of liquid chromatography (LC) and
mass spectrometry (MS) instrumentation, began its Centers of Innovation Program in 2010 to recognize accomplished scientists and their institutions for cutting edge research in many fields, including biomedical. The School of Pharmacy and Waters celebrated the designation at a scientific symposium held Oct. 10 in Pharmacy Hall. Waters specifically chose the School of Pharmacy’s Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences for the Centers of Innovation designation, making it the first institution, instead of an individual, to earn the honor. Waters offers its Centers of Innovation benefits such as discounts, special pricing, input into next-generation analytical tools, access to the very latest in technology and collaborative scientific assistance. Read more here...

At University’s First Interprofessional Education Day, Student Pharmacists "Know Everything"

In April, the University of Maryland, Baltimore hosted its first Interprofessional Education (IPE) Day at which faculty and students from each professional school on campus worked together on nine IPE scenarios and other events to showcase existing IPE activities and raise awareness of the local, national, and international interest in IPE. One hundred twenty-six students represented the School of Pharmacy at IPE Day, with faculty members participating in eight out of the nine featured scenarios which mimicked a real world situation that health care professionals might encounter during their practice and provided an opportunity for students to practice the four core competencies of interprofessional collaborative practice: values/ethics for interprofessional practice, roles/responsibilities, interprofessional communication, and teams and teamwork. After all scenarios concluded, the more than 300 students gathered to reflect on their experiences at a debriefing in the School of Nursing auditorium, where pharmacy students received the highest accolades. "Pharmacy students know everything," a professional student from another school observed to widespread applause. Read more about this day...

Residency Program Match Day

In the spring, thousands of fourth-year student pharmacists across the country learned their fate as the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) announced its Residency Match Day results. Forty-eight students from the School of Pharmacy were matched to residency positions. Approximately 60 percent of students from the School who applied for residency positions using the Pharmacy
Online Residency Centralized Application (PhORCAS) were matched. Over the years, pharmacy students have shown an increased interest in residency training in helping them obtain more specialized roles within the health-system setting. In 2010, only 22 percent of graduates from the School of Pharmacy went on to pursue residency or fellowship training. In 2012, that number increased to 35 percent. The School of Pharmacy's joint residency program with the University of Maryland Medical Center also had a successful match. Thirteen new first- and second-year residents joined the program in July.

**PHSR Graduate Program "One of the Best"**

Following the successful completion of a thorough self-study and comprehensive on-site visit, a team of external reviewers has identified the Pharmaceutical Health Services Research (PHSR) graduate program at the School of Pharmacy as one of the best programs of its kind in the nation. The University System of Maryland requires each of its doctorate programs to complete a program review once every seven years. The department drafted a self-study document and then hosted a site visit by reviewers of colleagues from universities with similar programs. The reviewers’ report highlighted the growing importance of the pharmaceutical health services research field and outlined a number of the program's strengths. It also spotlighted the Pharmaceutical Research Computing (PRC) center, which is housed within PHSR and offers computer programming, data management, and analytic support for health services researchers. [Read more...](#)

**School Partners with Congressman Sarbanes to Host MTM Events**

In May, pharmacists and student pharmacists working with the Maryland P³ Program at the School of Pharmacy participated in two medication therapy management events sponsored by Congressman John Sarbanes. Held at the Pascal Senior Center in Glen Burnie, Md., and the Praisner Community Center in Burtonsville, Md., the events offered free blood pressure screenings, medication consultations, and comprehensive medication reviews to all attendees. Student pharmacists staffed the station that provided blood pressure screenings to patients. The students, with assistance from faculty and other pharmacists, counseled patients about the results of their blood pressure screening and offered advice to help patients maintain a healthy blood pressure. [Read more here...](#)

**Faculty Develop Promising Compound for the Treatment of Chronic Pain**

A team of researchers led by Andrew Coop, PhD, professor and
chair of the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences (PSC), has developed a new opioid drug that shows great potential to advance treatment and improve quality of life for individuals living with chronic pain. Spotlighted in a recent issue of ACS Chemical Neuroscience, the compound, known as UMB 425, is as strong as morphine, but displays diminished tolerance over time with no obvious toxic effects. For individuals living with chronic pain, opioids are the standard treatment. But as the dosage increases to offset the body's tolerance to their effects, opioids cause a number of adverse effects, including constipation, nausea, drowsiness, and dizziness. The unique dual-profile of UMB 425 -- made possible through Coop's collaborations with Alexander MacKerell, PhD, professor in PSC and director of the School's Computer Aided Drug Design Center, and Maureen Kane, PhD, assistant professor in PSC and co-director of the School's Mass Spectrometry Facility -- provides both pain relief as well as diminished tolerance in one drug. Read more here....

### Leadership Changes
In recent months, there have been several leadership changes at the School of Pharmacy.

- **Francoise Pradel, PhD**, professor of pharmaceutical health services research (PHSR), has stepped down as director of the department's graduate program to return to her fulltime faculty position. **Ebere Onukwugha, PhD**, an assistant professor in PHSR, has taken over as graduate program director.
- **Sudha Veeraraghavan**, PhD, an associate professor of pharmaceutical sciences (PSC), has stepped down as director of the department's graduate program to return to her fulltime faculty position. **Sarah Michel, PhD**, an associate professor in PSC, has taken over as graduate program director.
- **Jill Morgan**, PharmD, an associate professor of pharmacy practice and science (PPS), has stepped down from her role as associate dean of student affairs, to return to her fulltime faculty position. **Cherokee Layson-Wolf, PharmD**, associate professor in PPS and previous assistant dean for experiential learning, has assumed the role of associate dean for student affairs. **Toyin Tofade, PharmD**, has assumed the role of assistant dean for experiential learning.
- **Ilene Zuckerman, PharmD, PhD**, professor and chair of the Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, will be leaving the School of Pharmacy at the end of the year for a position in private industry. **C. Daniel Mullins, PhD**, a professor in PHSR, has been named interim chair of the department while a national search is conducted for a full-time chair.
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.

- **Chanel Agness, PharmD**, an assistant professor of pharmacy practice and science (PPS), has been appointed to the National Commission for Certification in Geriatric Pharmacy's Exam Development Committee for a three year term.
- **Bob Beardsley, PhD**, a professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research (PHSR), has been named the department's vice chair for administration.
- **Kaloyan Bikov**, an information systems engineer in PHSR, received the University's 2013 Community Service Award for his work with several philanthropic organizations.
- **Nancy Bowers**, director of administration and finance, has been elected to the University's Staff Senate for a two year term.
- **William Cooper, MBA**, senior associate dean for administration and finance, has been named the Eastern Region Member-at-Large of the Administration and Finance Special Interest Group of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy.
- **Bethany DiPaula, PharmD**, associate professor in PPS, has been reappointed to the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists' Section Advisory Group on Preceptor Skills Development for 2013-2014.
- **Suzanne Doyon, MD**, medical director of the Maryland Poison Center at the School of Pharmacy, and David Fowler, MD, chief medical examiner for the State of Maryland, received the Best Platform Award at the North American Congress of Clinical Toxicology.
- **Sarah Dutcher**, a graduate student in PHSR, has received a predoctoral fellowship from the National Research Service.
- **Rachel Flurie, PharmD**, a pharmacotherapy resident, received a Resident/Fellow Research Award from the American College of Clinical Pharmacy.
- **Jeffrey Gonzales, PharmD**, an assistant professor in PPS, received the 2013 Critical Care Education Award from the American College of Clinical Pharmacy.
- **Stuart Haines, PharmD**, professor in PPS, **Katie Kiser, PharmD**, assistant professor in PPS, and **Christine Choy**, PharmD, assistant professor in PPS, have been selected to receive an inaugural Innovations Grant from the American College of Clinical Pharmacy's Ambulatory Care Practice and Research Network for their work as editors on iForumRx.org, an online journal club that fosters interaction between ambulatory care pharmacy specialists.
- **Stuart Haines, PharmD**, a professor in PPS, has been appointed a scientific editor of the journal Pharmacotherapy. He has also been appointed for a
three-year term to the American Pharmacists Association Foundation's Board of Directors.

- **Raymond Love, PharmD**, a professor in PPS, has been appointed a member of the 2013-2015 United States Pharmacopeia Convention's Expert Committee on Therapeutic Information and Formulary Support.

- **Mary Lynn McPherson, PharmD**, a professor in PPS, and **Jill Morgan, PharmD**, an associate professor in PPS, were selected by the graduating Class of 2013 as Teachers of the Year.

- **C. Daniel Mullins, PhD**, a professor and interim chair of PHSR, has been selected to receive the 2013 Dr. Daniel B. Savage Memorial Science Award from the Association of Black Cardiologists. He also received a Wilson H. Elkins Professorship from the University System of Maryland.

- **Eleanor Perfetto, PhD**, a professor in PHSR, has been named an assistant editor of the Journal of Managed Care Pharmacy. She has also been named to the International Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research's Task Force on Measuring PROs in Rare Diseases - Principles of Good Practice and appointed to a two year term of the University of Rhode Island College of Pharmacy's Advisory Board.

- **Francoise Pradel, PhD**, an associate professor in PHSR, and **James Trovato, PharmD**, an associate professor in PPS, were selected by the School of Pharmacy as its American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy Teachers of the Year.

- **Charmaine Rochester, PharmD**, an associate professor in PPS, has been appointed by Governor Martin O'Malley as an at-large commissioner on the Maryland Board of Pharmacy.

- **Fadia Shaya, PhD**, a professor in PHSR, has been named the department's vice chair for academic affairs and has been elected vice-chair of the board of the Delmarva Foundation for Medical Care.

- **Bruce Stuart, PhD**, a professor in PHSR, received the George F. Archambault Award from the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists.

- **Myron Weiner, PhD**, an associate professor in pharmaceutical sciences, has retired from the School of Pharmacy after more than 30 years on faculty.

- **Candice Yong**, a graduate student in PHSR, received a Best Student Podium Presentation Award at the 18th Annual Meeting of the International Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research and received the department's Dr. Arthur Schwartz Memorial Scholarship.