



From the Dean's Desk

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

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Events

I'll be presenting my annual State of the School of Pharmacy Address this week at both the Universities at Shady Grove in Rockville and in Pharmacy Hall in Baltimore. All faculty, staff, students, alumni, preceptors, and friends are invited to attend either event. A reception will follow each presentation. Please RSVP to

marketing@rx.umaryland.edu and indicate which presentation you plan to attend.

Winter 2012

Wrapping Up 2012

Dear friends and colleagues,

The fall semester has been a busy time at the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy. Much of our focus over the past several months has been preparation for a site visit for an eight year re-accreditation of our Doctor of Pharmacy curriculum. That site visit occurred last week.



The School of Pharmacy, as you will read in the newsletter below, continues to be a thriving center for pharmacy education, practice, research, and community outreach. I look forward to hearing from you with your ideas on how to further improve upon our already stellar institution.

In the spirit of expertise, influence, and impact,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Natalie D. Eddington".

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

FY12 Research Funding

I'm excited to report that our School's annual research funding increased by 8.4 percent over the previous fiscal year. Our total research awards for FY12 climbed to \$18 million, 5 percent of which was contributed by new investigators. Although federal and corporate funding declined slightly, we noticed a doubling of funding from research foundations. Over the past 5 years, our

Dec. 6, 1 p.m., Universities at Shady Grove, Building I, Auditorium

Dec. 7, noon, Pharmacy Hall, Room N103

overall research funding has increased steadily by 19 percent, including an average annual 1 percent increase in National Institutes of Health funding. In the current economic climate, this is an outstanding performance by our faculty and exemplifies the high-impact research carried out at our School.

New Faculty

We are very pleased to have welcomed a host of new faculty in all three of our departments over the past several months. Each of them will surely make wonderful contributions to our education, practice, research, and outreach initiatives.

Pharmaceutical Health Services Research

- [Sarah Tom, PhD, MPH](#) - assistant professor with expertise in aging and women's health.

Pharmaceutical Sciences

- [Pedro Lopes, PhD](#) - research assistant professor with expertise in computer-aided drug design
- [Mandy Oglesby-Sherrouse, PhD](#) - assistant professor with expertise in iron and heme regulation in bacteria
- [Jana Shen, PhD](#) - associate professor with expertise in computational chemistry
- [Audra Stinchcomb, PhD](#) - professor with expertise in novel drug delivery methods
- [Patrick Wintrobe, PhD](#) - associate professor with expertise in using mass spectrometry to probe macromolecular structure, dynamics, and interactions of proteins
- [Fengtian Xue, PhD](#) - assistant professor with expertise in design, synthesis, and biological evaluation of small molecule therapeutics

Pharmacy Practice and Science

- [Nicholas Fusco, PharmD](#) - assistant professor specializing in pediatric pharmacy
- [Amy Ives, PharmD](#) - assistant professor specializing in internal medicine
- [Leah Sera, PharmD](#) - assistant professor specializing in ambulatory care
- [Tim Rocafort, PharmD](#) - assistant professor specializing in community pharmacy
- [Deanna Tran, PharmD](#) - assistant professor specializing in community pharmacy
- [Connie Yoon, PharmD](#) - assistant professor specializing in internal medicine

UM Founder's Week Award Winners

Two School of Pharmacy faculty were selected for very prestigious campus awards in October, given to celebrate the founding of the University of Maryland in 1807. They are:

[Alexander MacKerell, PhD](#), our Grollman-Glick Professor in Pharmaceutical Sciences and director of the Computer-Aided Drug Design Center, was named the University of Maryland, Baltimore's Research Lecturer of the Year.



[Mary Lynn McPherson, PharmD](#), professor of pharmacy practice and science, was named the University of Maryland, Baltimore's Teacher of the Year.



Both Drs. MacKerell and McPherson are highly deserving of these honors. To read more about Drs. MacKerell and McPherson, visit <http://umvoice.com/2012/10/founders-week-2012/>. Please join me in congratulating them.

All Alumni Reunion Day

On Oct. 20, the School welcomed back nearly 100 alumni for our first ever All Alumni Reunion Day. The day began with two continuing education courses, followed by a crab feast and barbecue, Student Government



Association fair, tours of the School, and research poster presentations from our graduate students. PhD alumni and milestone class years enjoyed smaller receptions at off-site locations later that evening. Thank you to everyone who participated, and we look forward to seeing even more alumni at next year's reunion. [Read more...](#)

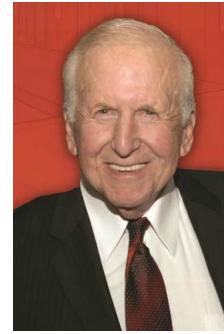
Vote & Vax

On Nov. 6, members of many of our Student Government Association organizations once again participated in the national Vote & Vax initiative by administering free seasonal flu vaccines at locations near polling sites in Anne Arundel and Prince George's Counties. Their first initiative in 2010 was such a success that it was recognized with an award from the Maryland Immunization Partnership. This year, our students administered 221 vaccines. [Read more...](#)

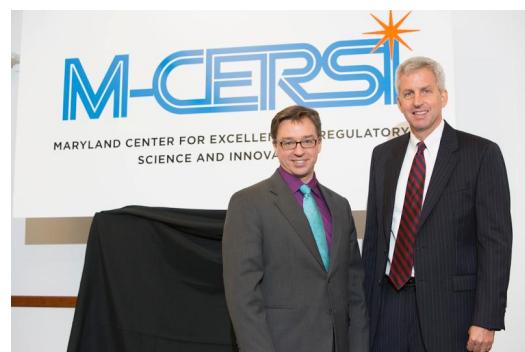


Long-time Pharmacy Professor Set to Retire

On Jan. 1, [Fred Abramson](#), BSP '56, RPh, an assistant professor of pharmacy practice and science, will retire from the School of Pharmacy after 30 years of service. Fred is well-known to and well-loved by many faculty, staff, students, and alumni who have had the privilege to work with him or be taught by him in our community pharmacy practice lab, affectionately known at the School as "Fred Lab." We wish Fred well in retirement. [Read more about Fred's career and legacy.](#)



Center of Excellence in Regulatory Science and Innovation Hosts First "CERSI Day "



The University of Maryland Center of Excellence in Regulatory Science and Innovation ([M-CERSI](#)), established in 2011 as a collaboration between the University of Maryland, Baltimore and the University of Maryland, College Park, hosted its first CERSI Day in early September to bring together representatives of academia, industry, and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to share ideas and information on how to jumpstart the scientific innovation needed to improve the regulatory process for new medications and medical devices. [James Polli](#), PhD, our Shangraw/Noxell Endowed Chair of Industrial Pharmacy and Pharmaceutics in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, is co-principal investigator for CERSI, which was formed with an initial \$1 million grant from the FDA. [Read more about CERSI Day...](#)

Two New Master's Programs at the School

The School has launched a new Master's Program in Pharmacometrics with plans to start a Master's Program in Regulatory Science in the Fall of 2013.

Under the leadership of [Joga Gobburu](#), PhD, a professor of pharmacy practice and science, the School is now offering a Master's in Pharmacometrics, which is designed for working professionals who want to cultivate their skills in the emerging field of pharmacometrics. The program started in September with a first class of 28 students. [Learn more about our Master's](#)

of Pharmacometrics Program.

Our second new Master's program, in the area of regulatory science, will launch in the fall of 2013 under the direction of [James Polli](#), PhD, our Shangraw/Noxell Endowed Chair in Industrial Pharmacy and Pharmaceutics. The program is pending approval from the Maryland Higher Education Commission but we anticipate accepting applications in February. The online program is designed for professionals working in industry who want to contribute to drug regulation and pharmaceutical product lifecycles. [Learn more about our Master's of Regulatory Science Program.](#)

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.

- The School of Pharmacy's chapter of **Lambda Kappa Sigma** was named the 2012 Outstanding Collegiate Chapter of the Year and the 2012 Outstanding Alumni Chapter of the Year.
- **Abdalla Aly**, a graduate student in the Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, has been selected as one of UM President Perman's Fellows for the 2012-2013 academic year. Aly joins nine other fellows to promote interdisciplinary education and civility on campus.
- **Nancy Bowers**, director of administration and finance, has been elected co-secretary of the Council of University System Staff.
- **Nicole Brandt, PharmD**, an associate professor of pharmacy practice and science, has been named a section editor of the *Journal of Gerontological Nursing's* Column on Geropharmacology.
- **Heather Congdon, PharmD**, an assistant professor of pharmacy practice and science and assistant dean for Shady Grove, was accepted into the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy's Academic Leadership Fellows Program.
- **Bethany DiPaula, PharmD**, an associate professor of pharmacy practice and science, was appointed to the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists' Section Advisory Group on Preceptor Skills Development.
- **Suzanne Doyon, MD**, medical director of the Maryland Poison Center, received first place in the Maryland Health Data Innovation Contest.
- **Sarah Dutcher**, a graduate student in the Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, received the department's Dr. Arthur Schwartz Memorial Scholarship Award and received a pre-doctoral fellowship from the American Foundation for Pharmaceutical Education.
- **Natalie D. Eddington, PhD, FAAPS, FCP**, dean and professor, has been named chair of the board of

directors of the National Institute for Pharmaceutical Technology and Education.

- **Maureen Kane, PhD**, an assistant professor of pharmaceutical sciences, was named the School of Pharmacy's American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy Teacher of the Year.
- **Katie Kiser, PharmD**, an assistant professor of pharmacy practice and science, has been named treasurer of the American College of Clinical Pharmacy's Ambulatory Care Practice and Research Network.
- **Mary Lynn McPherson, PharmD**, a professor of pharmacy practice and science, has been appointed by Governor Martin O'Malley to the State Council for End of Life Care in Maryland.
- **Jill Morgan, PharmD**, associate dean for student affairs and associate professor of pharmacy practice and science, has been named chair of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy's Special Interest Group on Student Services.
- **Diwura Owolabi**, a fourth-year student pharmacist, has been named member-at-large of the American College of Clinical Pharmacy's National StuNet Advisory Committee.
- **Emily Reese**, a graduate student in the Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, received a pre-doctoral fellowship in health outcomes from the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America Foundation.
- **Magaly Rodriguez de Bittner, PharmD**, professor and chair of pharmacy practice and science, has been appointed to the International Pharmaceutical Federation's Academic Pharmacy Section Advisory Council.
- **David Roffman, PharmD**, a professor of pharmacy practice and science, has been named to the Board of Pharmacy Specialties' Practice Analysis Taskforce in Cardiology.
- **Paul Shapiro, PhD**, associate professor of pharmaceutical sciences, has been appointed chair of a National Institutes of Health Study Section.
- **Fadia Shaya, PhD**, a professor of pharmaceutical health services research, has been named director of research and outreach for the School's Center for Innovative Pharmacy Solutions and has been named a standing member of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality's Healthcare Systems and Value Research study section.
- **James Trovato, PharmD**, an associate professor of pharmacy practice and science, has been named chair of the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists' House of Delegates for 2012-2013.
- **Ting Wang**, a graduate student in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, received a research fellowship from the United States Pharmacopeia.
- **Jeremy Yap**, a graduate student in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, received a pre-doctoral fellowship award from the American Chemical Society's

Division of Medicinal Chemistry.

- **Bruce Yu, PhD**, an associate professor of pharmaceutical sciences, was issued a patent for his work titled "Highly Fluorinated Oils and Surfactants and Methods of Making and Using Same."

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