SHOWGLOBE

CELEBRATING MOUNTAINEER VALUES

Dr. Brian Lawson (PharmD '08) receives the Margaret Buchanan Cole Young Alumni Award at halftime of the 2018 Homecoming Game. WVU's Homecoming awards are given to alumni who demonstrate the core values of service, curiosity, respect, accountability and appreciation.

West Virginia University. School of pharmacy

IN THIS ISSUE:

SoP ALUMNUS STILL GOING STRONG AT 86 PAGE 4

THE FUTURE OF EXPERIMENTAL THERAPEUTICS AT WVU PAGE 16 FRIENDS WHO GIVE TOGETHER PAGE 20

A Message From the Dean

"The purpose of life is not to be happy. It is to be useful, to be honorable, to be compassionate, to have it make some difference that you have lived and lived well."

-RALPH WALDO EMERSON

Dean Petros, far right, breaks for a photo with fellow Mountaineers and the crew from "Barnwood Builders."



My first year as dean has been an incredibly fast-paced one, but I have certainly enjoyed both its joys and challenges. The year culminated in the production of our new strategic plan for the School, which we began working on the framework for last spring. The plan will help guide the School for the next five years. It includes some exciting approaches to improve our research, educational opportunities and impactful service. This living document was formulated based on input from faculty, students, staff and alumni. You will be seeing and hearing more about such in the near future.

Each time I travel on behalf of the School, I return with a new/renewed friendship and a memorable story to share. I am continuously in awe of our alumni and their dedication to the School and the profession, as well as their commitment to service.

Ralph Waldo Emerson said, "The purpose of life is not to be happy. It is to be useful, to be honorable, to be compassionate, to have it make some difference that you have lived and lived well."

In this edition of the Showglobe, we chose to highlight some wonderful examples of our alumni, students and faculty providing outstanding service that is making a difference in the world. Others are also living well because these individuals have committed to such a purpose.

In April, I was called upon by President Gee to participate in a unique service and team building opportunity. The project was for an episode of the DIY Network Show "Barnwood Builders." Twenty-five leaders from around the University, including deans, vice presidents, coaches, staff and students — even the Mountaineer — volunteered to build a log structure at WVU Jackson's Mill. Despite the challenges of rain, snow and sleet, a 16-by-20-foot timber frame structure was completed, which will be used as an education center for visitors, including 4-Hers, to learn about Appalachian heritage.

In addition to service, this issue highlights our research efforts over the past year, which have made significant gains by both faculty recruitment and the award of new nationally competitive grants. We hope to use our investigative efforts not only to make an impact on disease but also to provide students with opportunities to participate in difficult problemsolving so that they have the confidence to tackle tough issues in whatever pharmacy career path they choose.

It's been a good year, and we have much to celebrate including outstanding student recruits, fantastic passing rates on the national board exam and national awards for faculty. I'd like to express my appreciation for all of our alumni and friends who have helped the School over the past year through financial, consultation and educational efforts. We are surely better because of such. We hope you enjoy this edition of the Showglobe, and may country roads bring you back to see us in 2019!

Willian P. Petros

William Petros, PharmD, FCCP Dean and The Gates Wigner Endowed Chair

WINTER 2018-2019

ADMINISTRATION E. Gordon Gee President, West Virginia University

Clay Marsh Vice President and Executive Dean, WVU Health Sciences

William Petros Dean, School of Pharmacy

DEVELOPMENT AND ALUMNI RELATIONS

Kevin Tephabock Director of Development 304-293-7731 kevin.tephabock@hsc.wvu.edu

Betsy Elswick

Coordinator, School of Pharmacy Alumni Association, Alumni Relations 304-293-6204 belswick@hsc.wv<u>u.edu</u>

EDITOR **Christa Currey** Director of Marketing and Communications

CONTRIBUTORS Stacey Elza Health Sciences Research Writer

Lily McKnight 2018 Public Relations Intern

DESIGN Little Fish Design Company

PHOTOGRAPHERS WVU Photography Christa Currey David Ryan

EDITORIAL OFFICE WVU School of Pharmacv 1142 Health Sciences Center North P.O. Box 9500 Morgantown, WV 26506-9500 pharmacy.hsc.wvu.edu

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

WVU Foundation P.O. Box 1650 Morgantown, WV 26504-1650 Fax: 304-284-4001 Email: info@wvuf.org www.mountaineerconnection.com

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CONTENTS Winter 2018-2019



University

ALUMNI

Pharmacy Alumnus Honored for Extraordinary Service to Our **Profession and**

RESEARCH



For the Love of **Pharmacy: Alumnus John Miller Still Serving His Community at 86**

Paving the Way for the Future of Experimental Therapeutics and **Cancer Research**

Snapshot

Using advanced technology, the David and Jo Ann Shaw Center for Simulation Training and Education for Patient Safety (STEPS) at the Health Sciences Center allows WVU School of Pharmacy students to improve their analytical, diagnostic, communications and crisis-intervention skills. Patient simulators are capable of everything from trembling and crying, to bleeding and giving birth.

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

- 06 Service to our Nation
- **08 ICYMI: A Look Back at Our Year in Social Media**
- **10** Student News
- 11 Q&A: Courtney Burgazli
- **12 Faculty News**

- **18 Focus on Research**
- **20 Donors and Scholars**
- 22 Alumni News
- 24 Class Notes/In Memoriam **Future Pharmacists**



Pharmacy Alumnus Honored for **Extraordinary Service to Our Profession and University**

▲ Lawson poses for a photo with Alumni Association President and Chief Executive Officer Sean Frisbee (*left*), WVU President E. Gordon Gee and BOG Chairman William (Bill) Wilmoth (*far right*).

In just ten short years, West Virginia University School of Pharmacy alumnus Dr. Brian Lawson has provided what some would consider a lifetime of service to his alma mater.

Since graduating from the PharmD program in 2008, Lawson has served as president of the SoP Alumni Association, inspired future pharmacists as the School's Commencement speaker, served as adjunct assistant professor and is currently a member of the School's Leadership Council — and that's just the short list.

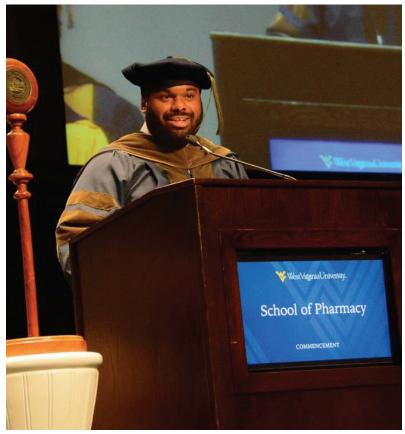
This year, the WVU Alumni Association formally recognized Lawson for his dedication to his alma mater by selecting him as one of seven WVU graduates who demonstrate "Mountaineer Values" throughout their lives and careers.

On October 6, the University's Alumni Association presented Lawson with the 2018 Margaret Buchanan Cole Young Alumni award, which recognizes an alumnus or alumna who graduated within the last decade and has provided outstanding service to his or her alma mater. He and the other winners were celebrated during the annual Homecoming parade on High Street and at halftime of the WVU football game against Kansas. "Coming home has never felt so good," said Lawson. "And representing the WVU School of Pharmacy on Mountaineer Field was an overwhelming experience."

The School and its alumni association nominated Lawson for the award. In the nomination letter, Alumni Relations Coordinator and Associate Professor Dr. Betsy Elswick wrote, "It is a rare and special gift for a school to have such a distinguished young alumnus as Dr. Brian Lawson. However, it is even more uncommon to have a graduate who is so deeply committed to a lifetime of service so early on in his career. We truly can think of no one better to receive this prestigious award."

Lawson's parents introduced him to volunteerism at an early age. He was just 9 years old when he first volunteered at the Barnett Child Care Center in Huntington, West Virginia, where his grandmother was a teacher's assistant. There, he helped with learning activities and field trips. Later, as a high school student, Lawson spent a portion of his summer working at the Hershel "Woody" Williams VA Medical Center in Huntington, West Virginia.





"My mentor! My pal! A role model that keeps me going every day! Congrats to a very well deserving guy!!!!!"

–ADAM FOSTER, via Facebook

SUSAN MEREDITH

Congratulations and thanks for all you do for the SOP and our profession. Proud of all your accomplishments!!!!

DIANA R. BETKIJIAN

Wow!! Congrats Brian Lawson!! Making the class of '08 so proud!!

SURESH MADHAVAN

Congratulations Brian Lawson. So happy to see this well-deserved recognition come to a very kind and helpful alum of our school.

ERIN BARTHELMESS

Congrats Brian! You are an amazing preceptor and Mountaineer!

KRISTEN FINELY SOBOTA

Brian Lawson!!!! Congratulations!!!! So deserving!!!

BILL PETROS

Fantastic recognition for your incredible work!

THOMAS E MENIGHAN

Very proud of our colleague, friend and fellow alum as he continues to make a difference in the world!

BETSY ELSWICK

Congratulations, Brian Lawson! There couldn't be a finer or more deserving Mountaineer for the award. So ridiculously proud of you!

Top: (L-R) Thomas Menighan ('74) executive vice president and CEO, American Pharmacists Association (APhA); Elizabeth Keyes ('91) chief operation officer, APhA; Dr. E. Gordon Gee, Lawson ('08). Bottom: Lawson speaking at the 2015 May Commencement Ceremony.

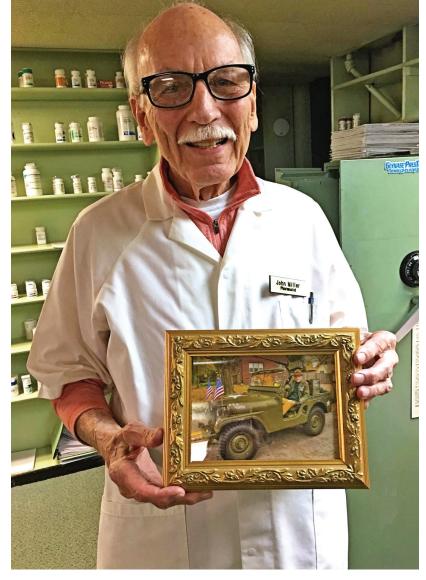
"During orientation, I had a choice between optometry, podiatry, dentistry and pharmacy. I chose pharmacy," said Lawson. "The first summer, I split my time between volunteering in employee health and outpatient pharmacy. The second summer, I volunteered in inpatient pharmacy. These experiences solidified my interest in service and my decision to pursue pharmacy as a profession."

Currently, Lawson is director of professional affairs for the Board of Pharmacy Specialties (BPS) in Washington, D.C. Once a year, he hosts a group of WVU student pharmacists who are enrolled in the Pharmacy Advocacy and Leadership course during their class trip to Washington, D.C., Capitol Hill and the American Pharmacists Association (APhA). He provides these students with valuable professional and life advice and has consequently, become a role model for many. In addition to providing workshops and presentations on timely topics such as preventing the abuse and misuse of prescription drugs, he acts as a mentor. "Brian opened my eyes to the many pathways a pharmacist can pursue to provide patient care and advance the profession, offering advice to help me succeed during the transition from student pharmacist to new practitioner," said mentee Adam Foster. "His knowledge, approachable demeanor and passion for life have inspired me to provide mentorship to future pharmacists. I am lucky to call him a friend."

Before his position at BPS, Lawson was the associate director, governance in the Executive Offices division at APhA, where he served as staff liaison to the board of trustees, and oversaw the House of Delegates operations, policy development processes, profession-wide awards and board elections. In 2008, Lawson was named the recipient of the first Knowlton Center Executive Residency in Association Management and Leadership at the APhA Foundation. V

For the Love of Pharmacy: Alumnus John Miller Still Serving His Community at 86

If you ever completed a pharmacy rotation in Buckhannon you probably remember John Miller. Miller (BSPharmacy, '61) precepted students from the WVU School of Pharmacy for more than 30 years, and if he saw one of his former students today, chances are he'd remember a thing or two about their experience. His memory is long, and his knowledge is vast. Although he's no longer a preceptor, he's still practicing pharmacy at the age of 86.



▲ Miller holds a photo of himself in a Korean War era (1953) Jeep. It was restored by his sonin-law Rusty Jebbia. Miller rides in it each year during the town's Veteran's Day Parade.

"I could have retired 20 years ago, but I didn't," said Miller. "I like medicine, and I enjoy the relationships I've formed with my patients over the years."

For nearly six decades, Miller has worked in the same building on East Main Street providing patient care for the community where he was born and raised. Although patient needs have changed over the years, helping people is still what motivates Miller to keep his doors open.

"Earlier in my career, I was called out at all hours of the night to fill prescriptions usually for sick children," said Miller. "Nowadays, I get a lot of requests to mail medications to Florida— where many of my aging patients go for the winter."

Miller spends most of his time at the pharmacy where he is the only pharmacist. He says he doesn't really mind because he sees his work as more of a hobby than a job. In fact, he doesn't even recall the last time he took a vacation. "Ninety-five percent of the drugs in this room were not here when I started. And the computer it changed the whole profession. When I started, we used a typewriter or a pencil."

"I don't require one really," said Miller. "I've done most everything I wanted to do, and I've traveled the world twice with the military. I never give a vacation much thought."

Miller takes a lot of pride in his pharmacy. With its stained glass and wood trim, the store has the vintage feel of the early 1900s. However, Miller says the pharmacy has evolved quite a bit since his father, John W. Miller (BSPharmacy, '24), purchased it in the 1940s.

"Ninety-five percent of the drugs in this room were not here when I started," said Miller. "And the computer — it changed the whole profession. When I started, we used a typewriter or a pencil with an eraser. All the records were on paper. Now all the records are stored on the computer. It makes things much quicker — when the computer works."

Miller's father had a significant influence on his career. As a young man, he worked as a janitor at his father's pharmacy — mainly "swabbing the decks"



FUN FACTS ABOUT JOHN MILLER



When he isn't working, he enjoys hanging out at home with his 82-pound black Labrador retriever Macgruff.



Miller loves to read. He has a small library at home with three sections: medicine, history and military.



His favorite historical figure is Winston Churchill.



Miller has had the same pharmacy tech for 46 years; her name is Millie Calkins.





▲ Top: Miller commissioned this painting of the WVU Med Center (Now WVU Health Sciences Center) in 1963. It still hangs above the entrance to Miller's Pharmacy. The artist, G.B. Keester was an art professor at West Virginia Wesleyan College in Buckhannon. *Bottom*: Miller fills a patient's prescription.

and "shining bottles." However, as a young adult, Miller's path to becoming a pharmacist was not a conventional one.

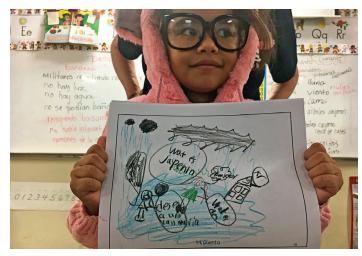
After spending three semesters as a chemistry major at WVU, Miller enlisted in the military and served in Korea. He was a sergeant in the U.S. Marine Corps, Fleet Marine Force, Weapons Company, third Battalion, fifth Marine Regiment, first Marine Division. After three years of serving his country, he returned to Buckhannon and attended West Virginia Wesleyan on the GI Bill. It would be another year before he was ready to follow in his father's footsteps, and when he was ready, he chose the WVU School of Pharmacy.

"I had an advantage on some of the students because when I was shining bottles for my father, I memorized the doses on the labels," said Miller. "It all came back to me when I started pharmacy classes."

Miller says he is thankful to the military and the School of Pharmacy for helping him develop into the person and pharmacist that he is today.

"My experience has been magnificent," said Miller. "I like to think of myself as the quintessential older pharmacist. I was raised in the profession, and it just all fell into place for me. So, when I go out — well, I have no regrets." \checkmark

Service to Our Nation



▲ Above: A young Puerto Rican girl shares her drawing of Hurricane Maria with classmates and visitors from Project Hope. *Top right*: Dr. Slain, right, and his Project Hope teammate prepare to set up for a clinic day. *Right*: Dr. Wietholter, fourth from left, poses for a photo with his Project Hope teammates.



Finding Hope After Hurricane Maria

On September 20, 2017, Hurricane Maria, a Category 4 storm with 155 mph winds, slammed into Puerto Rico — leaving an already impoverished island and U.S. territory in total despair.

Wanting to use their pharmacy skills to assist those suffering in the wake of the aftermath, Drs. Douglas Slain, chairman of the Clinical Pharmacy Department, and Jon Wietholter, associate professor of clinical pharmacy, volunteered for Project HOPE (Health Opportunities for People Everywhere), a global health and humanitarian relief organization.

Slain and Wietholter traveled to Puerto Rico on separate missions in December 2017. Both men were the only pharmacists on their teams. They provided care in some of the hardest hit

areas including Yabucoa, where the hurricane made landfall. Many of the residents there were still without power three months after the storm had hit.

"We saw much despair amongst the people there," said Wietholter. "The initial death toll was at 64, but the people of the island were convinced that many of the deaths were unaccounted for."

Wietholter and Slain, along with their teams, were tasked with operating a mobile care clinic stocked with medications donated by pharmaceutical companies. They also went to patients' homes as part of the medical teams to help patients with limited mobility. They spent long days treating patients whose caregivers had fled the island.

"We heard that many of the doctors bolted for Florida and they weren't coming back," said Wietholter. "We were limited "It's difficult to say to someone, 'This is my last albuterol inhaler, and I know you really need it, but there may be someone out there who needs it more.' That's a tough decision to make."

with what we could do and had to think on our feet. We had drugs for every auto-immune disease known to man but couldn't get enough blood pressure medicine. Also, we probably used more erythromycin that week than we did in the last two decades."

Slain arrived on the island as Wietholter was returning to the U.S. In addition to operating the mobile clinic, Slain's team visited schools along with a mental health specialist. They spoke with children about their fears and concerns — using a coloring book that allowed students to express their emotions through drawings.

"We asked them to draw a picture of their impression of the hurricane," said Slain. "Most of the depictions had trees falling on houses, water in houses — even pictures of funerals. It was difficult to see." Both Slain and Wietholter say the bonds they made and

the work they accomplished in Puerto Rico were gratifying, but there were some problematic aspects of the journey, including the language barrier, being exposed to unique and unfamiliar diseases and having to make tough decisions regarding patient needs.

"It's difficult to say to someone, 'This is my last albuterol inhaler, and I know you really need it, but there may be someone out there who needs it more.' That's a tough decision to make," said Wietholter.

In August 2018, power was fully restored to all homes, and the Puerto Rican government raised the official death toll from 64 to 2,975. Although the island is once again open for tourism, those living outside of the resort areas continue to struggle as they rebuild homes and schools — some residents estimating it may take another year to fully restore what was lost. ¥

Wigner Institute Works with West Virginia DHHR to Secure Nearly \$2 Million for Diabetes Prevention and Management



A grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) will soon give West Virginians another option for preventing

and managing chronic diseases.

The grant, written in conjunction with the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources, the School of Pharmacy and other West Virginia stakeholders, focuses on diabetes, prediabetes, hypertension and cholesterol.

Dr. Krista Capehart, associate professor and director of the School's Wigner Institute for Advanced Pharmacy Practice, Education and Research, wrote the pharmacy piece of the grant. She says West Virginians have one of the highest rates of adult diabetes in the United States. Her vision is to make screenings, education and self-management tools more available to patients through their local pharmacies.

"Pharmacists are the most accessible healthcare providers," said Capehart. "We know that on average, patients see their physician four times a year. The data also show that patients visit their pharmacists 35-36 times a year."

The Wigner Institute will receive a portion of the grant each year over the next five years to help pharmacies across West Virginia establish education programs and workshops for high blood pressure, diabetes and diabetes prevention. The funds will also go towards helping pharmacies gain accreditation through the American Association of Diabetes Educators (AADE) to provide diabetes self-management and training for the National Diabetes Prevention Program. Both programs open avenues for billing of services.

Capehart will play a pivotal role in helping pharmacies prepare for this next step by conducting site visits to pharmacies throughout the state. She will assess each interested pharmacy, evaluate the current services already offered, and develop a plan for meeting the accreditation standards. In addition, she will assist with applications and help to get the programs up and running.

Capehart says incorporating pharmacists into the rest of the healthcare system can have positive outcomes for the community something she has seen firsthand.

"The AADE, Accredited Diabetes Self Management Programs and National Diabetes Prevention Programs currently operating in pharmacies in West Virginia make a big impact in the lives of their patients," said Capehart. "The pharmacists provide the education and group classes and then get the information back to the primary care providers or specialists that the patient has completed it. Pharmacies in many of our rural towns are a social gathering place and utilizing this facet for patient care is a great avenue for enabling community connections and improving patient outcomes." School of Pharmacy Students Take 'Operation Immunization' to Welch and Fayette Counties



On the first day of classes, members of the Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP) traveled to McDowell County, West Virginia, to introduce "Operation Immunization," an outreach program to educate people on the importance of immunizations. They attended a health fair where they passed out flu vaccine pamphlets, talked about the importance of vaccinations and answered questions from the community. In October, "Operation Immunization" went on the road to Bridge Day, West Virginia's largest single-day festival and one of the largest extreme sports events in the world, on the New River Gorge Bridge in Fayette County, West Virginia, to provide flu vaccines.

OF WEST VIRGINIA ADULTS HAVE PRE-DIABETES

PREVALENCE OF DIABETES WAS HIGHEST

AMONG THOSE AGED 65 AND OLDER

THOSE WITH LESS THAN A HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION.

THOSE WITH AN ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME OF <\$15,000



IN THE PAST THREE YEARS

RMACY.HSC.WVU.EDU

ICYMI: In Case You Missed It

When we have exciting news to share, social media is the fastest, most efficient way to share it with you!

We encourage you to join us on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn. Who knows, where maybe you'll even find that long-lost classmate you were wondering about. Here is the kind of content we share on social media:

- Upcoming School-sponsored events
- Alumni and student profiles
- Faculty and student news
- Industry-related news

If you haven't checked out our social feeds recently, here's a sample of what you've been missing:



SoP hosts panel on cultural awareness in healthcare

This fall, the School of Pharmacy incorporated a new activity into the P-1 curriculum to address culture and diversity.

As part of the Pharmacy Practice and Management Course, the School invited 14 individuals spanning many cultures and backgrounds to talk to students about some of the challenges and barriers that their cultures face in the healthcare system. Students were broken up into smaller groups and met with each of the panelists in a roundtable format.

Topics included English as a second language; working with patients from African-American, Hispanic/Latino, Asian-American and Native American cultures; patients who are homeless, vulnerable or who have disabilities; patients in the LGBTQ community, as well as those patients who have spiritual or religious needs.



SoP alumnus shares message of persistence at 2018 Bergy Lecture

Alumnus **Dr. Donald Heald** (MS, '80; PhD, '84) was the keynote speaker for the 54th Annual Gordon A. Bergy Lectureship. The event, held in April, was sponsored by the Alpha Mu Chapter of the Rho Chi Society. During his presentation, "Persistence; A Key for Success," Heald shared examples of times in his professional life when perseverance helped him to overcome obstacles in order to achieve his vision. Heald is the vice president of global clinical pharmacology at Johnson and Johnson.



APhA-ASP holds inaugural OctoberPhest

In honor of Pharmacists Month, APhA-ASP celebrated throughout October with a series of speakers and events—including the first annual OctoberPhest. The event kicked off Homecoming weekend. Students, alumni and faculty gathered in the Health Sciences Center Memorial Gardens to eat fall treats, play carnival games and participate in a cornhole tournament. The event was also an excellent opportunity for student, faculty, staff and alumni to gather and show appreciation for the profession.



SoP alumni and faculty win awards at WVPA Convention

Four West Virginia University School of Pharmacy alumni and two faculty members received awards at the 111th annual West Virginia Pharmacy Association Convention, J.J. Bernabei earned the Dr. James H. Beal Award sponsored by the West Virginia Pharmacists Association; Charles "Laddie" Burdette earned the Bowl of Hygeia sponsored by the American Pharmacists Association; The SoP's Director of Experiential Learning Mark Garofoli earned the Generation Rx Champion's Award sponsored by Cardinal Health: and Associate Professor Gretchen Kreckel Garofoli earned the Excellence in Innovation Award sponsored by Upshur-Smith Laboratories; incoming President Ken Reed earned the NCPA Leadership Award; and Chelsea Gresham earned the Distinguished Young Pharmacist Award sponsored by Pharmacists Mutual Insurance Companies. This year's convention was held August 17-18 at the Charleston Marriott.

Follow the School of Pharmacy on social media to stay in the know about upcoming events and important news.



Class of 2022 receive white coats





The School of Pharmacy held its White Coat Ceremony in August. Faculty and staff welcomed first-year students into the pharmacy profession. Seventy-nine students committed to being future healthcare professionals who will develop, deliver and monitor medication to improve the health and well-being of the community. Loved ones, faculty, staff, alumni, student pharmacists and friends donated the white coats. A note of encouragement from the sponsor was placed in the pocket of each one.

If you are interested in sponsoring a white coat for a future ceremony, visit pharmacy.hsc.wvu. edu/support-us/give-a-white-coat/.

CLASS OF 2022 BY THE NUMBERS





Alumna returns to campus as guest speaker for Louis A. Luzzi Lectureship Series

Dr. Joanna Stollings (PharmD, '03) returned to campus in March as guest speaker for the Louis A. Luzzi Lectureship Series. Her presentation, "Pharmacists Leadership in Patients During and Following Critical Illness," focused on the use of balanced crystalloids instead of saline as intravenous fluid therapy to save lives. Some of her research was published in March's New England Journal of Medicine. Stollings is a medical intensive care unit clinical pharmacy specialist at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville, Tennessee, The Louis A. Luzzi Lectureship series was hosted by the Alpha Eta Chapter of Phi Lambda Sigma.



MALES

WEST VIRGINIA

NATIVES

WVU SoP presents posthumous degree during 2018 Commencement

On May 12, 79 students from the West Virginia University School of Pharmacy walked across the stage at the Creative Arts Center to receive their diplomas. Class President Jonathan Boyles delivered the Commencement Address. Before the hooding ceremony, there was a special presentation by Associate Dean Mary Euler, Dean William Petros and Vice President and **Executive Dean for Health Sciences** Clav Marsh. A posthumous degree was presented to the family of Andrew "Andy" M. Coles. Coles entered the Pharmacy School in 2013 when his cancer was in remission. Unfortunately, his cancer returned, and he passed away before he could graduate. However, Coles received a far greater gift. Six weeks before his death, his beautiful daughter Alaina arrived. Andy's mother, his daughter Alaina and his widow Kiera, who had received her master's degree earlier in the day, were on hand to accept Andy's diploma.

22 out-of-state students

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Pharmacy residency program ASHP accredited

WVU Medicine Jefferson Medical Center's pharmacy residency program has been approved for accreditation by the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP).

The Postgraduate Year One (PGY1) pharmacy residency program at Jefferson Medical Center was granted accreditation for six years through 2023 by the ASHP Commission on Credentialing.

The accreditation process includes a review of all aspects of the program to ensure it meets the very highest of standards. Accredited programs must demonstrate compliance with established standards of practice and offer a program that meets the requirements of pharmacy practice training.

The residency program is balanced between two practice sites, Jefferson Medical Center and Harpers Ferry Family Medicine. It is designed to provide an intensive, focused and independent practice experience for clinical pharmacists interested in working in a hospital or ambulatory care clinic.



Kappa Psi members receive international recognition for their academic achievements

The largest professional pharmacy fraternity in the world is celebrating a group of students at the West Virginia University School of Pharmacy for their outstanding academic achievements.

Kappa Psi Pharmaceutical Fraternity recently awarded the Frank H. Eby Scholarship Tray to WVU's Beta Eta chapter. This prestigious award is given annually to the collegiate chapter with the highest percentage of its members earning scholarship honors certificates, which are awarded to students achieving a GPA of 3.0 and above.

The Beta Eta chapter of Kappa Psi was given this award out of 111 other chapters. The pharmaceutical fraternity chapter at WVU is coed and consists of 78 members.

"I am extremely proud of the members of Kappa Psi for achieving this prestigious award," said their academic advisor and Associate Professor of Clinical Pharmacy Gretchen Garofoli. "They understand the importance of high academic performance as well as working to improve the lives of those in the community that we serve."

For their achievements, the students brought home a silver scholarship tray, and they will get recognition in Kappa Psi's national publication, THE MASK. Kappa Psi Pharmaceutical Fraternity is the oldest and largest professional pharmacy fraternity in the world. The objectives of Kappa Psi include: to conduct a professional fraternal organization for the mutual benefit of its members; to develop industry, sobriety and fellowship; to foster high ideals, scholarship and pharmaceutical research; to support all projects which will advance the profession of pharmacy and to actively participate in them; to inspire in its members a deep and lasting pride in their fraternity and in the profession of pharmacy; to render such other services to its members and its profession feasible and in accordance with the constitution and bylaws of the fraternity.

Pharmacy students win self-care championship



▲ (L-R) Dr. Gretchen Garofoli, Lindsay Mason, Lucy Luo, Shaina Kopelov, Mai Do and Dr. Krista Capehart.

In August, four third-year students showed off their self-care knowledge at the annual West Virginia Pharmacists Association meeting in Charleston. They won the Student Pharmacist Self-Care Championship. They competed against a team from Marshall University School of Pharmacy in a jeopardy style game. The students were challenged to identify and explain aspects of the effective and safe practice of pharmacy self-care treatments. In addition, they were asked to identify at least two over-the-counter prescription medication interactions that pharmacists should be aware of, and list three OTC medications and their use. Third-year pharmacy student Courtney Burgazli is combining her passions for research and gerontology to create customized medication for older adults.

Burgazli came up with the idea to create a 3D-printed oral disintegrating strip that would combine all of a patient's medications into one product. The strip would dissolve in a patient's mouth, making it easier for them to take and adhere to. Burgazli entered her idea into WVU Launch Lab's Women's Pitch Competition and won first place. Now she's more excited than ever to make her dream a reality.

- Name: Courtney Burgazli
- Hometown: Middletown, Delaware
- Fun Fact: Burgazli is the 16th member of
- her family to become a Mountaineer

Why do you want to be a pharmacist?

I want to help people – especially older adults. My goal in pharmacy school is to influence geriatric healthcare. I'm customizing my degree by earning a certificate in gerontology and taking the area of emphasis in research pathway. This combo will give me the skills I need to create change in geriatrics and pharmacy.

How did you come up with the idea of customized medicine through 3D printing?

I came up with the idea along with my research professor Dr. Werner Geldenhuys. He was working on 3D printed drugs for Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease and gave me free reign to pick my project. Fortunately, I had prior experience with programming 3D printers.

How does the process work?

We are using a gel extrusion process that makes a polymer gel with all the drugs in one product — kind of like a Listerine strip. That way, geriatric patients who can't swallow very well have the option to take a strip that will dissolve in their mouth.

If all of the drugs are in one strip, and a patient is supposed to take them at different times, how does that work?

We could take care of that with packaging and color coding. Right now, we're in the preliminary stage, so there will be issues combining different drugs together—there's a whole side of pharmacokinetics that will disrupt that. We are starting basic with a single drug, then trying different combinations to ensure they are compatible. We could also coat the strip in different ways for a 24-hour release.

What or who inspired this idea?

I think it was a combination of what I wanted to do with my career moving



forward and the great opportunities and resources I had with the 3D printer. Also, we saw what the FDA was doing and how we could move forward with a different branch of what they are coming up with.

Do you have a personal reason for wanting to work on this project?

My grandmother takes multiple medications, and I think adherence is always a big concern in our profession. As pharmacists, we fill multiple medications with specific orders — take this much at this time with this food. It can be very confusing for some people. In this regard, I think my idea could be groundbreaking.

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Faculty News

New Faces in the School of Pharmacy



Cassandra Painter, PharmD, joined the School of Pharmacy in July as clinical assistant professor and clinical pharmacist in family medicine with the HSC-Charleston Division. Her principal responsibility is to establish and maintain a direct patient care practice with the inpatient care service of the WVU Family Medicine Department in Charleston. As the pharmacist member of the interprofessional patient care team, Dr. Painter will be responsible for

medication management of hospitalized patients and facilitating transitions of care from the inpatient to the outpatient setting. She will precept students taking acute care APPE rotations, precept Charleston Area Medical Center (CAMC) pharmacy residents and have some classroom teaching and other service assignments. Painter received a BS in Biology and the PharmD degree from the University of Charleston; then completed a PGY1 pharmacy residency at CAMC.



Ronald C. Reed, PharmD, joined the School of Pharmacy Department of Clinical Pharmacy on June 29, 2018, as professor and the Arthur I. Jacknowitz Endowed Chair, plus associate chair for Clinical Research and Innovation. His primary focus is to augment clinical research and scholarly activity within the Department of Clinical Pharmacy. Prior to WVU, Reed helped a new School of Pharmacy in Bangor, Maine, achieve ACPE-accreditation. Before

that, he was associate scientific director, neuroscience, Abbott Global Pharmaceutical Research & Development and prior. at Pulmonary Scientific Affairs, GlaxoSmithKline. Dr. Reed began his career as a clinical pharmacy specialist, University Hospitals, Cleveland, Ohio, then became full-time faculty, School of Medicine, Case Western Reserve University. Also, he served as director, Division of Clinical Research, being principal-/coinvestigator for over 80 clinical pharmaceutical studies. He has authored 140+ scientific publications and abstracts. Dr. Reed has been recognized ("Fellow" designation) by both the American College of Clinical Pharmacy (FCCP) and American Epilepsy Society (FAES) for his distinguished scientific contributions and/or service to each. Dr. Reed received his undergraduate (BS-Pharm) and doctoral degree (PharmD) from the University of Cincinnati, after completing a two-year ASHP-accredited residency at the Cincinnati's VA Hospital.

Faculty earn tenure and promotion

Four School of Pharmacy faculty members received tenure or promotions, effective for the 2018-2019 academic year.



Lori A. Hazlehurst, PhD, has been awarded tenure in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences. She currently serves as a professor of pharmaceutical sciences and was recently named as the associate director for basic research at the WVU Cancer Institute. In addition. Hazlehurst is the co-leader of the Alexander Osborn Hematopoietic Malignancy and Transplantation Program for the WVU Cancer Institute and the president and co-founder of Modulation Therapeutics.



Marina Galvez Peralta, PharmD. PhD, has been promoted to assistant chair for teaching in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences. She also serves as an assistant professor. Galvez is currently involved in coordinating or teaching different integrated courses at the School (Pharmacogenomics, Drug Delivery, Immunology, Cardiology, and Oncology among others), as well as the area of emphasis on research for the PharmD program. After receiving her PharmD and PhD at the University of Seville in Spain, she completed postdoctoral fellowships at Mayo Clinic and the University of Cincinnati and obtained PharmD equivalency in the States.



Gretchen Kreckel Garofoli. PharmD, has been promoted from assistant professor to associate professor in the Department of Clinical Pharmacy. Her clinical work is based in Morgantown. She also serves as the site coordinator and primary preceptor for the Waterfront Family Pharmacy community-based pharmacy residency. Dr. Garofoli's areas of interest include diabetes management, medication therapy management, immunizations, compounding, and program development and implementation in the community pharmacy setting.



Franklin (Chip) Huggins, PharmD, was also promoted from assistant professor to associate professor in the Department of Clinical Pharmacy. His current clinical work is based with the pediatric ICU at Charleston Area Medical Center in Charleston, West Virginia. Dr. Huggins' practice and research interest include the pharmacotherapy of the critically ill child, and pediatric medication safety and medication management.



Elswick appointed to APhA Policy Committee

Associate Professor of Clinical Pharmacy **Betsy Elswick** was appointed vice chair of the 2018-2019 APhA Policy Committee. The Policy Committee is charged with analyzing specific subjects and proposing policy statements on those issues assigned to the APhA House of Delegates. In October, Elswick spent a weekend in Washington, D.C., as part of her duties. The work of the Policy Committee is critically important to the effective operation of the association. The language in policy statements adopted by the APhA House of Delegates drives much of the activity of the association. This is particularly true when APhA is asked to provide testimony to Congress, government agencies and other entities. Elswick is also an appointed member of APhA's House of Delegates Policy Reference Committee and APhA's Academy of Practice and Management Awards Committee.



Dr. Mary Stamatakis has been appointed to senior associate dean of academic affairs and educational innovation. Stamatakis came to WVU in 1993 from The Ohio State University. She is a professor of clinical pharmacy and has served as associate dean for academic affairs and educational innovation since 2007. In addition, Stamatakis served as interim dean from 2015-2017. She oversees development, implementation and evaluation of all educational aspects of the Doctor of Pharmacy degree program, which recently included a major redesign of the curriculum. She also serves as the School of Pharmacv liaison for interprofessional education initiatives at Health Sciences and manages the continued accreditation of the Doctor of Pharmacy Program. During her time at WVU, Stamatakis has provided outstanding service and leadership to numerous School and University committees including sitting on the University's Faculty Senate. Nationally, she has served in various positions for the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy and as a team member for Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education site visits. In 2012, she received the Jerry Siegel Clinical Achievement Award from The **Ohio State University Wexner Medical** Center Pharmacy.



Dr. Douglas Slain succeeds Dr. Schwinghammer as chair of the School's **Clinical Pharmacy Department. In** his new role, Slain is responsible for directing the department's missions in the areas of teaching, patient care, scholarship and service. Slain came to WVU in 1999 as an assistant professor in the School of Pharmacy. He has won multiple teaching and professional awards such as being honored as a Fellow in both the American College of Clinical Pharmacy and the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists. Internationally, he has been an invited consultant to schools of pharmacy and hospitals in other countries. In addition to his 19-year career in academia, Slain is an experienced clinical researcher with practical experience in both community and institutional pharmacy. His research has been published in respected peer-reviewed journals, and he frequently speaks at regional, national and international conferences and meetings. He received his BS and PharmD degrees from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He then completed a residency and fellowship in infectious diseases pharmacotherapy at the Medical College of Virginia in Richmond.



Assistant Professor Mark Garofoli took on a new role in May. Garofoli is the School's new director of experiential learning. As director, he collaborates with student pharmacists, faculty and preceptors to develop opportunities for SoP students to gain hands-on experience improving the health and well-being of West Virginians and society throughout all four vears of their pharmacy curriculum. Prior to his new role in the Clinical Pharmacy Department, Garofoli was the director of Safe and Effective Management of Pain Program in the School's Department of Pharmaceutical Systems and Policy.



Faculty News



Faculty and staff receive 150th celebration coins for WVU values

For WVU's 150th birthday, the University created 150 celebration coins as a token of appreciation to the hardworking employees who embody the WVU values of service, curiosity, respect, accountability and appreciation, and go above and beyond to make the community, West Virginia and the world a better place. Only 150 of the special gold coins were printed for distribution.

Recognizing faculty and staff members who exemplify those traits and further the WVU and the School of Pharmacy mission each day, Dean William Petros awarded the special coins to three deserving individuals who represent these values.

Dr. Mary Stamatakis – Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Educational Innovation and Professor of Clinical Pharmacy

Angela Frame – Office Administrator, Department of Pharmaceutical Systems and Policy

Brenda Higa - Program Specialist, Office of Student Services

Honorees from across the WVU campus were recognized by WVU President E. Gordon Gee at a celebration in early February.

Pharmacy faculty and staff win VP awards

Each spring, the Vice President's Office at the Health Sciences Center honors faculty and staff who have made significant contributions to the missions of the University and their schools and units. At a ceremony in April, Vice President and Executive Dean of Health Sciences Dr. Clay Marsh presented 14 awards, three of which went to the School of Pharmacy. Dr. Usha Sambamoorthi earned this year's Women in Science and Health (WISH) Advanced Career Excellence Award; the School's Department of Pharmaceutical Systems and Policy. chaired by Dr. Suresh Madhavan, earned the Team Achievement Award and Administrative Assistant Rhonda Shorr earned the Clerical/Secretarial Award. Winners were nominated by their peers and selected by the Achievement Awards committees.





 Left: Dr. Clay Marsh with Administrative Assistant Rhonda Shorr.

Right: Dr. Clay Marsh with Dr. Usha Sambamoorthi.





Schwinghammer graduates to retirement

In April, **Dr. Terry Schwinghammer** retired after a 41-year academic career, 13 of which he served as chair of WVU's Department of Clinical Pharmacy. His teaching has focused on the development of patient assessment skills, communication skills and case-based learning. Schwinghammer has authored 90 journal publications and 29 book chapters. He created the "Pharmacotherapy Casebook," now in its 10th edition, and is co-editor of the widely used textbooks "Pharmacotherapy Handbook" and "Pharmacotherapy Principles and Practice."

Schwinghammer has served in leadership roles for various professional pharmacy organizations and was named a Fellow in ASHP, ACCP, and the American Pharmacists Association (APhA). He was the 2017 recipient of the Robert K. Chalmers Distinguished Pharmacy Educator award from the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy. Schwinghammer received his BS and PharmD degrees from Purdue University, which honored him with a Distinguished Alumnus award in 2004.



Dr. Suresh Madhavan earns AACP's prestigious Dawson Award for Excellence in Patient Care Research

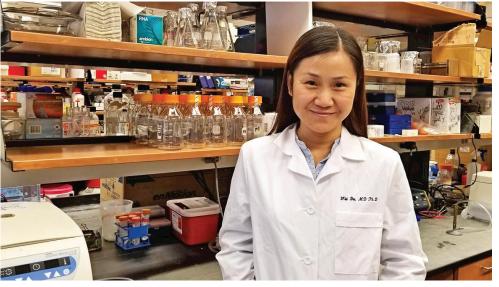
The American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) has recognized **Dr. S. Suresh Madhavan**, professor and chair of the Department of Pharmaceutical

Systems and Policy, for his innovative research addressing the profound health disparities in the Mountain State.

Madhavan accepted the Paul R. Dawson Award of Excellence in Patient Care Research during the AACP annual meeting in Boston, Massachusetts, on July 23.

The Paul R. Dawson Award was endowed by biotechnology company Amgen in honor of its former vice president of marketing and sales. It recognizes an active scientist within the ranks of pharmacy education as a leader in the broad range of research health services delivery directly affecting patient outcomes, including basic, clinical, translational and health services research.

During his tenure at WVU, Madhavan and his graduate students have studied health disparities — or inequalities in the prevalence of disease, health outcomes or access to care when comparing one population to another — in breast, colorectal, lung and prostate cancers, multiple sclerosis, insomnia, depression, diabetes and autism, in a variety of West Virginia and national populations — including Medicare and Medicaid. This work focused on issues related to access, cost, affordability, quality of healthcare and the economic burden of care.



Faculty receive HSC research awards

▲ Dr. Wei Du was one of four Pharmacy faculty to receive HSC research awards.

Dr. Clay Marsh, vice president and executive dean for health sciences, and Dr. Laura Gibson, senior associate vice president for research and graduate education, attended the November Pharmaceutical Sciences Department meeting to present several of our faculty with Health Sciences Center research awards. The accolades were for efforts demonstrated by their individual studies and group research activities. Awardees included Dr. Wei Du, Dr. Mark McLaughlin, Dr. Lori Hazlehurst and Dr. Paul Lockman.



Euler enters 20th year as leader of national pharmacy organization

Dr. Mary Euler, professor and associate dean for admissions and student affairs, is celebrating her 20th year as executive director of Phi Lambda Sigma, the Pharmacy Leadership Society. The organization held its 43rd annual meeting in Nashville, Tennessee, on March 18. Phi Lambda Sigma was established in 1965 to develop leadership qualities among pharmacy students and pharmacists and to recognize leaders in the profession.

PAVING THE WAY FOR THE FUTURE OF EXPERIMENTAL THERAPEUTICS AND CANCER RESEARCH



2015-2016: The HSC and the West Virginia Clinical Translational Science Institute secure funding for the future WVU Therapeutics Laboratory to be built in the School of Pharmacy. Plans for the 2,700 square foot facility included state-of-the-art instrumentation. **2017:** Renovations begin. The Therapeutics Lab opens later the same year. It currently houses four chemists and two scientists who design drugs both with computer modeling and traditional chemistry techniques. Trainees in the space include all levels, from post-doctoral fellows to undergraduate students; \$1.25 million has been invested in the lab to date. January 2018: Dr. Paul Lockman was appointed assistant vice president for experimental therapeutics in the WVU Health Sciences Office of Research and Graduate Education. His new role is to connect investigators across campus and help to forge new collaborations. Dr. Lockman leads efforts that span from target identification to application of experimental therapeutics to "real problems" with colleagues across the campus. Also, he serves as the HSC point of contact for ongoing efforts that have been spearheaded by Dr. Fred King, WVU vice president for research.

Researchers across campus are taking a One WVU approach to solving significant problems and saving

lives. At its core, it is an experimental therapeutics platform that integrates multiple disciplines from chemistry and biology to the health sciences and cancer institute. Dr. Paul Lockman, senior associate dean for research and strategic initiatives at the School of Pharmacy, is leading the charge. Lockman, who is also the assistant vice president for experimental therapeutics in the Health Sciences Office of Research and Graduate Education, has outlined the overarching mission.

- Create a rich research environment for faculty and students to interact regarding molecular science and drug development
- Create and discover new therapeutic drugs or develop those that already exist
- Support clinical trial activity
- Strengthen community partnerships

Significant progress has been made over the past few years to lay the ground for the mission. Here's a look at how the project has progressed.



May 2018: Lockman was appointed to the position of senior associate dean for research and strategic initiatives in addition to the Mylan Endowed Chair of Pharmacology. Lockman previously served as the School of Pharmacy's Douglas Glover Endowed Chair of the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences. In his new role, he will oversee all research at the School. September 2018: The National Institutes of Health (NIH) awarded WVU \$11.2 million, over five years, to establish a center that focuses on microenvironments surrounding tumors. This made the School of Pharmacy one of only a handful of pharmacy schools in the nation to lead a center of biomedical research excellence. The center supports interdisciplinary, thematically related research into preventing, diagnosing and treating health problems. Researchers from the WVU School of Pharmacy, School of Medicine and Cancer Institute will work together to investigate how tumors interact with the bodies that house them and the treatments that attack them. The team will develop new probes for tumor diagnosis, identify better ways to prevent and treat cervical cancer, and explore what makes some brain cancers so tenacious. It will work to improve treatments for leukemia, as well as other blood cancers, and minimize the muscle wasting that breast cancer patients often experience during chemotherapy.

October 2018: Dr. Lockman shares his ideas about experimental therapeutics with the public during his presentation, "Focus on Experimental Therapeutics." The talk was part of the West Virginia University Office of Research and Graduate Educations' speaker series, Evening of Science. Attendees received tours of the therapeutics lab.

Focus on Research

WVU researcher wins national award — examines use of multiple medications among older cancer survivors



With age comes a higher prevalence of chronic illness, often resulting in the use of multiple prescription medications at a time. With the help of a \$10,000 award, a West Virginia University researcher is examining the prevalence and hazards of potentially inappropriate medication

prescribing among elderly cancer survivors.

Traci LeMasters (PhD, '15; MS, '12), assistant professor in the School of Pharmacy, received the 2018 American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy's New Investigator Award, which grants funding to early-career faculty to jumpstart independent research programs. She was one of only 16 people nationwide to receive the award.

Her research focuses on how often elderly cancer survivors are prescribed potentially inappropriate medications, the likelihood that they will have an adverse drug event and their annual prescription drug expenditures. These outcomes are compared between elderly individuals with and without a history of cancer to understand the impact of a cancer diagnosis on these outcomes.

"Older cancer survivors may have a greater number of chronic conditions compared to their peers who have never had cancer. They also take numerous prescription medications and see multiple doctors who prescribe those medications," LeMasters said. "Subsequently, these patients may be at greater risk of being prescribed drugs that have the potential for harmful effects."

More than 60 percent of the 15.5 million cancer survivors in the U.S. are over the age of 65, and many older cancer survivors' prescription medications are paid for by Medicare, a government-funded health insurance program for individuals 65 years of age and older.

For that reason, School of Pharmacy Dean William Petros said LeMasters' research could have an impact on the quality of life of millions of these patients as well as inform healthcare providers and Medicare policy.

"Recognizing inappropriate polypharmacy — the use of a large number of medications — is the first step toward prevention of its consequences," said Petros. "Ideally, Dr. LeMasters' findings will initiate a much-needed discussion among healthcare professionals in the U.S. and ultimately, will lead to effective solutions that could save lives."

LeMasters is using the funds from the grant to acquire the necessary data to conduct the study and to support a graduate research assistant. Her research findings will be presented at this year's American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy meeting and subsequently published in a professional journal.

The American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy was founded in 1900 and represents the interests of pharmacy education and educators at 124 accredited colleges and schools of pharmacy in the U.S. Its members include more than 6,000 faculty and 60,000 students.



WVU researchers identify four factors that predict chronic opioid use

WRITTEN BY STACEY ELZA

Four factors increase the odds that a patient will wind up on chronic opioid therapy, suggest studies conducted by a team of researchers led by assistant professor Nilanjana Dwibedi in the West Virginia University School of Pharmacy.

RMCB RETWONN

It is the first study to investigate the risk of transitioning to chronic opioid use among patients with noncancer pain. The findings are published in the journal "American Health and Drug Benefits."

Studies show that an individual's transition to opioid therapy can be predicted by information such as the opioid's duration of action, types of parent opioid compounds, a patient's history of drug-use disorder and a patient's medical conditions associated with pain—all characteristics readily available in a clinical setting.

Researchers defined opioid therapy to be "chronic" if it involved at least a 90-day supply of an opioid prescribed within four months of an initial, short-term opioid regimen.

Researchers found that patients were more likely to begin chronic opioid therapy if their initial, short-term prescription was for a long-lasting chronically, as did patients who had preexisting issues with drug misuse and dependence. The study centered on a review of

medical and pharmaceutical insurance claims submitted for approximately 500,000 patients. The researchers used predictive models that considered patients' physical and mental health, their pain conditions, additional medications they took and other variables. All of the patients in the study were working-age adults, were enrolled in a commercial health plan, did not have cancer

Studies show that an individual's transition to opioid therapy can be predicted by information such as the opioid's duration of action, types of parent opioid compounds, a patient's history of drug-use disorder and a patient's medical conditions associated with pain—all characteristics readily available in a clinical setting.

and began opioid therapy between January 2007 and May 2015.

The research team included Dwibedi's former graduate student J. Douglas Thornton (PhD, '17), now an assistant professor at the University of Houston College of Pharmacy; WVU School of Pharmacy professors Virginia Scott, Usha

Sambamoorthi and Charles Ponte; Nethra Sambamoorthi, a predictive analytic expert from Northwestern University; and Doulas Ziedonis, a psychiatrist and the associate vice chancellor for health sciences at the University of California San Diego. WVU grad student collaborates with pharmacy professor to pursue drug to treat aggressive form of blood cancer

WRITTEN BY STACEY ELZA

Professor Lori Hazlehurst and West Virginia University School of Medicine student Osama Elzamzamy are researching a new drug to treat patients with multiple myeloma, an incurable form of blood cancer.

The drug, called MTI-101, targets recurrent multiple myelomas that have grown resistant to other cancer drugs. It works by overwhelming the cancer cells with calcium destroying them within 10 to 20 minutes.

Pairing the drug with another drug that inhibits a specific protein can amplify its calcium-blasting effects, even at a lower dose, meaning fewer negative side effects for patients.

The combination was tested in blood samples from healthy individuals, and so far appears to be safe.

Hazlehurst, Elzamzamy and the rest of the research team are collaborating with Modulation Therapeutics, a WVU-based incubator company, on this project. Hazlehurst is the company's president and co-founder. They have received funding from the National Cancer Institute.

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formulation, instead of an immediaterelease one. Being prescribed tramadol was another risk factor.

Patients with conditions likely to cause chronic pain, such as recovery from trauma or surgery, also tended to take opioids

Donors and Scholars

School of Pharmacy alumni bond over work, laughter and giving

On the first day of Pharmacy School in the fall of 1968, two young men randomly found themselves sitting together in class and bonding over their commonalities. Art Green and Jerry Haggerty (BSPharmacy '73) were both first-generation college students from small towns in West Virginia with great senses of humor.

"We were there (School of Pharmacy) to get an education, make sure we had the knowledge to pass the boards and learn how to be good pharmacists," said Green. "But, we also wanted to have a good time. That meant laughing, enjoying each other's company and building good friendships."

Over the past 45 years, Green and Haggerty have created a lifelong friendship — supporting each other personally and professionally. Now, in retirement, they have inspired one another to give back to the alma mater that gave them so much.



▲ (L-R) Art and Joyce Green and Jerry and Robin Haggerty pose for a photo in the Pylons at the Health Sciences Center.

College Potomac State (where he received his undergraduate degree) through a planned gift.

Haggerty's generosity inspired Green and his wife Joyce to make a similar gift.

"After I'm gone, my family will be taken care of, and I think it's just as important to make sure the School of Pharmacy is taken care of," said Green. "I want to show my appreciation for the education that I received."

Dean of the WVU School of Pharmacy, and the Gates Wigner Endowed Chair, Dr. William Petros (BSPharmacy, '83) says WVU and the School of Pharmacy are known for fostering lifelong connections and a spirit of giving.

"As dean, one of the most rewarding aspects of my job is witnessing the circle of giving that we have established at WVU," said Petros. "For me, it never gets old meeting fellow alumni and hearing their stories of friendship, success and genuine love for WVU."

Haggerty grew up in Keyser, West Virginia, and now splits his time between Atlanta, Georgia, and the Villages, Florida. Green grew up in Weston, West Virginia,

"Thanks to WVU and the School of Pharmacy, I had a phenomenal career," said Haggerty. "If it had not been for WVU and its advisors steering me in the right direction, I'm not sure where I would be today."

To show their appreciation, Haggerty and his wife Robin decided to support the School of Pharmacy and WVU's affiliated

and now lives in Charlotte, North Carolina. Both men eventually worked together as pharmacists and later district managers at K-Mart — Haggerty for 28 years and Green for 19.

While they do not live in the same town, they try to reunite each year, including WVU's Homecoming weekend. V

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2018-2019

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The Jack H. Smith Family Pharmacy Scholarship Rachel (Lexi) Kolar

The James F. Smith Scholarship Maxwell DeNora Madison Gongaware Clayton Irvine Stephen Lomax Ryan Martin

The Southern Appalachian Pharmacists Association Scholarship Allegra Browne Connor Digman

The Gerald L. Sprowls Pharmacy Scholarship Megan Hardy (Leone) Jordan Jacobs

The Yvonne Stanley Memorial Scholarship Justin Greggi

The Charles Stump Community Service Award Seth Ritchie

The Terry Taylor and Ellen Burchett Taylor Pharmacy Scholarship Kelsev Hinzman

The Edward A. Toompas Memorial Scholarship Shaina Trippett

The George A. and Lurania K. Topakas Pharmacy Scholarship

Matthew Brooks Megan Deavers Tyler Flint Emily Hathaway Christiana Hess Cecelia Jebbia Daniel Lewis Eugenia Makricostas Daniel Mohoroski Emma Platt Aaron Rarick April Strahin The Autumn Grace Trent Memorial Scholarship Katherine Vecchio

The Irvin and Benita VanMeter

Pharmacy Scholarship Emily Fox Courtney Hartman Amy Kennedy Corey Ritter

The Frank W. Vigneault

Memorial Scholarship Carrie Clutter Emily Elias Lindsay Mason Lauren McCarthy Haley Saville Emily White

The Walgreens Diversity and Inclusion Excellence Scholarship Seth Holler

The Walgreens Multilingual Scholarship Lucy Luo

The Whitten Family Scholarship Dalton Rutter

The Albert F. Wojcik Memorial Scholarship Jeff Arthur

GRADUATE AWARDS

The Robert and Stephany Ruffolo School of Pharmacy Graduate Fellowship Katherine Roach

The Robert E. Stitzel Graduate Student Award Tiffany Kornberg Pushkar Saralkar

Alumni News

Alumni President's Message



As president of the WVU School of Pharmacy Alumni Association, I extend special greetings to the classes of 1986 -1989, with whom I shared my academic experience at the WVU Health Sciences Center. It's hard to believe that we are entering our third decade of practice. The pharmacy profession has certainly changed since we passed the NAPLEX and moved forward to apply our skills in the real world. Today's pharmacists counsel, immunize,

consult, collaborate and so much more.

While our times may seem tumultuous and our profession ever-changing, there is a place where the familiar rhythms of new student excitement, active learning, knowledge acquisition and skills mastery stand the test of time. It is an inclusive environment that continues to provide growth and lifelong learning. This place is our beloved alma mater.

The rhythms and memories of my time at WVU resurface each time I visit Morgantown. For me, time spent there is joyful with friends old and new. Like John Yurick, class of '74 and resident of Kihei, Hawaii, who has traveled back to Morgantown for every home football game since 1993! I had the pleasure of meeting John at our alumni tent during Homecoming weekend in October. Last June, I reconnected with my classmates and alumni from other years at Mylan Puskar Stadium's Touchdown Terrace during Alumni Weekend. The venue was awesome and provided an opportunity to meet and converse with fellow pharmacists from classes spanning nearly 70 years.

I'd like to invite you to join us for a future event in Morgantown. As a part of our 2019 WVU SoP Spring Alumni Weekend, an All-Years Class Reunion dinner will be held on Friday, June 7, 2019, from 5:30-8:30 p.m., at Touchdown Terrace at Mountaineer Field Mylan Puskar Stadium. Last year, we had a record turnout for this event and it is something that is truly special. If you haven't been back in a while, you will be amazed at the changes. Let's plan to meet and make some memories.

Troy Biery, *President* PharmD; BSPharm, '88



School of Pharmacy kicks off alumni weekend at Touchdown Terrace

"Country Roads, take us home" was the theme of the all-years class reunion dinner held in June at Mountaineer Field's Touchdown Terrace. The event was part of the School of Pharmacy's Alumni Weekend and was hosted by the SoP Alumni Association. Five-year reunion classes of 1953, 1958, 1963, 1968, 1973, 1978, 1983, 1988, 1993, 1998, 2003, 2008 and 2013 received special recognition.

Several awards were presented at the reunion dinner.

Outstanding Alumna:

Patty Johnston, '77, retired owner/operator of Colony Drug and Wellness Center in Beckley, West Virginia. Outstanding Service: Bob Foster, Executive Director of Pharmacy Services at Boone Memorial Hospital **2018 Preceptors of the Year:** Bill Renner, '00 Terri Davis, '82 Matt Pletcher, '12

In addition to the reunion dinner, the Alumni Association offered tours of the WVU School of Pharmacy (SoP) and West Virginia Simulation Training and Education for Patient Safety (WV STEPS), continuing education sessions and an open house of the Cook-Hayman Pharmacy Museum.







▲ Yurick, pictured with Dean Petros, travels 15 hours to every home football game.

New Alumni Association Officers

Co-Presidents-Elect Danny True (PharmD, '01) Amanda True (PharmD, '01)

Secretary Susan Meredith (BSPharm, '67)

Treasurer Scot Anderson (BSPharm, '68)

Alumni Representatives at Large Abbi Blevins (PharmD, '16) Julie Rumbach-Austin (BSPharm, '96)

WVU School of Pharmacy 2019 Spring Alumni Weekend

June 7-8

Join us at Mountaineer Field's Touchdown Terrace on Friday, June 7, from 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. for an all-years reunion dinner. There will be continuing education sessions on Saturday, June, 8. Times TBA.

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Follow us on Facebook and Twitter for updates.

A Mountaineer "Pharmily" Homecoming

Nearly 200 members of our "Pharmily" returned to campus to celebrate Homecoming in early October. The School hosted a parade watch at the Iron Horse Tavern on Friday night before the football game, and a tailgate the morning of the game. WVU beat Kansas 38-22. Alumnus Brian Lawson was recognized by the WVU Alumni Association at halftime for his contributions to his alma mater as an outstanding young alumnus. And, John Yurick ('74), a retail pharmacist from Hawaii won the award for the person who traveled the farthest.









Class Notes

1970s

Jamie Allman ('77) received the West Virginia Society of Health System Pharmacists (WVSHP) Excellence in Health Systems Pharmacy Award at the spring meeting in Charleston.



Mike Podgurski ('72) earned the National Association of Chain

Drug Stores highest honor. In August, he was presented with the Harold W.

Pratt Award, which recognizes individuals whose activities have contributed to the promotion, recognition and improvement of the practice of pharmacy in the chain pharmacy setting. Podgurski serves as vice president of pharmacy services for Rite Aid Corporation.

2000s





Association selected Frail to receive the award, which recognizes individual excellence and outstanding contribution to pharmacy associations and communities. The award is sponsored by Pharmacists Mutual Insurance Company.

Andrew DeMotto

('11) was awarded

Champion Award at the APhA

Annual Meeting in

Caity Frail ('09)

Distinguished Young

Pharmacist Award.

The Minnesota

Pharmacy

is a recipient

of the 2018

APhA's 2018

Immunization

Nashville.

Lisa Keller ('06) received the West Virginia Society of Health System Pharmacists (WVSHP) Excellence in Health Systems Pharmacy Award at the spring meeting in Charleston.

Michael LeMaster ('06) was featured in



the October issue of Pharmacy Today for his commitment to the profession and his passion for tackling the opioid epidemic in West Virginia. LeMasters

is the owner and manager of Pierpont Landing Pharmacy in Morgantown.

Kristin Finley Sobota ('16) an associate professor at Ohio Northern College of Pharmacy, received the College's "Under 40 Award" for professional achievements and vision in the practice of pharmacy.

We'd like to hear from you.

Do you have news to feature in Class Notes? Stay connected by submitting your information online: pharmacy.hsc.wvu.edu/alumni/alumni-update-news-form/.

In Memoriam

The WVU School of Pharmacy wishes to acknowledge our alumni who have recently passed away.

1950s

John H. Neale ('52) Richard E. Rader ('58) Leo M. Scarnecchia ('55) Lucille (Papa) Smith ('52) Ralph S. Stevenson ('51)

1960s

Louis A. Barker ('64) William B. Byrd ('65) Edward W. Sample, Jr. ('62) Elizabeth A. Simpson ('63)

1970s

John W. Archibald II ('73) Stephen R. Brooks ('71) Barbara F. Buskirk ('73)

1990s

Christina D. Williams-Rivera ('91) Heather A. Wood ('98)



James Caravasos ('59) passed away on February 21, 2018. He worked as a registered pharmacist at Wells-Haymaker Drug Store in Clarksburg, West Virginia, McVicker's

Drug Store, City Pharmacy and Suncrest Pharmacy in Morgantown. James graduated from West Virginia University with an AB degree and a BS degree in pharmacy. He was an officer in Armor Division US Army, reaching the rank of captain. He served on the boards of Sundale Nursing Home, Morgantown Transit Authority and the Morgantown Parking Authority.



Dr. James Khai-Jin Lim, a former professor of pharmaceutics at the WVU School of Pharmacy, passed away on June 7, 2018. He was an educator and active researcher at WVU for

more that 32 years until his retirement in 1997.



Carroll Martin ('52)

passed away on January 4, 2018. He was the former co-owner of Family Drug Store in Elkins, West Virginia. In 2015, the WVU School

of Pharmacy Alumni Association Awarded Martin the Outstanding Alumnus Award. He frequently gave back to his community and his alma mater.

Robert (Bob) Riffee ('57)

passed away this past April in Florida. Riffee was a partner in Nottaway Drug Company in Blackstone, Virginia, where he practiced community

pharmacy for 40 years. Riffee was very active in his community and his church.

Future Pharmacists

Future **Pharmacists**

Calling all new moms, dads and grandparents! Have you recently had a little bundle of joy arrive at your home? The WVU School of Pharmacy wants to know!



Mason Lee Radford – This Future Pharmacist's proud parents are Jamison Radford ('14) and Lauren Gardner.



Kayla Gornik ('16) and DJ Drahos would like you to meet their Future Pharmacist — **John David "J.D." Drahos.**



Kirsten (Garman) and Dustin Held would like to introduce you to their Future Pharmacist — **Ryker William Held**.



Cooper James Sayre – Proud parents Lacey ('13) and Cody Sayre welcomed their Future Pharmacist on October 11, 2017.



Hello Miss **Vera Nicole Forman**! Her parents Kate Dobson Forman ('09) and Issac Forman welcomed their Future Pharmacist January 27, 2018.



Ellianna Marie Matthews, born February 8, 2016, is the Future Pharmacist of Jim Matthews and Cassandra (Nicastro) Matthews ('09).



Mila Jeanne Matthews, born December 18, 2017, is the Future Pharmacist of Jim Matthews and Cassandra (Nicastro) Matthews ('09).



Hudson Vickery, born May 8, 2018, is the Future Pharmacist of Josh and Linley Vickery ('13).



Meet **Mason Grant Spolarich**, a little Future Pharmacist. Son of Brooks ('11) and Mary Ann Spolarich, also a pharmacist in North Carolina.



This is Future Pharmacist **Evelyn Nicole**, her proud parents are Nick ('14) and Ali Gregg ('14).



Meet **Holden Lee Hightower**. Proud parents Brittney Murdock ('13) and Anthony Hightower welcomed their Future Pharmacist on June 17, 2018.



Please send an e-mail with news about your baby or grandchild to Christa Currey at **christa.currey@hsc.wvu.edu** to receive a "Future Pharmacist" baby shirt (shirt is only available in size 6 months). In exchange, we ask that you send a photo of your new "Future Pharmacist" to include in the next issue of The Showglobe.



1142 HSC North P.O. Box 9500 Morgantown, WV 26506-9500

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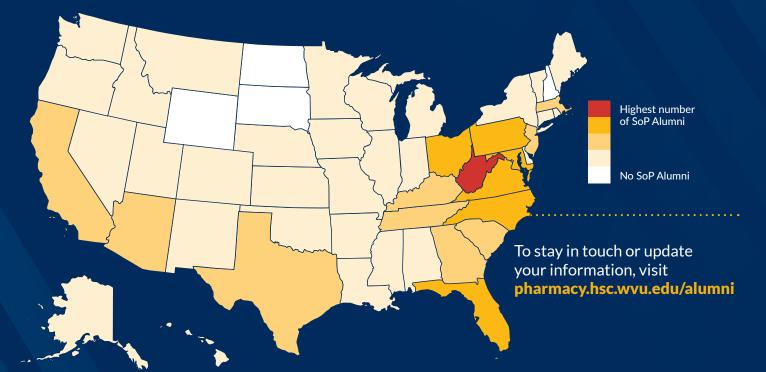
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WVU School of Pharmacy

WVU is an EEO/Affirmative Action Employer — Minority/Female/Disability/Veteran. The WVU Board of Governors is the governing body of WVU. The Higher Education Policy Commission in West Virginia is responsible for developing, establishing and overseeing the implementation of a public policy agenda for the state's four year colleges and universities. WVU is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission. Many WVU programs hold specialized accreditation.

WVU SCHOOL OF PHARMACY ALUMNI are in your neighborhood!

3,400 TOTAL PHARMACISTS IN PRACTICE N PRACTICE



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