Pharmacy Residents Gain Advanced Job Skills
Success in evolving health care
Dear Friends,

As pharmacists, we vow to apply our knowledge, experience, and skills to the best of our abilities to ensure optimal drug therapy outcomes for the patients we serve.

This edition of HawkScripts highlights pharmacists who focus on improving patients’ lives. Some do so by completing post-graduate residency programs, working with other types of healthcare professionals as part of a team, or earning more than one type of degree.

This college has the nation’s first accredited, multi-site community residency program, led by Stevie Veach, who is highlighted on page 30. It is also the longest-running continually-accredited U.S. community pharmacy residency program. At the university level, the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics’ PGY1 Pharmacy Practice Residency program is one of the nation’s first ASHP-accredited hospital residency programs.

Our cover story on page 2 features current and recent residents who are investing in their futures by becoming the best pharmacists they can be. You can read about my personal passion for residencies, and how a residency changed my life for the better, on page 5.

You will also find a story highlighting how Iowa alumni and those affiliated with Iowa programs are working on teams and thinking creatively with their degrees to drive patient care forward. (page 8). Starting last fall, first-year students from Iowa’s health care colleges are coming together to learn about, from, and with each other, before ever stepping foot into the work world.

This issue also has heartwarming stories of pharmacists who are using their knowledge and talents to benefit patients in a variety of other ways. Turn to page 14 to find out more about Jennifer Fiegel, who is passionate about developing more effective, inhalable treatments for respiratory infections. One of our Executive Leadership Board members, Jonas Wang, is an alumnus whose work has included improving everything from skin care to mobility after a spinal cord injury (page 18).

I love being the Dean of this exceptional institution, and am grateful to all of our students, faculty members, staff and alumni who are helping to guide pharmacy into a bright future.

Professionally yours,

Don
Dean and Professor
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A pharmacy residency is an organized, directed training program in a defined area of pharmacy practice for Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) graduates. Preceptors — skilled practitioners in a graduate’s interest area — mentor residents at their workplaces. Residents gain confidence and practical experience working with patients. Residencies generally last a year, and residents complete a Postgraduate Year One (PGY1) program, before potentially moving on to a PGY2 program.

Residency training helps new pharmacy graduates transition from school — and the entry-level job market they would otherwise encounter — into a more specialized area heavily involving clinical practice. You can find residents working to improve patient care at community pharmacies, as a vital member of a hospital health care team, or even on Capitol Hill bringing grassroots pharmacists’ messages to the legislature.

For many pharmacy school graduates, snatching up a residency position or two after graduation is getting to be a better and better idea.

“Residencies are not necessarily intended for every pharmacy school graduate,” said Dean Donald Letendre. “But for the pharmacy school graduate that believes that he or she needs to hone their skillset to pursue a position in health systems pharmacy, clinical academia, or clinical science, then I would argue that a residency is fundamentally important to enhance their skillset so that they can function in those arenas.”

“When you’re in pharmacy school it’s just impossible for you to gain all the knowledge and skills that you really need to practice at a high level,” he added. “Postgraduate residency training helps you enhance your critical thinking, problem-solving, interpersonal, and clinical skills. A residency provides you with a broad range of experiences that permit you to really decide for yourself if there is a particular niche that you might like to pursue.”

Pay for a resident is less than a pharmacy graduate would likely make in their first year in the workforce. The payoff, for many, is that either they gain the equivalent of 3-5 years of job experience per residency year; find their niche if they haven’t already; and/or come out specialists.

After Wendy Lantaff graduated with her PharmD from the University of Colorado last year, she accepted a residency position with the College of Pharmacy at Towncrest Pharmacy in Iowa City.

She worked closely with Randy McDonough (‘87 BSPh, ’97 MS, ’00 PharmD), co-owner and director of clinical services, and other pharmacists there.

“I tell Randy all the time that I consider this year my eighty thousand dollar investment year, because of what I could be making as a pharmacist, versus what I’m making now,” said Lantaff, during the residency. “I do think that this residency is fulfilling this investment.”

Many things attracted Lantaff to the Towncrest site in the College residency program. “I’m proud to be a part of one of the most respected community residency programs in the country,” she said. She has gained clinical skills, competence, and confidence. She liked the fact that the required Pharmacy Educator Preparation Program for Residents (PEPPR) program has prepared her for a faculty position if she goes that route.

Mostly, the interview sold Lantaff, because she was encouraged to bring ideas and implement her own clinical programs.
“Knowing a patient will be coming in also gives me a chance to be proactive; I can review their medications ahead of time and foster a better relationship with him or her.”

Wendy Lantaff (right) completed a PGY1 community pharmacy residency at Towncrest Pharmacy. During her residency, she launched a service to coordinate patients’ refills.

Last winter, Lantaff did just that. She launched a service at Towncrest to coordinate patients’ refills. The service, based on the National Community Pharmacists Association (NCPA)’s Simplify My Meds model, targets patients who visit the pharmacy often for various medications due to staggered prescription dates.

“We get them all lined up so they’re coming in once a month to get their medications,” explained Lantaff. “Knowing a patient will be coming in also gives me a chance to be proactive; I can review their medications ahead of time and foster a better relationship with him or her.”

Lantaff said the residency has prepared her well for many possible futures: as an independent pharmacy owner, running clinical pharmacy programs in a community setting, teaching and precepting students, or a combination thereof.

“The residency opened up options, so that’s really good,” said Lantaff.

The Towncrest program is one of seven sites in the college-administered PGY1 community pharmacy residency program. The community residency program was the nation’s first accredited, multi-site community residency program. It is also the longest-running continually APhA/ASHP accredited U.S. community pharmacy-based program, according to Jay Currie (’80 BPh, ’84 PharmD), clinical professor and chair of the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, who developed it in 1997. Currie served as program director until 2012. Stevie Veach, (’06 PharmD), clinical assistant professor, is the current program director and site coordinator.

As early as 1949, the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics (UIHC) began offering pharmacy residencies.
The UI — between the College of Pharmacy and UIHC’s Department of Pharmaceutical Care — currently offers the already-mentioned PGY1 in Community Pharmacy Practice; the UIHC’s PGY1 Pharmacy Practice Residency Program (which was part of the first cohort of 32 hospital residency programs ever accredited by ASHP in 1963); PGY2 Specialty Residency in Pediatrics; PGY1/2 in Health-System Pharmacy Administration (with MPH or MHA degrees); PGY2 Specialty Residency in Critical Care; and PGY1/2 Specialty Residency in Ambulatory Care.

In addition, many of the pharmacy residencies across the state of Iowa are UI-affiliated.

There are more than 1,762 ASHP-accredited pharmacy residency programs in the nation. In 2014, 5 percent more candidates applied for PGY1 residencies, and 18 percent more sought PGY2 residencies than last year.

Jordan Schultz, ‘13 PharmD, is working on a two-year UIHC residency that will earn him the title Clinical Pharmacy Specialist. He is specializing in ambulatory care.

Schultz did a five-week rotation in that area while he was a fourth-year pharmacy student.

“What drew me to ambulatory care was the idea of building those one-on-one, long-term relationships with patients,” said Schultz. “We see the same group of patients very regularly.”

In this program, ambulatory care pharmacy specialists work in various outpatient clinics with patients who require long-term or ongoing anticoagulation therapy or have chronic diseases such as Type 2 Diabetes, high cholesterol, or hypertension, and sometimes heart failure.

Pharmacists in ambulatory settings often partner with primary care physicians and adjust a patient’s medicines after he or she has been stabilized and discharged from the hospital. Their goal is to optimize outcomes of drug therapy, prevent adverse events and prevent unnecessary office visits or rehospitalization.

For certain clinics and disease states, the ambulatory care pharmacy team may adjust medicines and run lab tests under a collaborative practice agreement with physicians.

Schultz precepts PharmD students as part of the residency, and is working on a research project related to gastrointestinal bleeds suffered by a small percentage of patients with heart-related devices.

“For certain clinics and disease states, the ambulatory care pharmacy team may adjust medicines and run lab tests under a collaborative practice agreement with physicians.”

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“Ultimately, I’d like to be in an academic institution with ties to a college of pharmacy so that I can still pursue my ambulatory care interests and be a clinical pharmacy specialist in that area, but also precept students,” said Schultz.

“Plenty of people go into a clinical role without doing a residency first,” Schultz said. “But a residency exposes you to a lot of things you might never be exposed to otherwise. Preceptors help you develop your clinical skills, and I am working with some of the most fantastic preceptors in the nation. If you just jumped into a hospital job out of pharmacy school, you might feel less prepared.”

“The number of graduates from pharmacy schools is exploding, so competition for a lot of these jobs is becoming a lot stiffer,” added Schultz. “If you want to be in more of a hospital setting, it helps to differentiate yourself.”

The career path and work of Sarah Tierney, ’07 PharmD, demonstrates how, as pharmacy specialties grow, so does the importance of associated residencies.
After graduation, Tierney was a PGY1 pharmacy practice resident at UIHC. She focused her residency rotations in pediatrics, when possible, due to her strong interest in this patient population. However, like an animal lover flirting with the possibility of becoming a veterinarian, Tierney had her doubts about the emotional toll a pediatrics specialty might take on her.

“Every rotation I did, I thought, ‘This will be the rotation that tells me pediatrics is not the fit for me.’ However, the opposite became true. With every pediatric rotation I did it became very clear that pediatrics was the place for me as I witnessed the impact pharmacists in pediatrics have on the outcomes of these kids when they are part of the health care team.”

In 2008, Tierney became the first clinical pharmacy specialist in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at the UIHC, and she still holds that position. Tierney rounds with the rest of the health care team, ensuring medications are used safely.

Although Tierney developed highly-specialized skills through a one-year residency and job experience, it is unlikely that a current PharmD graduate would be able to get into a job like Tierney’s without an additional residency year.

“If somebody wants to work in a specialized area of pediatrics in a hospital, then they definitely need a PGY2 residency like this,” said Tierney.

She, herself, created and directs a PGY2 specialty pediatric residency which began in July 2012 and was accredited earlier this year. Applicants must have completed an accredited PGY1 program to be considered.

More specialized training is needed for positions such as Tierney’s in part because the importance of specialty pediatrics pharmacists is being underscored nationally.

Last year, pediatric pharmacy was recognized as a specialty by the Board of Pharmaceutical Specialties of the American Pharmacists Association (APhA). Starting in fall of 2015, there will be an exam to become board certified.

The pediatrics PGY2 residency has graduated two specialty residents so far, but the program seemingly cannot grow quickly enough: When the new children’s hospital opens in a couple of years, there will be an estimated 20 percent more pediatric beds. It is expected that 18 or more pharmacists will be hired to care for the additional pediatric patients.

“We need to have highly-qualified, top-notch pharmacists to meet the current and growing need of our specialized pediatrics population,” said Tierney.

For another Iowa graduate — Farah Towfic, ’11 PharmD — a residency gave her a birds-eye view of the profession that left her longing to be practicing at the ground level.

Towfic completed a one-year residency at the American Pharmacists Association Foundation in Washington, D.C. There, she learned association management and leadership through rotations in the nonprofit affiliate of the APhA and the association itself.

“In the association, I saw a great passion for advocating for pharmacy, and how pharmacists’ grassroots messages are unified into one voice and shared at the national level. It really inspired me to push the profession at the grassroots level by making myself a more effective advocate through direct, in the field experience,” Towfic said.

Towfic remembered hearing Tom Menighan, BSPh, MBA, Executive Vice President and CEO of APhA, saying repeatedly during her residency: “Pharmacists are the most accessible health care professional. We increase access to health care and reduce cost.”
Left: Jordan Schultz discusses residencies with pharmacy students.

Top and above: Residents and their directors from the college’s community pharmacy residency program, the VA, and University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics gather at the end of each year to celebrate the residency graduates. Pictured are residents and directors from UIHC and the VA.
A residency changed Dean Donald Letendre’s life.

Letendre’s story began like many other pharmacists of his generation. He grew up in the small town of Acushnet, Mass., and worked in its sole pharmacy, Acushnet Pharmacy. He was married and in college, and was on track for graduation with a bachelor’s degree in pharmacy from the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy. The town pharmacist had all but promised him the business. Letendre and his wife, Louise, had purchased a few acres of land in town and planned to raise a family there.

“I was his exit strategy,” Letendre said, with a twinkle in his eye, of Manuel “Manny” Lima, his old mentor. “Louise and I were going to live happily ever after.”

But that path was not meant to be. Five months before graduation, Letendre found himself at an American Society of Health-system Pharmacists (ASHP) meeting, although he had no particular interest in hospital pharmacy at the time. Walking around between sessions, he was drawn to an exhibitor’s table which had pictures of thoroughbred horses on a brochure.

“Are you interested in residencies?” he heard a voice ask from behind him.

Letendre remembered turning around and seeing the man who had addressed him. It was Paul Parker. Letendre answered truthfully: “I don’t know anything about residencies.” A conversation started — a long one.

Letendre actually didn’t even know that a residency in pharmacy existed. There were only about 50 in the United States, and students were mostly in the dark about them.
“Three hours later, he had convinced me to apply to the University of Kentucky residency program,” said Letendre from his office at the College of Pharmacy. He applied, interviewed, and was accepted. It was a three-year residency/PharmD program. “It totally changed my life,” he added. “Had I never met Paul Parker, I would not have the privilege of sitting here before you today.”

Letendre’s residency training was a foundation that shaped the rest of his professional life. He is passionate about them, although he recognizes they are not for everyone (See page 3).

Letendre’s first job after receiving his residency training and PharmD was a faculty position at the University of Kansas School of Pharmacy, where he was a preceptor of residents. Then he moved on to the ASHP for almost 20 years, where he was responsible for the accreditation process for all residencies in the U.S. He also worked as a consultant to set up a similar process in Canada. Before coming to Iowa as dean, he served as dean for the University of Rhode Island.

While at ASHP, Letendre worked with College of Pharmacy faculty member Jay Currie (’80 PSPh, ’84 PharmD) to survey the college’s community residency program for accreditation — which is the first accredited, multi-site community residency program in the nation.

This June, Letendre joined the ASHP board — the same board that he worked under while leading the society’s accreditation efforts for so many years.

When the Dean looks at both versions of his life — what is and what could have been — he is happier now.

“I can’t think of anything more professionally fulfilling than having the opportunity to work with students and residents,” Letendre said. “For me, meeting Paul Parker was a life-altering event. He became like a father to me and helped shaped my life. He helped me develop a passion for being a change agent, and my residency really laid a wonderful foundation for me personally in shaping the rest of my professional life.”

“It’s incredibly gratifying for me to help shape the future of students and residents, to help them envision something more than they can envision for themselves right now.”

Dean Donald Letendre is pictured here with late friend and mentor Paul Parker. In December 1998 Letendre received the Paul F. Parker award. The award is given annually by the University of Kentucky to an individual of high personal and professional ideals who has made significant contributions to pharmacy practice.

Top: Dean Donald Letendre, left, with his friend and mentor Manuel “Manny” Lima, in March 1999 when Letendre received the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy’s Outstanding Alumni Achievement Award.
Patients benefit when pharmacists collaborate with other types of health care professionals, or use more than one type of degree in their work.

At highly specialized hospitals, pharmacists are often integral members of interdisciplinary teams.

Elizabeth Beltz, PharmD, is a clinical pharmacy specialist in the Medical Intensive Care Unit (MICU) of the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics (UIHC). She is responsible for the pharmaceutical needs of all of the patients in that 26-bed unit. Patients vary greatly, from someone with a bad case of the flu who has an underlying respiratory condition, to an extremely intoxicated person who needs help breathing, to someone with gastrointestinal bleeding. All patients need very intense nursing care for less than a day to a week or more.


Her role in the unit is to monitor her patients’ medication therapies, verify orders, and adjust dosing to account for organ function, age, daily renal function, and the like. At any one time, Beltz works with two faculty physicians (pulmonary/critical care specialists) and resident physicians. Beltz completes rounds with the physicians, bedside nurses, and in some cases also a dietician, physical therapist, and/or social worker.

She works particularly closely with nurses. She helps them administer unfamiliar medications and indicates which side effects to look out for. Sometimes, only she knows which medications can be combined in the same IV line. Clear communication is vital.
The health care team creates a care plan together for each patient, once or more per day.

“Let’s say we get a blood, respiratory, or urine culture back from the lab,” said Beltz. Team members focus in on exactly which organisms need to be treated, led in large part by the physicians. But when the discussion turns to medication, Beltz takes the reins.

“I speak up letting the team know what I want to cover, or that this is what the patient’s allergies are, or that this is maybe another reason not to use a certain medication,” Beltz said.
or her medication history to see what to hold off on giving until after the operation.

With burn patients in particular, “we often struggle, because we’re not going to be able to make the pain completely go away. We try to find a tolerable pain level so the patient can still participate in therapy,” Oltrogge said.

She goes on daily bedside rounds with physicians, nurses, physician residents for general surgery and emergency medicine, nurse practitioners, a physician assistant, social workers, as well as physical, occupational, and respiratory therapists.
Oltrogge said her fourth year pharmacy school rotations opened her eyes to interdisciplinary work. “During my rotations, I saw how pharmacists work as team members in a hospital setting. You were definitely putting your education to full use by making recommendations, managing drug therapy, and monitoring drug use. It motivated me to complete a residency,” said Oltrogge.

All of her burn-related learning came from on-the-job training. She passes along nuances of the job in her role as a preceptor.

Both Beltz and Oltrogge work 75 percent time at the UIHC and 25 percent as clinical assistant professors at the College of Pharmacy. Neither has formal education specifically addressing interdisciplinary work. At the UI, that is changing.

At Iowa, there have been scattered elements of Interprofessional Education (IPE) for at least 15 years, but only recently have its healthcare colleges been deliberately coordinating efforts.
Currently, Iowa pharmacy students are learning about, from and with other health care professionals to benefit patients through an 18-month pilot course, called Interprofessional Skills and Team Based Health Care. Launched last fall, it fulfills Introductory Practice Experience (IPPE) requirements. First-year students from the colleges of pharmacy, dentistry, nursing, public health, and medicine participate.

“The idea is to enable students entering various health professions to learn about each other, with each other, and from each other so they learn to function as a collaborative health care team before they actually go into the practice environment,” said Lori Benz, the staff member for IPE at Iowa.

While some pharmacists are working on teams with other professionals, other pharmacists already have an enhanced professional perspective due to having one or more degrees themselves.

Ann Schwemm received a dual PharmD/Masters of Public Health (MPH) degree in 2009 from Iowa. She is currently a hematology oncology clinical pharmacist at the University of Washington Medical Center. “Mostly, my role is to work with a multidisciplinary medical team to provide safe and effective chemotherapy to cancer patients,” explained Schwemm. “We all serve a unique role and complement each other to ultimately serve the patient.”

“Through pharmacy school, you focus more on one patient, and while earning an MPH degree you look at things from a 30,000 foot view. That really got me interested in some of the issues I’ve chosen to get more involved with as a pharmacist,” said Schwemm. The fact that most of Schwemm’s fellow MPH students were also going for dual degrees helped her envision creative ways to use that degree. Her fellow students sometimes combined the MPH degree with nursing, law, medical and social work degrees, for example.

Schwemm is interested in developing processes to improve access to medications, educating patients to become informed consumers of healthcare, and demonstrating pharmacists’ impact on health outcomes.

She is currently collaborating with a variety of other types of professionals – oncologists, patient assistance advocates, researchers, and even a bankruptcy judge – to create a program to provide financial education to patients who are undergoing chemotherapy. The project goal is to minimize financial toxicity of cancer treatment and for patients to avoid filing bankruptcies, which are all too common due to cancer care.

Schwemm precepted a resident who had her same mix of degrees, and was happy to help her set up a unique public health rotation that focused on drug disposal policies in Washington state. The resident also assessed barriers to getting vaccinated against Human papillomavirus (HPV) to reduce the rates of cervical cancer.

“Iowa has a lot of pharmacists practicing in unique roles who are pushing the profession forward,” said Schwemm. “You don’t realize how great it is until you move away.”

“One of the values the College of Pharmacy instilled in me is to always push the boundaries of what a pharmacist can do, and to push to see what my role in the profession can be.”
"We want to entice the bacteria out of the biofilms, using carbon-based food, and then kill them with the antibiotics."

Associate Professor Jennifer Fiegel

FIEGEL’S RESEARCH

Aims to Clear Airways

It may not be glamorous, but Associate Professor Jennifer Fiegel is trying to improve lives by studying lung mucus, among other things.

Much of Fiegel’s work is focused on trying to make life easier for people with cystic fibrosis, a genetic disorder that means they cannot clear mucus from their lungs as easily as other people can. The lungs of younger cystic fibrosis patients generally respond well to antibiotics, but as their disease progresses, such treatments don’t work as well or at all.

Through her research, Fiegel wants to develop more effective, inhalable treatments for respiratory infections. But her field is young, and there is a surprising lack of knowledge about how the lungs actually work.

“Before the 1950s, the medical community didn’t deliver many medicines by inhalation, and therefore, my field didn’t exist,” said Fiegel. “Asthma opened the door for inhalable therapies, because it did not respond to treatments given orally. Scientists thought, ‘Hey, let’s try delivering right to the lungs.’ ”

As Fiegel and others in her field work to improve medicines that people breathe in, much of their research involves figuring out the intricacies of lung biology.

In Fiegel’s lab, there is a machine that acts like a person breathing, where a fast airstream simulates a cough. The team studies the emerging droplets. It’s not the first comparable “cough machine” in the world, but it is the first that accounts for the fact that lungs have a distinct surface of mucus. Fiegel has created the first artificial mucus in a lab which mimics both the bulk and surface properties of healthy lung mucus. It is still being perfected.

“The lung surface tends to get ignored, but it’s important,” said Fiegel. “It’s your lungs’ first line of defense against bacteria and inhaled particles.”

Two of her projects have received funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Under the most recently-funded grant, Fiegel’s team is working to eradicate a specific bacteria — called Pseudomonas aeruginosa — which is a major cause of death for people with cystic fibrosis or disorders that weaken the immune system. Specifically, the team is making dry powders that can be inhaled to target and locally-treat bacterial infections in the lungs.

“The bacteria form little communities called biofilms to protect themselves, so they’re hard to get rid of,” Fiegel explained. “We want to entice the bacteria out of the biofilms, using chemicals that the bacteria use as food, and then kill them with the antibiotics.”

That technique has proven effective against biofilms in a petri dish, and animal studies have begun.

The NIH is also supporting another technique Fiegel is developing. Since bacteria can infect a person’s lung cells, her hope is to get a drug to behave the same way a bacterial infection would. If successful, the idea is the medicine would be delivered directly to an infection.
The College of Pharmacy class of 2014 was celebrated May 14–16.

The annual senior dinner was held on Wednesday, May 14 at the Marriott Hotel. Dean Donald Letendre spoke to the graduating students and their families about the class’ accomplishments over the years. Individual students were recognized with awards for scholarship and leadership.

The Doctor of Pharmacy Commencement was held on Thursday, May 15. The graduating class was addressed by Dean Letendre, University of Iowa President Sally Mason, class president Katy Rolfes, and commencement speaker Jenelle Sobotka (’89 PharmD, former president of the American Pharmacists Association and professor at Ohio Northern University).

On Friday, May 16, the college’s Doctor of Philosophy and Master of Science graduates were honored during the Graduate College’s commencement ceremony.
Clockwise: Giles Slocum, Page Crew, Katy Rolfe, Jada Lee, and Stephanie Wong, John Keller, Sally Mason, Bob Downer, Jenelle Sobotka, Don Letendre, Sarah Leonard, Alison Webster, Sara Warren, Dana Bakhit.
Meet the Executive Leadership Board

The Executive Leadership Board, led by Dean Donald E. Letendre, was established in 2010 to advise the College of Pharmacy as it develops and works toward its strategic goals and visions. The members of the board meet periodically to discuss the college’s strategic plan, changes in the curriculum, trends in pharmacy practice, fundraising, and facilities.

Jonas Wang

One of our college’s executive leadership board members invented an anti-wrinkle cream, and leads a global stem cell therapy company. Jonas Wang is Chairman and CEO of StemCyte International Ltd., a California-based cord blood stem cell therapy company with offices in India and Taiwan.

Wang graduated from Iowa in 1982 with a PhD in physical pharmacy.

He has more than 30 years of experience managing pharmaceutical research and development efforts, and in business development. At Johnson & Johnson, he developed new product technology and patent strategy. He has also helped lead a pharmaceutical research institute of Bristol-Myers Squibb Co. Wang is also a consultant partner with the New Jersey-based global investment firm Sycamore Ventures.

The wrinkle-fighting cream that Wang invented and patented while working at Johnson & Johnson has since become Neutrogena’s “Healthy Skin” product line. In fact, according to Wang, Johnson & Johnson purchased Neutrogena®, and RoC® — the number one skin care company in Europe — due to his anti-aging product.

At Johnson & Johnson, Wang filed more than 30 business-related patents and developed more than ten core technologies. Those technologies also include products to battle dandruff, fungal infections, and other skin diseases.

StemCyte has both public and private stem cell banks, and its cord blood has been used to treat life-threatening blood disorder and auto-immune diseases worldwide. The company is developing new umbilical cord blood-based cell therapies which have just completed Phase II human clinical trials in China and Taiwan. These therapies have shown promise in increasing mobility for patients with chronic stroke and spinal cord injuries. The company is also developing an HIV product by using biotechnology to modify genetic elements. Wang learned biotechnology by taking classes elsewhere after receiving his PhD from Iowa, and he has encouraged the Executive Leadership Board to introduce a biotech course to the college.

Wang is taking the company public in Taiwan later this year.

Wang said, “I am happy to give back to the College of Pharmacy because it has provided me so much knowledge and helped me to become a very strong leader.”
Linda Griffey

Linda Griffey, of San Marino, California, is a retired pharmacist-turned-attorney who has returned to her pharmacy roots through service on the Executive Leadership Board.

In 1972, Griffey received a bachelor’s degree in pharmacy from Iowa.

She then practiced pharmacy for a few years while figuring out what type of graduate school to attend. She practiced at Davenport Osteopathic Hospital (now Trinity Bettendorf), and then Wagner (community) Pharmacy in Clinton, Iowa.

When Griffey’s younger sister went to law school, Griffey followed suit. “I wanted to have control over where I lived, and there are lawyers everywhere,” Griffey said.

She and her husband, Jay, moved to North Carolina, where Griffey attended law school at Duke University. She earned money to help pay tuition and expenses by practicing pharmacy at a local hospital. She earned her Juris Doctor degree from Duke in 1980.

Griffey practiced law in the Los Angeles office of O’Melveny & Myers LLP for more than 30 years, specializing in executive compensation and employee benefits. In the 1980s, Congress enacted a special tax on so-called “Golden Parachutes” paid to executives in corporate mergers and acquisitions. Then, in the 1990s, Congress placed a cap on the amount a corporation could deduct for compensation paid to top executives, unless the compensation was performance-based.

“The government kept issuing complex tax regulations, attempting to use the tax laws to rein in executive compensation, which increased the demand for tax lawyers who understood these rules,” said Griffey.

Since retiring, Griffey has served as an expert witness in a couple of executive compensation litigation matters.

She serves on a variety of boards and executive compensation committees, including The Pasadena Playhouse State Theatre of California; the Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles; and Valley Presbyterian Hospital.

When Griffey visits Iowa for Executive Leadership Board meetings, she enjoys visiting her mother in her hometown of Keokuk, Iowa. She always stocks up on Hawkeye gear. She even has a football helmet autographed by Hayden Fry in her office at the law firm.

She recently hosted a meet and greet for Iowa alumni in Southern California at the law firm’s Los Angeles office.

“I bring a completely different perspective to the board,” said Griffey, adding that it’s a two-way street. “Being on the board brings me back into the world of pharmacy. It’s fascinating how things have changed since I was practicing. But, service on the board also allows me to give back.”
Dean Letendre firmly believes that the UI College of Pharmacy has the best alumni in the country, so staying in touch with them is very important to him. Whether it is at reunions, various events and conferences throughout the year, or simply stopping by random pharmacies to say hello, he wants to keep in touch with the College family.

In that respect, Dean Letendre has had a very busy year! He has a goal of shaking the hand of all 5000+ graduates from the college. He has recently traveled to many states across the country including Iowa, Florida, Maryland, Virginia, Washington DC, Texas, California, Arizona, and Illinois. During his travels the dean has met with several UI alumni and friends.

If you would like to know when the dean will be traveling to your area or if you have already met him and want to be tallied, contact Kayla Lalor at kayla-lalor@uiowa.edu.

Alumni Events

Clockwise from top left:

College of Pharmacy Alumni and Friends at the Wrigley Field for the Cubs/Brewers baseball game.

Kevin Stallman, ’95 BSPh, and Dean Letendre.

Christina Gaard, ’11 PharmD, ’11 MPH, and Jamie Baumgart.

Amy Bucknell, ’99 PharmD, and her son Cole.

Dave, Kap, ’81 BSPh, Jon Linder, P2, Exec Board Chair–Tom Veale, Mary Halverson (wife of alum Jeff Halverson, ’79BSPh).
Visionary Support

This has been an exciting time in the University of Iowa College of Pharmacy, thanks to generous alumni and friends like you.

I’m so pleased to announce two recent gifts for the college that will help transform pharmacy education at Iowa—and also will make a difference in the lives of people throughout our state, nation, and world.

UI graduate James A. Otterbeck, ’83 BBA, has made a gift of $1.5 million—through his company OnePoint Patient Care—that will allow us to establish the James A. Otterbeck Professorship in Hospice and Palliative Care in the UI College of Pharmacy.

The field of hospice and palliative care is meeting a growing need in our country, and this professorship will help Iowa pharmacy take the lead in preparing health-care professionals who can provide holistic end-of-life care for patients and their families.

“The vision was to establish the nation’s first teaching position focused on hospice and palliative care pharmacy at the University of Iowa,” said Otterbeck. “It is my hope that this position can foster integration among all the UI health sciences—helping to create a world-class specialty in hospice and palliative care.”

Floyd R., ’54 B.S.P., ’56 M.S., and Judith E. Domer also have made a transformative gift for the college, establishing a $1 million bequest that will enhance the existing Floyd R. and Judith E. Domer Scholarship Fund and create the Floyd R. and Judith E. Domer Lectureship Fund.

“Through our lectureship, we can bring leaders from the various fields of pharmacy to campus to inspire and inform students,” said Floyd Domer. “We also hope that the recipients of our scholarship will be able to start their postgraduate lives with a smaller burden of debt.”

With help from our remarkable alumni and friends, such as the Domers and Otterbeck, the UI College of Pharmacy can continue to deliver a relevant and forward-thinking pharmacy education, and to prepare its graduates to be the health care leaders of tomorrow.

Our generous supporters play a vital role in shaping future generations of UI pharmacy graduates, who will go on to provide uncompromising patient care, to affect industry-wide change, to collaborate on health care teams, and to make breakthrough drug discoveries.

Thank you for helping Iowa pharmacists change lives!

To learn more about how private gifts can benefit the college, contact Mundi McCarty, director of development for the UI College of Pharmacy, or go to www.uifoundation.org/pharmacy.

Gift Announcements

The College of Pharmacy received a gift from the estate of James Traer, ’30 BSPh, ’31 MS, and his wife, Betty. These funds are designated for the College of Pharmacy Opportunity Fund.

Floyd Domer, ’54 BSPh, ’56 MS, and his wife, Judith, have made a donation to the university to establish the Floyd R. and Judith E. Domer Scholarship Fund and Lectureship Fund.

A recent pledge in the amount of $1.5 million was received from OnePoint Patient Care. This gift has been designated to establish the James A. Otterbeck OnePoint Patient Care Professorship in Hospice and Palliative Care within the College of Pharmacy.

Todd, ’89 BSPh, and Jody Christiansen have announced a bequest to establish the Todd M. and Jody G. Christiansen Scholarship Fund.

A recent gift was received from William Winckler and Shirley Albrecht Winckler, both ’54 BSPh, to establish the Albrecht/Winckler Scholarship to support one or more annual scholarships to deserving students in the College of Pharmacy.

Osterhaus Installed as APhA President

Matt Osterhaus, ’80 BSPh, was installed as President of the American Pharmacists Association during the organization’s Annual Meeting and Exposition in March 2014. Osterhaus is following in the footsteps of his father, Bob Osterhaus, ’52 BSPh, who was APhA president in 1992–93.

The Osterhaus family is deeply connected to the College of Pharmacy. Several members of the family are alumni of the college, and their family pharmacy—Osterhaus Pharmacy in Maquoketa, Iowa—is one of the college’s Community Pharmacy Residency sites.
On February 12, Dr. Aliasger Salem met with alumni from the Bay Area in California and shared news from the Division of Pharmaceutics and Translational Therapeutics. Alumni also shared their memories from their time at Iowa. The alumni who attended included: Carol Blomberg, '70 BSPh, Rafael Sarabia, '80 PhD, Seema Handu, '92 PhD, Terry Dahl, '83 PhD, and Shaoling Li, '94 PhD.

1970s

Governor Terry Branstad has reappointed Ed Maier, '70 BSPh, and Jim Miller, '71 BSPh, to the Iowa Board of Pharmacy. This will be Maier’s third term and Miller’s second term.

1980s

Terry Dahl, '83 PhD, and vice president of commercial manufacturing at Gilead Sciences, Inc., led representatives from the College of Pharmacy and UI Foundation on a tour of the Gilead facility. Dr. Aliasger Salem and Kevin Collins saw up-to-date melt extruders, spray dryers, and other systems in a pharmaceutical manufacturing setting. Gilead is a research-based biopharmaceutical company that provides to the College of Pharmacy and the Division of Pharmaceutics and Translational Therapeutics. This support helps the division train the very best students and produce the next generation of leaders in pharmaceutical sciences.

Stephen R. Baird, '86 BSPh, was selected for the 2014 “Best Lawyers In America” list. Since its inception in 1983, “Best Lawyers” has become regarded as the definitive peer-review guide to legal excellence. Baird heads the Intellectual Property and Trademark and Brand Management practice groups, and counsels clients on trademark law, related unfair competition law and copyright law, as well as branding strategies and Internet domain issues.

The Waverly City Council has approved a grant to build a riverside amphitheater in Kohlman Park. Sharon Cashman, '87 BSPh, pharmacy director of Waverly Health Center and member of the Leisure Services Commission, is the spokesperson for the project. The amphitheater would be used for summer concerts by the Municipal Band and other groups interested in using the space.
Vicki Einhellig, ’87 BSPh, was recently elected to the Independent Pharmacy Cooperative board. Einhellig has been the COO of Good Day Pharmacy in Loveland, Co. since 1992.

1990s
An article written by Yihong Qiu, ’92 PhD, “Influence of Drug Property and Product Design on In Vitro-In Vivo Correlation of Complex Modified Release Dosage Forms,” was featured in the February issue of the Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences and featured on the journal’s website. The editors chose to highlight it because they felt it contained “particularly original and significant” scientific findings.

Scott Karolchyk, ’95 MS, has partnered with Imprimis Pharmaceuticals to create a patented ophthalmic formulation called “Dropless™ Cataract Surgery,” which is currently in clinical trials. He has also applied for patents: one regarding a method and an apparatus for the treatment of infections of the nail matrix and nail plate, and another for an orally absorbable dental formulation.

The March 2014 edition of the AAPS News magazine featured an article co-authored by Robert Ternik, ’96 PhD. The article, which is titled “Can the Barriers to Pediatric Drug Development be Overcome?”, examines the challenges in pediatric clinical trials and formulation development.

2000s
Erik D. Maki, ’03 PharmD, was featured in the March issue of the American Pharmacists Association’s publication, Pharmacy Today. Maki is a clinical specialist at Mercy Medical Center in Des Moines. The article “Reinventing the Pharmacist Role in a Hospitalist Model of Care” focuses on Maki’s mission to work with the care team to ensure that transitions of care are as accurate as possible.

Christopher Parker, ’06 PharmD, has been awarded the designation of board-certified ambulatory care pharmacist. His areas of interest include cardiovascular disease, diabetes, obesity.

2010s
Oscar Garza, ’13 PhD, clinical research pharmacist, UI College of Pharmacy, received an American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy 2013-2014 New Investigator Award. This program provides start-up funding for new pharmacy faculty’s research programs. Garza is currently an assistant professor at the University of Minnesota and the award will fund his research project “Development of a Community Pharmacy Social Capital Assessment Tool.”

Osterhaus Pharmacy was featured in a document from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention about the Pharmacist Collaborative Practice Agreement. A case example in the document focuses on Osterhaus Pharmacy’s effective practice and business models that prioritize formal collaboration with other local clinics to provide immunizations to patients.

Jennifer (Kremenak) Barker, ’09 PharmD, passed away on June 19, 2014, following a five-year battle with cancer. After completing a bachelor of science in chemistry from Iowa State University, she enrolled in the College of Pharmacy. She worked as an inpatient pharmacist at Rochester Methodist Hospital for Mayo Clinic for five years.
Maureen (Sieks) Link, '03 PharmD, and her husband Ryan welcomed their fourth child, Eleanor Ryan Link to the family on Sept. 19, 2013. She weighed 6 pounds and was 19 inches long. She joins big brothers Cael and Christopher, as well as sister Maggie.

Katie Horner, '04 PharmD, and her husband Eric welcomed Henry Thomas Horner on Nov. 5, 2013. He was 9 pounds, 3 ounces, and 21 inches.

Jennifer (McClure) Sanders, '05 PharmD, and Marshall Sanders welcomed their third son Holden Marshall Sanders on February 28, 2014. He weighed 7 pounds 12 ounces and was 20 inches long. He has two older brothers Truman (5) and Grayson (3).

Heidi (Guck) Holsapple, '06 PharmD, and her husband Eric welcomed home their son Liam John Holsapple on Jan. 18, 2013. He weighed 6 pounds, 8 ounces, and was 19 inches long.

Sarah (Bresemann) Engberg, '08 PharmD, and her husband Jed welcomed Declan Rhys Engberg on Oct. 23, 2012. He was 7 pounds 2.8 ounces, and 19.5 inches.

Megan Leloux, '08 PharmD, and her husband Marcus welcomed McCoy Jasper Leloux on Jan. 22, 2014. He was 8 pounds, 7 ounces, and 20 1/4 inches. He joins big sister Maclaren.

T. Michael Farley, '07 PharmD, and wife Lianne welcomed Annie Eliza on April 23, 2014. Annie was 9 pounds, 13 ounces and 22 inches long. She joins big brothers Ben and Blake.

Jennifer (McClure) Sanders, '05 PharmD, and Marshall Sanders welcomed their third son Holden Marshall Sanders on February 28, 2014. He weighed 7 pounds 12 ounces and was 20 inches long. He has two older brothers Truman (5) and Grayson (3).

Heidi (Guck) Holsapple, '06 PharmD, and her husband Eric welcomed home their son Liam John Holsapple on Jan. 18, 2013. He weighed 6 pounds, 8 ounces, and was 19 inches long.

Megan Leloux, '08 PharmD, and her husband Marcus welcomed McCoy Jasper Leloux on Jan. 22, 2014. He was 8 pounds, 7 ounces, and 20 1/4 inches. He joins big sister Maclaren.
Are you an alum who recently had a baby? Make the College of Pharmacy a family tradition!

Tell us the news of your family’s addition — send your information to pharmacy-alumni@uiowa.edu — and we’ll send you a free Future Iowa Pharmacists onesie to welcome your new bundle of joy!

We’re proud to provide our newest future alums with their first piece of Iowa gear and we look forward to sharing your joy with you!

**Ashley (Bramble) Twedt, ’08 PharmD,** and her husband Brandon welcomed their first son, Austin Charles Twedt, on May 23, 2013. He was 5 pounds, 7 ounces, and 19 inches long.

**Jill (Robertson) Stein, ’10 PharmD,** welcomed Emma Grace Stein on Feb. 18, 2014. She was 6 pounds, 6.5 ounces, and 19 3/4 inches long.

**Ashley (Kessler) Wolfe, ’10 PharmD,** and husband Aaron welcomed their first son, Ethan Wolfe, on Dec. 15, 2013.

**Jill (Robertson) Stein, ’10 PharmD,** welcomed Emma Grace Stein on Feb. 18, 2014. She was 6 pounds, 6.5 ounces, and 19 3/4 inches long.

**Amy Nicholson, ’13 PharmD,** and her husband welcomed their son Luke Ellis Nicholson on Feb. 23, 2013. He was 6 pounds, 9 ounces, and 19 inches long.

**Jacob Shell, ’13 PharmD,** and his wife Amy welcomed their daughter Emmeline Rose Shell on April 15, 2013. She was 7 pounds, 12 ounces, and 19 inches long.

**Amber Baybayan, ’10 PharmD,** welcomed Miles Jeffrey Baybayan on Dec. 18, 2013. He was 7.2 pounds and 20 inches long.

**Stuart Pitman, ’09 PharmD,** and his wife Rebecca welcomed Mira Elizabeth on Nov. 25, 2013. She was 8 pounds, 7 ounces.

**Alexis Ireland, ’14 PharmD,** welcomed Reagan Rose on Nov. 21, 2013.
Dean Donald Letendre was installed as a member of the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) Board of Directors at the 2014 Summer Meetings and Exhibition. His three-year term will run from June 2014 to June 2017.

Keith Guillory, Professor Emeritus, was recently honored for his commitment and service to the College of Pharmacy for over 50 years. Guillory served as head of the division of pharmaceutics from 1964-1994. He continues to support the college through the Keith Guillory Pharmaceutics Graduate Fellowship, the Flanagan-Guillory-Mather-Wurster Fellowship, and through his endless support and stewardship of faculty, students, and graduates.

The March issue of the American Pharmacists Association’s Pharmacy Today featured Dr. Nicole Brogden, ’07 PharmD, as an expert in dermatology research in an article entitled “Focus on Dermatology.”

Dr. Brogden was one of 30 scholarship recipients nationwide selected to attend the 2014 “Fundamentals of Pain Management: An Interdisciplinary Primer” course, which is offered to young investigators for two days prior to the American Pain Society annual meeting in May.

Shannon Bartlett began her role as Human Resources Director for the college on March 24. Bartlett has 20 years of human resources experience, including 13 years at the University of Iowa as the HR Manager/Associate Director of University Housing and Dining. She has extensive knowledge and experience managing the HR functions for professional and scientific, merit, and student employees.
Barry Carter, ’78 BSPh, ’80 PharmD, was selected by the students of the Alpha Chi Chapter of the Rho Chi Society at Wayne State University Eugene Applebaum College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences as the recipient of the 2014 Roland T. Lakey Lecture Award. The award is conferred each year on an individual who has made a significant impact on the profession of pharmacy through practice, education, or research. Presented since 1963, the award honors the memory of Roland Lakey, the College’s first dean, who served from 1928–1952.

Carter recently received a new grant for his work entitled “MEDication Focused Outpatient Care for Underutilization of Secondary Prevention.” This is a four-year National Institutes of Health/National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute grant.

Jon Doorn received a seed grant from the UI Center for Health Effects of Environmental Contamination for his proposal entitled “Toxicity of Organophosphate and Carbamate Pesticides for Neural and Non-Neuronal Cells.”

Janis Rood, PGY1 community pharmacy resident (2013–2014) at Osterhaus Pharmacy in Maquoketa, Iowa, was selected as an Honorable Mention recipient of the National Adult and Influenza Immunization Summit (NAIIS) – “Immunization Neighborhood” Champion.

In March, Bernard Sorofman spoke at the DUPHAT 2014 – Dubai International Pharmaceuticals and Technology conference, Dubai, United Arab Emirates. He met with H.H. Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai, Minister of Finance and Industry of the United Arab Emirates, and President of the Dubai Health Authority at his palace as a part of a party representing the conference.

Dr. Zhendong Jin was one of the third place finishers in the Iowa Centers for Enterprise Elevator Pitch Competition. His proposal was for a biopharmaceutical company developing the next generation of drug therapy for the treatment of cancer. Their mission is to provide oncologists novel anticancer drugs that not only are highly effective, but also can be afforded by all cancer patients.
Stevie Veach, ’06 PharmD, received an award from the National Association of Chain Drug Stores Foundation for a study entitled “Transition of Care for Behavioral Health Patients Between a Hospital and Community Pharmacy.”

Sara Wiedenfeld joined the faculty in the Division of Applied Clinical Sciences on May 5. Sara is located at the Siouxland Medical Education Foundation (SMEF) Family Medicine Residency Program. She will be responsible for the clinical and didactic teaching of student pharmacists as well as medical residents in the SMEF Family Medicine Program. Dr. Wiedenfeld will provide clinical pharmacotherapy services in the outpatient clinic of the residency program and participate in multidisciplinary rounds at affiliated hospitals.

Matthew Witry, ’08 PharmD, ’13 PhD, joined the faculty of the Division of Health Services Research within the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science on January 1. Dr. Witry will devote much of his time to researching issues and processes facing community and clinic pharmacists. He is also interested in discussing the realities of pharmacy in the real world and engaging in practice-based research with partners from the community.

Rob Kerns, ’76 PhD, was selected as a member of the 2014–2015 CIC Academic Leadership Program Fellows. The fellows are invited to attend three leadership seminars throughout the year and participate in various on-campus activities.

On April 17, PharmD students from the College of Pharmacy APhA-ASP chapter attended an Iowa Foster and Adoptive Parents Association meeting to teach parents about medication safety. The students, led by Clinical Associate Professor Susan Vos, PharmD, BCPS, gave a presentation about steps for safe medication administration, including how to properly use syringes and measuring tools and how to recognize dangerous side effects. The presentation also focused on the symptoms and identification of ADHD and offered parents an overview of different medications that can be used to treat ADHD. Dr. Vos compared various common treatments, including both stimulants and non-stimulants, and offered parents advice on which medications would be most suited to their child’s needs.

Tyler Gums, fellow, received a full tuition scholarship for the Focused Investigator Training (FIT) Program, an intensive 5-day hands-on program for a limited number of experienced pharmacist investigators who have not yet been awarded significant peer-reviewed extramural funding as a principal investigator. The 2014 FIT Program will be held July 10–14, 2014, at the University of Georgia College of Pharmacy in Athens.
STUDENT NEWS

College of Pharmacy students recently participated in a challenge intended to help them understand the challenges of living with diabetes. Just as each diabetes patient may be given a different regime to follow, each participating student received one of three different scenarios in this week-long challenge sponsored by the College of Pharmacy’s chapter of APhA-ASP’s Operation Diabetes. In all of the scenarios, the students were instructed to track their carb intake, test their blood glucose levels, and inject “insulin” to correct their levels, as all diabetic patients must do. Read more about this event at pharmacy.uiowa.edu.

Alyssa Billmeyer, a third-year PharmD student in the College of Pharmacy, was elected this spring to serve as the 2014-2015 Executive Council of Graduate & Professional Students (ECGPS) President.

Elizabeth Ficek was nominated and selected to attend the Cardinal Health Student Leadership Conference. The 15th Annual Cardinal Health Student Leadership Conference was May 15-17, 2014 in Houston, Texas. This all-expense paid conference joins the top pharmacy students from across the nation for a special two-day program to better prepare them for assuming future leadership roles in health-system pharmacy.

Carrie Morris, a student in Pharmaceutics and Translational Therapeutics was one of 85 recipients of the 2014 AACP Walmart Scholar Program. The program provides travel scholarships to 85 student/faculty pairs from AACP member institutions to attend the AACP Annual Meeting and the AACP Teachers Seminar in Grapevine, Texas from July 26-30, 2014.

Shiny Parsai, third year PharmD student, was selected by the Association for Prevention Teaching and Research (APTR) and the Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (ODPHP) for the 2014 Class of Paul Ambrose Scholars. As a 2014 PASP Scholar, Shiny attended the Student Leadership Symposium in Washington, D.C. She was among 40 health profession students from across the country interested in prevention strategies and population health.

Awards

Students from the College of Pharmacy received awards at this year’s American Pharmacists Association (APhA) meeting in Orlando, Fla. on March 28-31.

• Caitlin Lickteig, a PharmD student, received a student Presentation Merit Award for her poster, “Multi-case study of fostering provider-pharmacist team management of hypertension in communities.” Other authors include William Doucette, Stevie Veach, Barry Carter, and Barcey Levy.

Two students received honorable mentions for Postgraduate Best Paper Award in the Economic, Social, Administrative Sciences:

• Yiran Zhang for the paper “A Longitudinal Analysis of High Risk Medication Use among Beneficiaries in Two Medicare Drug Plans.” The co-authors were William Doucette, Grant Brown, Jane Pendergast, and Jessica Frank.

• Jayoung Han for the paper “Why Medicare Part D Beneficiaries Do Not Switch Plans: Testing a Model of Part D Plan Information Processing.” The co-author was Julie Urmie.
Stevie Veach, ’06 PharmD, ’07 R, is an assistant professor (clinical) who serves as the director of the College of Pharmacy PGY1 Community Pharmacy Residency Program. In this role, she oversees and manages six residents who practice in seven different community pharmacy sites across eastern Iowa - Mercy Family Pharmacy in Dubuque, Osterhaus Pharmacy in Maquoketa, Towncrest Pharmacy in Iowa City, HyVee Drugstore in Iowa City, CarePro Shepley Pharmacy in Mount Vernon, and a shared position of CarePro Liberty Pharmacy in North Liberty with CarePro A Avenue Pharmacy in Cedar Rapids.
How did residency shape your own career path?

I am a 2006 graduate of the University of Iowa College of Pharmacy. During my Doctor of Pharmacy education, I was able to hold pharmacy intern positions at both Towncrest Pharmacy in Iowa City and CarePro Shepley Pharmacy in Mount Vernon. These internships sparked my passion for community pharmacy practice. Following graduation, I completed a Community Pharmacy Residency with The University of Iowa College of Pharmacy and Mercy Family Pharmacy in Dubuque. By completing a PGY1 residency, I was not only able to further develop my clinical and patient care skills, but this experience also greatly enhanced my leadership skills and provided me outstanding mentorship.

Following residency, my career path allowed me to stay connected to the residency program. Post-residency, I accepted a clinical pharmacist position with CarePro Liberty Pharmacy in North Liberty. As a residency site within Iowa’s Community Pharmacy Residency Program, I was able to start precepting residents shortly after I started at Liberty Pharmacy. Now that I am transitioning into a faculty role at The University of Iowa College of Pharmacy I maintain a shared faculty position with CarePro Liberty Pharmacy and the College of Pharmacy. This allows me to continue interacting with patients and precepting pharmacy students and residents within the community pharmacy setting.

What are some things that set the UI College of Pharmacy PGY1 Community Pharmacy Residency Program apart from others?

There are three pillars that really distinguish our program from others.

1. History: Our program has been in continuous existence since 1997 and was the first multi-site community residency accredited by the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists and the American Pharmacists Association.

2. Quality of Preceptors and Sites: Our preceptors are leaders in the pharmacy profession at the national level. Because of this, our sites is the collaborative approach to train and educate residents. Residents are encouraged to visit each site to learn about the services offered at each location. Preceptors are encouraging and supportive of each resident in the program, not only their own.

3. Collaboration with the College of Pharmacy: Not all community pharmacy residency programs are affiliated with a college of pharmacy, and this collaboration benefits our residents.

Dr. Christine Catney coordinates two experiences that all residents in the community pharmacy program participate in. The first is the Pharmacy Educator Preparation Program for Residents (PEPPR). This program provides residents with the skills and tools to become educators and provides several teaching opportunities through a variety of courses within the College of Pharmacy. Secondly, our residents participate in a writing group with Dr. Catney. This writing group allows the residents to receive feedback from peers on each step of their year-long residency project including abstract preparation, poster presentation, and manuscript writing.

Thirdly, but coordinated by others, our residents are each assigned a faculty member or graduate student from the Health Services Research division to assist with their research project.

Why are residencies now more important than ever?

As health care becomes more complex in pharmacy and specialized, more advanced training is needed across the health sciences. I recently participated in an Inter-Professional Education Course among the health science students, and I was intrigued to learn that most of the health science programs offer residency training, including physical therapy and nursing. All healthcare professions require practitioners to be lifelong learners, and the concentrated learning environment of a residency is a great way to springboard new practitioners into this type of learning. Pharmacy residency training programs do not only help develop clinical and teaching skills. They are also designed to foster mentorship and leadership skills that will help shape future leaders in the profession of pharmacy.
UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, August 23
Professional Mentor Breakfast
White Coat Ceremony

Thursday, October 9
Osterhaus Medal for Lifetime Achievement Symposium

Friday, October 10-Saturday, October 11
University of Iowa Homecoming

Friday, October 31
Dean’s Appreciation Dinner

Thursday, November 6
Career Fair

Friday, November 7
Placement Day

Interested in supporting your alma mater, but not sure how?
Join alumni, students, faculty, and friends in the Pharmacy Hawkeye Caucus! You will be among the first to know about important advances and initiatives happening in the college.

Find out more by visiting pharmacy.uiowa.edu/hawkeyecaucus

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