Michael Akers
Making a difference through the pharmaceutical sciences.
Dear Friends,

The core mission of the University of Iowa College of Pharmacy is to educate future pharmacists and to conduct research to advance health care. Judging by what our alumni have achieved after receiving degrees from our college, we've been doing outstanding work. In this issue of HawkScripts, we pause to appreciate our alumni, students, faculty, and friends, and all of their contributions by highlighting their unique achievements.

Valerie Jensen, '90 BSPh, is a captain in the U.S. Public Health Service. Part of her fascinating role at the Food and Drug Administration involves working tirelessly to keep medications on the market during critical shortages.

Mike Akers, BA, '72 PhD, has had a distinguished career in industry and academia as an internationally-recognized leader in the fields of parenteral product development, manufacturing, and quality assurance.

Pamela Wong Wiltfang graduated from our dual PharmD/MPH degree program in May of 2012. She decided to stay in Iowa because of how innovative and progressive pharmacy is in the state. Now she is directing innovations and clinical services at NuCara Pharmacy.

Samm Anderegg, '11 PharmD, uses creative problem-solving and technology to improve patient care and advance the profession. He has been involved with the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) since he was a student in 2007. Now ASHP and other organizations are involved with a major information technology effort to help justify the value of pharmacists’ services to patients. Anderegg leads a major piece of this effort.

Patrick Keefe, '69 BSPh, MBA, and his wife, Sue, have used their health care training to serve members of underserved populations around the world through their time, talent, and treasure. They consciously work to pass on their values to others.

Faculty member Erika Ernst, PharmD, has formed a unique bridge between the college and University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics. Her cutting-edge work helps set the bar for how to best use antibiotics to root out drug-resistant bacteria.

One of the greatest things about passionate, effective professionals is that they inspire greatness in others. This April, an important historical figure from our school was honored through the Zada Cooper Leadership Symposium, led by adjunct faculty and Executive Leadership Board member Melissa Murer Corrigan, PharmD.

Our entire college family is connected to current and past students. They are the reason we exist as an institution. We have synergy as we work together to educate pharmacy professionals, conduct beneficial research, and answer needs in communities. It inspires us all.

Professionally yours,

Donald E. Letendre
Dean and Professor
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MICHAEL AKERS, BA, PhD

MICHAEL AKERS:
Making a Difference through the Pharmaceutical Sciences

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40-year career in research and development in the pharmaceutical industry. He also held
educational, managerial, and leadership positions.

Akers, of Sun City, Ariz., and Indianapolis, Ind., is an internationally-recognized expert in the field of injectable (“parenteral”) drug
product development, manufacturing, and quality assurance.

In the summer of 1968, Akers had just received bachelor’s
degrees in biology and chemistry from Wabash College and was a
newlywed. He was working at Eli Lilly & Co. in Indianapolis as he
had the two prior summers while planning his next professional
move, which he vaguely knew could involve graduate school. One
day, he was cleaning a laboratory where Michael Bornstein, ’66
PhD, was working as a research scientist. Bornstein helped guide
Akers to his own field and graduate school supervisor.

“Dr. Bornstein was incredibly enthusiastic about working
for Professor John Lach at the University of Iowa College of
Pharmacy,” Akers said. “When he offered to call Professor Lach
and schedule a time for me to visit him, I couldn’t say no,”
added Akers. The rest was history. “Dr. Bornstein’s unsolicited
willingness to help me totally turned my life around.”

John Lach had come to the UI College of Pharmacy as a faculty
member after graduating from the University of Wisconsin-
Madison where he had studied under Professor Takeru Higuchi.
Higuchi founded physical pharmacy, the process of applying
physics and chemistry to dosage form design.

Among other things, Akers’ graduate research included animal
studies to measure the effects of various formulation additives on
the rate and extent of absorption of an anticoagulant.

Physical pharmacy graduates often research the physical and
chemical properties of drugs and develop drug dosage forms in the
pharmaceutical industry, and many of these types of positions dot
Akers’ curriculum vitae. He worked on teams at industrial giants
including Searle (now part of Pfizer), Alcon, Eli Lilly, and Baxter
developing well-known products including the artificial sweetener
Equal, the antidepressant Prozac, human insulin (Humulin), and
the anti-cancer drug Gemzar.

“When Akers became one of the leading experts in this field
during his academic tenure and during his long career in the
pharmaceutical industry,” said James McGinity, PhD, Professor
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sciences that he received while being a graduate student at the University of Iowa."

Akers’ first postgraduate position was at Searle Labs in Skokie, Ill. on the development teams of Nutrasweet and Equal.

In 1974, he moved to become a senior scientist – and later, head – for Alcon Laboratories in Fort Worth, Texas. At Alcon, Akers helped develop ophthalmic dosage forms – especially for intraocular irrigating solutions – and enjoyed meeting ophthalmology surgeons who used the company’s irrigation solution in their clinical studies. Ophthalmic drug products are required to be sterile along with other unique characteristics. “It was at Alcon that I began developing a scientific expertise in this unique niche area,” said Akers.

A University of Tennessee professor tapped Akers in 1977 to interview for a faculty position in the parenteral medications division. He accepted, and teaching helped him overcome his fear of public speaking. “I loved all the teaching I did and the students I had,” Akers said.

Four years later, Akers received a recruiter’s call from Eli Lilly asking him to interview at the Indianapolis location for a position on the team that eventually would develop the first recombinant DNA biopharmaceutical product, human insulin. Such technology was an important advance in diabetes treatment. He accepted, and also continued teaching continuing education courses in parenteral science and technology.

Akers stayed at Lilly for nearly 18 years. In 1990, he learned that Lach, his graduate school mentor who had remained a distinguished, longtime faculty member at the college, had died. Akers mourned the passing of his friend, colleague, and father figure whose word was solid gold. “Innumerable times I have longed to talk to him about several career crises and choices I had to make on my own,” Akers said.

From 1999-2002, Akers established and ran his own very productive consulting company, called Akers Consulting and Training Services. He worked for 66 companies in two and a half years.

In 2001, one of Akers’ clients, Cook Pharma, was bought out by Baxter Healthcare Corporation. Akers joined Baxter in Bloomington, Ind. While there, he established a fully functional research and development department known as the Baxter Lyophilization Center of Excellence. The center is recognized worldwide for scientific and technical expertise in freeze-drying. Akers retired from Baxter in 2012 as the Senior Director for Pharmaceutical Research and Development of BioPharma Solutions.

For 30 years, Akers taught continuing education courses on the basics of sterile product development, manufacturing and control. He also served as editor in chief of the journal Pharmaceutical Development and Technology for 16 years. He has written books and book chapters devoted to his trade, as well as journal and trade magazine articles. He is listed as an inventor on two U.S. patents and has served on the boards of the Parenteral Drug Association and the Executive Council of the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists.

Akers has found his career path fulfilling. “We humans have a constant need to feel that we make a difference in others’ lives, that we matter, that we belong somewhere. Working in the pharmaceutical sciences, whether it is academia, industry, or government, goes a long way toward meeting those needs,” he said.

Mike and Mary “Midge” (Wilder) Akers have three grown children and five grandchildren.

In his quasi-retirement, Akers still does some consulting work, particularly on topics involving the science of injectable formulation and freeze-drying technology. He is an ordained interdenominational pastor and runs a Christian writing ministry. He also volunteers as a hospital chaplain.
United States Public Health Service Capt. Valerie Jensen, ’90 BSPh, leads efforts to prevent and address drug shortages through the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

Jensen, a Cedar Rapids native, has been with the FDA since 1999 and became the associate director of the agency’s Drug Shortage Program in 2007. The program works to address drug shortages and prevent new ones.

Shortages can happen for many reasons, including manufacturing and quality problems, delays, and discontinuations.

Vital shortages already existed when Jensen started at the FDA, but in 2011-2012, the number of drugs in short supply skyrocketed to a crisis level. “That is when there were several problems all at once with many of the larger manufacturers of older generic injectable or IV drugs. They had gone along needing to make upgrades for a long time, but didn’t, and their facilities were falling apart. There were also quality issues,” Jensen explained.

The main types of badly-needed medications in shortage have involved cancer drugs, anesthetics used for patients undergoing surgery, IV nutrition for premature babies, IV saline, and others.

“The knowledge that we are able to help people get the treatments they deserve is greatly rewarding.”

VALERIE JENSEN, ’90 BSPh
“Taking IV saline as an example, pretty much every patient in the hospital uses it, and we had a severe shortage,” Jensen said. “It seems silly to run out of saltwater, but during the manufacturing of any injectable drug, so many things can go wrong from start to finish. The environment and tools need to be sterile and mixed to exactly the right percentage. There can’t be any contaminants such as bacteria, fungus, or particulate matter.”

The FDA works closely with drugmakers to keep vital medications in circulation. “But we don’t manufacture the drugs and can’t tell a firm how much of a drug to make or which drugs to make,” Jensen noted. “Ultimately it’s their decision whether to make drug or not.”

Some issues can take manufacturers a long time to correct. The FDA offers assistance when there are quality issues causing shortages and expedites review of anything a manufacturer needs to help increase production, such as adding a new manufacturing site or raw material supplier. The agency also notifies other manufacturers when a critical shortage is on the way to see if they are able to help prevent the shortage.

In 2012, Congress passed a new law requiring companies to tell the FDA if they foresee supply disruptions in their future. This has helped. “We needed advance notice, and this legislation has allowed us to take action early on and prevent shortages in many cases,” Jensen said.

“Multiple times in the past two years, we’ve had critical drug shortages. Manufacturers might not have the resources to ramp up production or may be at capacity. Many shortage drugs are older generics, and may not be moneymakers.”

When supplies would not have been available any other way, the FDA has approached in manufacturers Europe, Canada, Australia, and other countries to temporarily import their drug products. “It is not an easy fix for every drug, because there are differences in formulation and labeling, and we need to carefully evaluate these to ensure patients aren’t at risk. But it’s been a lifesaver when we need supplies to be available and we don’t have any other options,” said Jensen. “We’re still seeing critical shortages but now there are fewer. We’re not out of the woods yet,” she added.

Jensen’s career path may have been something else entirely if she hadn’t volunteered to write for the University of Iowa yearbook her freshman year at the University of Iowa.

An open major, she was assigned to interview Charles F. Barfknecht, a College of Pharmacy professor in what was then the Division of Medicinal Chemistry. Jensen was inspired by him and his work developing glaucoma and dry eye syndrome treatments. She joined the college and her new mentor’s laboratory, where she was the only undergraduate student. She worked under a graduate student helping synthesize compounds.

“Dr. Barfknecht encouraged his students to pursue challenging career paths that could make a difference in people’s lives,” Jensen said.

As a third-year student, Jensen studied abroad at the University of Queensland in Brisbane, Queensland, Australia. The following summer, she interned with Novartis in Summit, N.J., to learn more about the pharmaceutical industry.

After graduation, Jensen completed a PGY1 American Society of Health System Pharmacists Specialized Residency in Ambulatory Care in Whiteriver, Ariz., through the Indian Health Service (IHS). The IHS is within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and provides federal health services to American Indians and Alaska Natives.

Jensen worked at hospital and ambulatory care sites providing comprehensive direct patient care as a member of a health care team, a newer concept at the time. In ambulatory care, a team of pharmacists worked under an internal medicine doctor to manage patients’ medications in anticoagulation, hypertension, diabetes and other clinics.

It was then that she joined the federal uniformed service of the U.S. Public Health Service (PHS) – one of the seven uniformed services of the United States – as a Commissioned Corps officer. The PHS Corps is an elite team of 6,500 highly-qualified health professionals.

When Jensen’s residency was over, she continued to work as a clinical pharmacist for Indian Health Service for eight more years in Arizona and New Mexico.
“I worked on an Apache reservation first, then Hopi and then Navajo,” said Jensen. “All three tribes have their own ceremonies and customs and it was a privilege to be able to learn more about the traditions and culture as well as being able to provide excellent care for patients.”

By the time Jensen transferred to the FDA in 1999, she had experienced her fair share of shortages working for the Indian Health Service. “I knew the impact on patients and on the healthcare team. It was not ideal to need workarounds and alternative treatments in place of the drugs in shortage.”

“This is a challenging and sometimes heartbreaking job to be in at times,” said Jensen. “A shortage of a patient’s medicine can be a frightening prospect, especially if the medicine is critical to their health and there are no alternatives available. However, the knowledge that we are able to help people get the treatments they deserve is greatly rewarding.”

“She was very instrumental in the early development of the Drug Shortage Program,” said fellow Commissioned Corps Capt. Jouhyna Saliba, PharmD, a drug shortage staff member who has known Jensen for 15 years. “The program now has grown into a staff of 13 dedicated public servants and it is as a result of Captain Jensen’s outstanding leadership skills. She has been a wonderful mentor and great friend and leader. She has never lost sight of the agency’s mission.”

In addition to managing national drug shortages, Jensen’s role involves representing the FDA in national media, as well as testifying in front of Congress and speaking in front of stakeholder groups.

“It was an honor to have a rotation with such an impactful and effective leader who is just as humble,” said Sangeeta Tandon, ’11 PharmD, of the Johns Hopkins Hospital Department of Pharmacy. “You would never know she’s had spotlight interviews on CNN and other major news companies. I don’t think that it’s any coincidence that drug shortages have improved significantly while she has been serving as a leader in the drug shortages group.”

Jensen is a preceptor for College of Pharmacy students during their fourth-year Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experiences rotations.

Jensen and her husband, Bob Pratt, live in Germantown, Md., and are both FDA pharmacists. They have two grown sons.

Jensen has maintained strong connections to the UI College of Pharmacy, including returning for Homecoming celebrations.
High school job shadowing pointed a young college alumna to pharmacy. A dual University of Iowa degree helped launch her avant-garde career. Growing up in dire straits taught her the importance of hard work.

When Pamela (Wong) Wiltfang, ’12 PharmD/MPH, ’08 BA, was two years old, her parents found themselves with little option but to move with Wiltfang to live in a Cedar Rapids city bus. After six months of this, her parents earned enough for a deposit on an apartment. They became financially successful, and now own their own construction/handyman business in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

“Seeing how hard my grandparents and parents worked for what they have now gives me the motivation and drive to do the same in life,” Wiltfang said. “Nothing worth having comes easy. I truly love pushing myself to the limit because I know in the end it will pay off. I’m also very appreciative that I can say that I love my job.”

Wiltfang is the Director of Clinical Services and Innovative Practice for NuCara Management Group, LLC, headquartered in Conrad, Iowa. NuCara Management Group oversees pharmacy locations in Iowa, Illinois, Minnesota, North Dakota and Texas.

While a student at Jefferson High School in Cedar Rapids – where she was born and raised – Wiltfang shadowed various types of professionals. “Pharmacy was my favorite type of job shadow because of the access patients had to the pharmacists,” said Wiltfang, now of North Liberty, Iowa.

Wiltfang completed the Doctor of Pharmacy/Masters of Public Health dual degree program offered by the University of Iowa. Her PharmD taught her how pharmacists can boost patient health through clinical care. The MPH degree helped her apply that knowledge to real-life public health situations in the field.

“The MPH program taught me all the steps to take from brainstorming to research, to getting stakeholder support and
implementation, to successfully sustaining a clinical program. In my current position with NuCara, it’s very important to assess whether a service is truly needed in a community, through intense research, before potentially starting it.”

Wiltfang is crystal clear about what drew her to NuCara: The people, especially fellow alum TJ Johnsrud, ‘66 BPh. Johnsrud is co-founder and president of the company.

“After all these years, TJ is still excited about pharmacy and the innovative and exciting things still evolving in the field. That’s so inspiring to me. The corporate office supports innovative project ideas and the primary focus is on the patient, and less on Rx numbers.”

The NuCara pharmacies are jointly owned by NuCara Management Group and Dakota Drug. In addition to community pharmacy practice, NuCara offers home medical equipment, specialty pharmacy, and respiratory services, and is an industry leader in sterile and non-sterile compounding developing patent-ready formulations.

In Wiltfang’s current position, she is responsible for developing, implementing and ensuring success and sustainability of all the innovative clinical programs that NuCara is involved in – and there are many. They run the gamut from ensuring smooth medication regimen transitions for patients who have been in the hospital – or suddenly find themselves in the hospital – to acquiring telepharmacies, and far beyond.

NuCara already had a few telepharmacies in Iowa and North Dakota. This summer, Wiltfang expects she will be managing 14 more in Iowa and Illinois. Telepharmacies often take root in small communities whose residents would otherwise have a long way to travel to reach a pharmacy. These new telepharmacies will house one or two community technicians supervised remotely by Coralville, iowa, pharmacists.

Wiltfang also co-coordinates the Wellmark/McFarland Clinic Accountable Care Organization Project, which involves further integrating pharmacists into health care teams to provide medication therapy management services. NuCara’s specialty pharmacy efforts take care of all the HIV/AIDS patients in Iowa’s state financial assistance program. Wiltfang has her hands in a number of other projects, including coordinating “tech-check-tech” programs, whereby a technician frees up pharmacist time by checking a peer’s order-filling accuracy.

Wiltfang has stayed actively involved in student organizations and the Iowa Pharmacy Association. She has participated in numerous college-based research projects. She works to pay forward her college mentors’ generosity as a preceptor and mentor for current students.

Wiltfang is a third-generation Chinese-American. Her grandfather, Loke Ming Wong, immigrated to the United States with his family when he was 13. He returned to south China in 1949 at age 21 to marry his wife, Marilyn. He received the National Defense Service Medal for good conduct during the Korean War, then returned and worked in the restaurant business until his retirement in 1990.

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PAMELA WILTFANG, PharmD/MPH

Her parents – Ark and Jan Wong – had an arranged marriage; when her father was 26 years old, his family took him to China to meet and bring back his new wife, who was then 22. They have been married for 31 years.

Wiltfang and her husband, Jason Wiltfang – of European background – followed in her family of origin’s footsteps in May of 2014, when they had a traditional wedding in China. The Coralville wedding followed for friends and family in the U.S., and for legal purposes. The Wiltfangs live in North Liberty, and welcomed their first child in April of 2016.

Jason Wiltfang, who grew up in the Bahamas, also graduated from the University of Iowa in 2012 and is a Cedar Rapids attorney.

Pamela Wiltfang speaks two Chinese dialects: Mandarin (learned at the UI) and Cantonese (learned at home). Wiltfang received Bachelor of Arts degrees in 2008 in health promotion and Chinese, and a chemistry minor. She is an adjunct assistant professor at the College of Pharmacy and the owner and consultant pharmacist at PFW Consulting and Case Haub Consulting.

Wiltfang and many other members of the NuCara team celebrated Johnsrud’s Osterhaus Medal for Lifetime Achievement in 2014.
National Leaders Convene for Symposium

After graduating from the University of Iowa College of Pharmacy in 1897, Zada Mary Cooper joined its faculty, making her the first known tenured female college of pharmacy faculty member anywhere. She also held many national leadership positions, including secretary of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy from 1922 to 1942. Cooper was one of the founders of the Women’s Section of the American Pharmacists Association and founder of Kappa Epsilon Fraternity and the Rho Chi Society. She was an advocate of women in pharmacy and became known as the “grand and glorious lady of pharmacy.”

Ninety five years later, another female trailblazer graduated from the college. Susan Winckler, ’92 BSPh, JD, pioneered a unique path for her career. Currently the Managing Partner of the Leavitt Partners Washington, D.C. office, she is an attorney and pharmacist who has served the food and drug law community and engaged in broad healthcare policy discussions. She is also the former Chief of the Staff for the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

Winckler and other modern-day pharmacy pioneers gathered at the Coralville Marriott Hotel and Conference Center from across the nation to speak at the college’s Zada Cooper Leadership Symposium on April 30. Over 100 participants were inspired to be leaders as they listened to stories of success from top pharmacy leaders. They learned more about the professional legacy of trailblazing that Cooper established, and were exposed to opportunities to enhance their own career trajectories through leadership development.

Additional speakers included national pharmacy leaders Lucinda Maine, PhD, the executive vice president and CEO of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy, and Jenelle Sobotka, ’87 BSPh, ’89 PharmD, Professor and Endowed Chair in the Department of Pharmacy Practice at Ohio Northern University. (Editor’s note: As of July 15, 2016, Sobotka is the program director for the University of Cincinnati College of Pharmacy’s Graduate Leadership Program.)

“I hope the symposium has inspired women in pharmacy school and beyond to hear how passionate the speakers were about leadership and mentorship. I want more women to say ‘Hey, I could do that!’” said Melissa Murer Corrigan, BSPh, the Vice President of Social Impact Strategy and Programs at ACT.

Corrigan’s vision led to the symposium. She has often noted that although more women than men are now graduating with pharmacy degrees, women are still underrepresented in pharmacy leadership and in corporate America.

“While I value the contributions of many male pharmacy colleagues I do believe that it is time for women to have a greater role,” Corrigan said. “Whether leadership in academia, chain pharmacy management or health-system pharmacy – there are many opportunities for leadership and hopefully more leaders will be women.”

Iowa pharmacy is known for its outstanding leaders. Nationwide, pharmacists and pharmacy students are fully aware that Iowa sets the bar for pharmacy education, collaboration, and innovation.
The College of Pharmacy and the Graduate College celebrated the class of 2016 during events held May 11-13.

Doctor of Pharmacy candidates and their families gathered for the annual Senior Dinner and Awards Ceremony on May 11. During the event, individual students were recognized for scholarship and leadership.

Commencement for Doctor of Pharmacy students was held May 12, with remarks from Dean Donald Letendre, University of Iowa President Bruce Harreld, Class President Grant Houselog, and commencement speaker Jack Evans, President of the Hall-Perrine Foundation and former member of the Iowa Board of Regents.

On Friday, May 13, the University of Iowa Graduate College’s commencement was held, celebrating Doctor of Philosophy and Master of Science graduates.
Samm Anderegg, ’11 PharmD

The Genesis Board was formed in fall of 2014, spearheaded by the vision of Dean Donald E. Letendre. Its goal is to encourage student and alumni interactions, build new traditions, create opportunities for students, and assist with the diverse needs of students within the pharmacy community.

Samm Anderegg, ’11 PharmD, MS, BCPS, is passionate about improving health care delivery and technology to benefit patients.

Growing up in Charles City, Iowa, Anderegg enjoyed problem-solving and was driven to help people, which led him to a career in the health sciences. He liked that unlike other members of a patient’s medical team, the roles of pharmacists are not well-defined; they’re still evolving into exciting new areas.

After receiving his PharmD from the college, he completed a PGY-1 and PGY-2 residency and Masters program in Health-System Pharmacy Administration at the University of Kansas Medical Center.

In 2013, he became a pharmacy manager at Augusta University Medical Center in Augusta, Ga. overseeing oncology, and later adding ambulatory clinics. He employed team-based creative problem solving to explore new frontiers of pharmacy. Because of his work, more patients with cancer are completing treatments in the infusion clinic and at home, instead of being admitted. Also, patients who used to endure long waits in local pharmacies after clinic visits or discharge can leave with medications in hand and go straight home.

Meanwhile, Anderegg was also helping the Pharmacy Health Information Technology (HIT) Collaborative work towards digitizing medical records for pharmacists and collaborated with the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists on a mobile app for logging interventions. Specifically, Anderegg is working on documentation codes for pharmaceutical care, helping the many software systems in use by providers talk to each other. This will also help standardize the data for population health studies.

“Ultimately, we want to justify the value of our services by tying what we do to patient outcomes,” said Anderegg.

In February, Anderegg took both his Augusta University Medical Center and Pharmacy HIT Collaborative roles on the road to part-time, remote, consulting jobs. He headed to San Francisco to be part of the future of health care technology.

“Investment in health tech is rapidly expanding,” Anderegg said. “I’m interested in how technology can be leveraged to make health care patient-friendly. To make an impact in that industry, you have to position yourself near talent and investment potential.”

Anderegg credits his mentors at the College of Pharmacy and beyond with helping him chart his professional course. “Mentors help you identify opportunities so that you’re aware of what’s possible,” Anderegg said. “You may have talents, but not know what they are until people point them out and guide your passion.”

“The mentoring opportunities at the college are absolutely incredible,” added Anderegg. “It’s neat to see everything come full circle and interact with current students through the mentor program and by participating on the Genesis Board.”
Patrick Keefe’s priorities in life are clear: He believes we are called to serve others, and pass on those values to others.

Keefe’s mother, Catherine, donated to people in need, despite her own financial difficulties. She was a cook at a Catholic school and widow who raised him and his three siblings in Fort Dodge, Iowa.

Keefe earned his Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy from the University of Iowa College of Pharmacy in 1969 and a Master of Business Administration from Georgia State University in 1984.

After graduating, Keefe and his wife Sue – a registered nurse – started using their health care training to serve others. They volunteered as medical workers in southeastern Mexico for three years, establishing a clinic for the Ch’ol Indians. The oldest of their children was born during that time period. The value of giving has not been lost on any of the children.

“When my wife and I volunteered early in our careers, we got to see first-hand how gaining education and job skills can transform lives. All three of our children volunteered after college and we see the impact that has on their view of what is important in life,” Keefe said.

Keefe retired as the chief operating officer of Omnicare, Inc. – a Fortune 500 company providing pharmaceutical care for older adults – in 2010 after spending most of his career there. He is now principal of a consulting company, Bridge Healthcare Partners. It invests in start-up healthcare companies and larger healthcare deals.

Patrick and Sue Keefe, who now live in Cincinnati, Ohio, are long-time generous donors to causes they believe in, often through the Keefe Family Foundation. In 2014, they established the Patrick and Susan Keefe Service-Learning Scholarship for UI pharmacy students who volunteer to work with underserved populations, especially on international trips. Earlier, they established the Patrick E. Keefe Professorship in Pharmacy; Barry Carter, ’78 BSPh, PharmD, professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, was the inaugural recipient in 2011.
Ernst’s Stewardship Combats Superbugs
ampant use of antibiotics in our society has led to an ever-growing number of “superbugs”: drug-resistant bacteria. By using antibiotics optimally – called stewardship – Erika J. Ernst and her team are slowing down superbugs.

Ernst, PharmD, is an associate professor in the Division of Health Services Research (HSR) within the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science (PPS). She also works as a clinical pharmacy specialist on a University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics (UIHC) stewardship team. Her research evaluates the effectiveness of the team’s clinical efforts.

“Our college and UIHC partner on stewardship projects, and everybody benefits, especially patients,” said Ernst.

She is currently collaborating with Diana Karkow, pharmacy fellow, Brian Hoff, clinical pharmacist and Brad Ford, director of the clinical microbiology laboratory on a Society of Infectious Diseases Pharmacists (SIDP) grant to tailor antibiotic use for serious hospital-acquired Staph infections. One of the worst types of bacteria – Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) – must be treated with broad spectrum antibiotics, contributing to resistance. Yet much simpler drugs can easily wipe out other types of Staph. Currently, testing can take a day or more to come back, so physicians often have no choice but to give patients the strongest possible broad spectrum antibiotic.

“By using fewer antibiotics, you can lessen the amount of Staphylococcus aureus bacteremia,” said Ernst. “We’ve worked out a system to quickly determine who needs what, and then put patients on the most narrow antibiotic as quickly as possible.”

The researchers are the first to use this rapid screening test to quickly determine if a weak or strong antibiotic is needed. The team will arm hospital pharmacists with this tool to save the strongest antibiotics for the most resistant Staph infections.

Ernst also collaborated with hospital and college partners – including fellow PPS faculty member Mary Schroeder, PhD – to determine the most economical way to treat mild to moderate infections with Clostridium difficile (C. diff): another superbug. The team found that the typical first-line treatment (Metronidazole) is less effective and more expensive than another modern treatment (Vancomycin).

In the past, Ernst completed in vitro and biological studies of antifungal agents, and looked at the effects of drugs on the body or organism.

Ernst has been a leader as well as a member of the SIDP. As a member, she collaborated to recommend future training and certification of pharmacists who practice, mentor, and educate in infectious diseases pharmacotherapy.

Ernst grew up in California. She earned a Doctor of Pharmacy from University of Southern California in 1992, followed by a PGY1 pharmacy practice residency at the USC School of Pharmacy. She completed a two-year Infectious Disease Fellowship at the University of California San Francisco before joining the College of Pharmacy faculty in 1995.

Ernst is married to Michael Ernst, PharmD, a clinical professor in the College of Pharmacy and in the Department of Family Medicine, Carver College of Medicine. They have three children.

Author’s note:
Antibiotics are a type of antimicrobial, and Ernst works at the antimicrobial level. For purposes of readability we use the term “antibiotic” in this article, the layman’s term, although Ernst also works with antiviral and antifungal drugs.

“By using fewer antibiotics, you can lessen the amount of Staphylococcus aureus bacteremia. We’ve worked out a system to quickly determine who needs what, and then put patients on the most narrow antibiotic as quickly as possible.”

ERIKA J. ERNST, PharmD
1. UI President Bruce Harreld and UI College of Pharmacy Dean Don Letendre showed their Hawkeye spirit during a reception in Los Angeles, Calif.


3. KAP Linder, ’81 BSpH, David Linder, and UI College of Public Health Dean Sue Curry attended the Rose Bowl collegiate reception.


5. UI College of Pharmacy alumni and friends gathered for a special pre-Rose Bowl brunch.


7. College of Pharmacy students welcomed UI President Bruce Harreld and Herky the Hawk to the pharmacy booth at Hawkeye Caucus Day. Pictured from L to R: P1 students Mackenzie Meade and Dayton Trent, UI President Bruce Harreld, Herky, and P3 students Marshall Johnson and Jennifer Ross.

8. Audrey Kostrzewa, ’12 PharmD/MPH and her husband, Brian, posed with Don and Louise Letendre, and Jack Kampf, ’09 PharmD/MPH, during a College of Pharmacy event at a Milwaukee Brewers game.


11. Jayne and George Hiller, Molly and John Placko, both ’71 BSpH, Carolyn Bera, ’78 MS, Steve Mullenix, ’74 BSpH, and Anne Mullenix attended a reception hosted at the Arizona home of George and Jayne Hiller.

College of Pharmacy Takes Steps Toward New Facility

The UI College of Pharmacy has been working for years to develop plans for a new physical facility—one that will provide optimal spaces to advance pharmaceutical sciences and educate future pharmacists. While the building isn’t anticipated to be completed until 2019, several advances in the planning process have been made in recent months.

GROUNDBREAKING EVENT SCHEDULED
All alumni and friends of the college are encouraged to attend a groundbreaking event on Sept. 29, 2016. Additional information is available on the college’s website, pharmacy.uiowa.edu.

ARCHITECTS SELECTED
The architectural firm, OPN Architects Inc. has been working with the college since the first concept of the new building began. OPN is a Cedar Rapids-based firm that has provided professional services to private, public, and institutional clients since 1979. OPN architects was chosen by a GBP1 Institutional Architectural Selection Committee and ultimately approved by the Iowa Board of Regents. Notable projects by OPN on the University of Iowa campus include the new Hancher Auditorium, State Hygienic Laboratory, Iowa Writers Workshop addition, University of Iowa Bioventures Center, Old Capitol restoration, and the renovation of the Iowa Memorial Union.

A second architectural firm, S/L/A/M Collaborative, was brought on board specifically for their experience with health-science related buildings, as well as interdisciplinary solutions. Notable projects by S/L/A/M include Malone Hall and Simulation Center at John Hopkins University, School of Medicine Learning Center at Duke University, the School of Medicine and Health Sciences Center at Indiana University, the College of Pharmacy/Biomedical Health Sciences Building at the University of Georgia, and School of Medicine at Emory University.

PREPARING THE LAND
The demolition of the Quadrangle dorm, where the UI College of Pharmacy building will be erected, began in June 2016, and will be completed by the end of October 2016.

UI COLLEGE OF PHARMACY BUILDING CORE COMMITTEE
Dean Donald Letendre has assembled a team to comprise the “core committee.” This committee meets on a regular basis to discuss various aspects of the physical facility. Members of the committee include:

• Donald Letendre, Dean
• Bernard Sorofman, Executive Associate Dean
• Mike Duffel, Associate Dean
• Mike Kelly, Associate Dean
• Jay Currie, Department Chair
• Rob Kerns, Department Chair
• Jeff Reist, Clinical Associate Professor
• Brad Gilchrist, Administrative Services Specialist
• Mundi McCarty, Development Officer
Gift Announcements

A gift has been received from Melissa and John Corrigan of Iowa City. This gift has been designated to support the College of Pharmacy Building Fund. Their gift will name a Skills Room in the Pharmacy Practice Lab. Melissa received her Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy from Drake University and is on the Dean’s Executive Leadership Board for the UI College of Pharmacy.

Class of 1970 Creates Scholarship Fund

The University of Iowa College of Pharmacy class of 1970 has been working to pay it forward to future generations through a class scholarship that is quickly approaching the endowment level of $50,000.

The initial gifts to the fund were from Bob Grimm, ’70 BSPh, and Linda Grimm, of Irvine, Calif., and from Tom Taiber, ’70 BSPh, and Sue Taiber, of Waverly, Iowa. Bob Grimm and Tom Taiber credit the College of Pharmacy with laying the groundwork for their successful careers, and they wanted their graduating class to make a difference in the lives of future pharmacy students. After deciding to establish a class scholarship, the two couples wrote a letter, in early 2013, to the class of 1970, asking for additional contributions to the fund.

Throughout the next few years, 14 members of the class of 1970 contributed to their scholarship fund, which will support education expenses for future UI College of Pharmacy students. The first student will be awarded the scholarship in the 2016-2017 academic year.

All who are interested in contributing to this fund, please contact Mundi McCarty, the University of Iowa Foundation’s director of development for the College of Pharmacy, at mundi-mccarty@uiowa.edu or at (319) 467-3682.

Thank you for supporting the UI College of Pharmacy

So many of our generous alumni and friends have helped transform students’ educational experiences in the University of Iowa College of Pharmacy.

Whether it’s through a first contribution or a 50th consecutive gift, our donors make a real difference for our students, who will go on to enhance health care throughout Iowa and the world. And our supporters’ commitment to excellence is a key factor in the college’s continued success in today’s academic environment.

On behalf of the University of Iowa Foundation and the UI College of Pharmacy, I would like to thank all of our generous alumni and friends who have supported the college, and I encourage others to follow their lead. If you’ve never given to the college before, please consider making a contribution today; every gift, of every size, is important.

By providing regular, sustaining support for the college, alumni and friends like you can bring to life ideas and innovations that will transform health care for us all.

I welcome the opportunity to talk with you about how you can support students in the University of Iowa College of Pharmacy by establishing an ongoing annual gift or a multi-year pledge, or by investing in any other project or area within the college.

To learn more about how private support benefits the UI College of Pharmacy, contact Mundi McCarty, the University of Iowa Foundation’s director of development for the UI College of Pharmacy, or go to www.uifoundation.org/pharmacy.
Alumni Elected to IPA Board

The following UI College of Pharmacy alumni were elected to the 2016-2017 Iowa Pharmacy Association (IPA) Board of Trustees. They were installed into office at the 2016 IPA Annual Meeting on June 17-18, 2016 in West Des Moines.

- President-Elect: Craig Logemann, '88 BSPh
- Trustee-Region 1: Christopher Clayton, '00 PharmD
- Trustee-At Large: Jessica Frank, ’07 PharmD
- Trustee-At Large: Nora Stelter, ’00 PharmD

APhA-APPM Fellows

The American Pharmacists Association (APhA) recognized the 2016 Awards and Honors Program recipients at their Annual Meeting and Exposition in March. Several professionals with ties to the UI College of Pharmacy were selected as Fellows of the Academy of Pharmacy Practice and Management (APhA-APPM):

- Nicole Gattas, ’02 PharmD
- James A. Miller, ’71 BSPh
- Melissa Murer Corrigan, member of the College of Pharmacy Executive Leadership Board

Khouloud A. Alkhamis, ’97 PhD, was recently appointed as a member of board of trustees of a new university that has the name of the Crown Prince, Prince Hussein Bin Abdullah the second. Only two faculty members from Jordan University of Science and Technology were hired for that position.

Christina Baumgart, ’11 PharmD, MPH, is now a clinical pharmacy specialist in PACT- Ambulatory Care at the La Crosse (Wis.) VA Outpatient Clinic. She is also newly-appointed to the Luther College Alumni Council.

Pharmacy Today, the official journal of the American College of Clinical Pharmacy, is planning a special issue, Precision Medicine, to be edited by Vicki Ellingrod (former UI College of Pharmacy faculty), Jeff Bishop, ’03 PharmD, ’06 MS, and Lindsay DeVane. This issue is anticipated to include original research, review articles, and perspectives that focus on precision medicine and related topics—including, but not limited to, pharmacogenomics and clinical implementation of precision medicine approaches related to drug therapy, as well as clinical pharmacology implications of epigenomics, metabolomics, and proteomics.

Randy McDonough, ’87 BSPh, ’97 MS, ’00 PharmD, was recently featured in an article in Pharmacy Times, highlighting the work done by Towncrest Pharmacy to make clinical interventions a priority. McDonough is an adjunct professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, as well as co-owner and director of Clinical Services at Towncrest Pharmacy in Iowa City.

Nicole Naccara, ’15 PharmD, was recently featured in an article on the University of Southern California (USC) School of Pharmacy website. The article discussed USC’s fellowship programs, including the USC-Allergan Pharmaceutical Industry Fellowship Program. Naccara is a USC-Allergan fellow for the 2015-2016 school year.

Wes Pilkington, ’11 PharmD, was interviewed and quoted in APhA’s Pharmacy Today May 2016 issue. The article is about the Iowa Pharmacy Association pilot project in conjunction with the Iowa Department of Health and Telligen on the usage of the Iowa Health Information Network (IHIN) within community pharmacies.
Richard Hahn, ‘76 BSPh, ’79 MS, passed away on Jan. 25, 2015, in Centennial, Colo. Hahn spent his pharmacy career in hospitals in different capacities from staff to director. He retired from the Multum Information Services as a Research Associate.

Lucy Olson, ‘60 BSPh, passed away on Oct. 19, 2015, in Fort Dodge, Iowa. Olson and her husband Dean operated Olson Pharmacy in Webster City, Iowa, until their retirement in 1992. She also served as Pharmacy Director for Hamilton County Hospital for approximately 20 years. Olson was the mother of Patricia (Olson) Motto, ’75 BSPh, and Donna (Olson) Roberts, ’86 BSPh.

Robert Niccolls Straw, ’65 MS, ’67 PhD, passed away on Feb. 8, 2015, in Kalamazoo, Mich. Upon completing his PhD, Straw worked for the Upjohn Company, where he played key roles in the development of several highly successful medicines, including preclinical, clinical and post-marketing responsibilities. He authored and coauthored numerous articles for a multitude of professional journals and was active in several professional organizations.
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!

Kevin Chanez, ’02 PharmD, and his wife, Amy, welcomed their daughter Gwyneth Ann on April 3, 2015.


Josh Davis, ’06 PharmD, and his wife, Emmy, welcomed their daughter Maeli Annalyn on Oct. 9, 2014. She was 7 pounds, 3 ounces, and measured 20.5 inches long.

Katelyn Michaela Weber was born to Lindsey Weber, ’08 PharmD and her husband, Josh, on March 19, 2015. She weighed 9 pounds, 10 ounces, and was 22 inches long. Katelyn joins sister Brooklyn.

Matt Witry, ’08 PharmD, ’13 PhD, and his wife, Sarah, welcomed their daughter Margaret Lucille on Jan. 1, 2016. She weighed 7 pounds, 14 ounces, and was 22.5 inches long.

Ann Ungerma, ’09 PharmD, and her husband Michael, welcomed twin daughters Adeline Rose and Jillian Jean on Nov. 1, 2015. Adeline was 5 pounds, 4 ounces, and 18.75 inches long. Jillian was 5 pounds, 2 ounces, and 18 inches long.

Rachel Skoff, ’10 PharmD, and her husband, Ryan, welcomed daughter Andrea Jo on Nov. 20, 2015. She was 8 pounds, 1.6 ounces, and was 21 inches long.

Katelyn joins sister Brooklyn.
Colleen Losey, ’10 PharmD, and her husband, Adam, welcomed their daughter Eleanor Irene on July 14, 2015. She weighed 8 pounds, 9.9 ounces, and measured 20.5 inches long.

Cecilia Marie Kraayenbrink was born to Emma Kraayenbrink, ’12 PharmD, ’13 R, and her husband, Micah, on Aug. 16, 2015. She weighed 6 pounds, 12 ounces, and was 20.5 inches long.

Jessica Ewert, ’13 PharmD, and her husband, Joe, welcomed their daughter Madelyn Grace on Sept. 7, 2015. She weighed 6 pounds, 2 ounces, and was 19.25 inches long.

Kareem Atef Nassar Ebeid, PhD candidate, and his wife, Mariam, welcomed their daughter Maria on Oct. 24, 2015.

UI Pharmaceuticals employee, Jason Foster, and his wife Amy, welcomed a daughter Faye Lynn on March 31, 2015. She was 6 pounds, 19.75 inches long.

UI Pharmaceuticals employee, Shaina Cretsinger, and her husband, John, welcomed Ayden Jeffry on Dec. 16, 2015.

Caitlin Reinking, ’13 PharmD, and her husband, Jordan, welcomed their son Wyatt James on Feb. 6, 2016.

Jonathan Smith, ’13 PharmD, and his wife, Natalie, welcomed their daughter Hannah Faith on Aug. 2, 2015. She weighed 8 pounds, 14 ounces.

Bret Francis, ’14 PharmD, and his wife, Whitney, welcomed their son Ezra Dean on Dec. 10, 2015. He weighed 8 pounds, 6 ounces, and was 20.5 inches long.
In January 2016, Jeanine Abrons, clinical assistant professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, traveled to Roseau, Dominica. Her visit served many purposes, but mostly centered around strengthening a special partnership with Jolly’s Pharmacy, one of the largest private community pharmacies in Dominica.

Gail Ardery, research manager in the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, was selected as the Distinguished Research Administrator for 2016. The award is presented by the University of Iowa Office of the Vice President for Research and Economic Development and recognizes outstanding administrative efforts in direct support of research.

Torrey Puncochar, PharmD student, has received the highly sought-after Stanley Award for International Research for her project, “The Impact of Economic Depression on the Practice of Pharmacy in Thessaloniki, Greece.”

The Stanley Award for International Research is given annually to outstanding University of Iowa students for the pursuit of learning activities in international studies that are not available on the UI campus. Awards are made to students who have, in close consultation with faculty members, developed well-conceived, small-scale independent research or fieldwork projects on international topics, which require travel abroad.

Puncochar is in the UI Global Health Certificate Program and a fourth-year College of Liberal Arts and Sciences student, as well as a second-year PharmD student.

Shiny Parsai, a 2016 Doctor of Pharmacy graduate, was selected as the Walmart/Pharmacy Times RESPy Award Winner for January. The RESPy Award program is designed to recognize pharmacy students nationwide for extraordinary humanitarian work in the community.

Vern Duba, MA, clinical assistant professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science and Instructional Services Specialist in the Office of Academic Affairs, was elected Chair-Elect of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy Section of Library and Information Science. The term is a four-year commitment, first as secretary, then chair-elect, followed by chair, and immediate past chair.

Jeffrey Reist, ’82 BSPh, PharmD, clinical associate professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, was elected chair of the Iowa Pharmacy Recovery Network (IPRN). The IPRN is a statewide monitoring and advocacy peer-review program administered by the Iowa Pharmacy Association for the purpose of assisting impaired pharmacists, pharmacy students, and pharmacy technicians, whose dependency and/or disability is potentially threatening to professional performance and public safety.

The article “Perioperative Bridging Anticoagulation in Patients with Atrial Fibrillation,” from a recent issue of the New England Journal of Medicine, mentions the University of Iowa Pharmaceuticals as preparing a subcutaneous placebo injection for their study. While the University of Iowa Pharmaceuticals manufactures clinical supplies for a large number of clients, it is rare to get acknowledgement in publications. The study was selected as one of the top 10 cardiovascular research advances in 2015.
Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy members Panagiota Terzis, Rochelle Yang, Susan Voong, and Nicholas Kayser were selected as semi-finalists in the 2016 AMCP Foundation Pharmacy and Therapeutic Competition.

Jasmine Mangrum, PharmD student, was recently accepted into the Summer 2016 Minority Health and Health Disparities International Research and Training program, which is administered by the Center for International Rural and Environmental Health at the University of Iowa. She will be doing research at the Cluj College of Public Health in Romania.

Kawther Ahmed, graduate student in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Experimental Therapeutics, won first place in the University of Iowa Graduate College’s 2016 Three Minute Thesis (3MT) competition during the Annual James F. Jakobsen Graduate Conference on March 26. She was also awarded the People’s Choice Award for her work, “Engineered Cancer Vaccine.”

Pharmaceutics and Translational Therapeutics graduate student Namita Sawant won first prize in the podium presentation at the UI Graduate College’s Annual James F. Jakobsen Graduate Conference. Her project was titled, “Evaluation of the Performance of Nasal Sprays in Pediatric Patients.”

Megan Engel, a PGY1 Community Pharmacy Resident at Osterhaus Pharmacy in Maquoketa, Iowa, received an APhA Foundation Incentive for her proposal, “Impact of Community-Based A1c Screening and Lifestyle Education on Patients At-Risk for Diabetes in a Rural Area.”

The UI College of Pharmacy’s Division of Medicinal and Natural Products Chemistry hosted the 54th Annual MIKI Medicinal Chemistry Meeting in Iowa City on April 8-10. MIKI is a student-organized, student-run symposium that brings together over 200 graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, and faculty members of the Medicinal Chemistry programs at the Universities of Minnesota, Illinois at Chicago, Kansas, and Iowa (MIKI). This year, the keynote address was dedicated to a founding member of the MIKI conference and a former University of Iowa College of Pharmacy faculty member, Joseph D. Cannon. Cannon’s wife, Lynne, was present and received a plaque of appreciation from Robert Kerns, Chair of the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Experimental Therapeutics (pictured above).
UNIVERSITY OF IOWA
COLLEGE OF PHARMACY
OPERATION IMMUNIZATION

Total number of events held in 2015-2016:

46

Total number of vaccinations provided in 2015-2016:

3,066

IN THE SPOTLIGHT
What specific immunizations do you provide?
Effective Sept. 1, 2013, the state of Iowa allows pharmacists and pharmacy students to administer all CDC-approved vaccines/travel vaccines pursuant to a protocol arranged with a physician. This year, Operation Immunization was able to provide a variety of vaccinations to the public. The most common vaccines administered included influenza, pneumonia, tetanus, and shingles. This year was unique due to the recent mumps outbreak at the University of Iowa, where student pharmacists were recruited to administer the MMR (measles-mumps-rubella) vaccine to college students.

Why is it important that pharmacists are able to provide immunizations?
Routine vaccination is a public health obligation. High accessibility of pharmacists and student pharmacists in the community allow us to play a major role in providing patients proper immunization education, ensuring higher immunization rates, and decreasing the incidence of vaccine-preventable diseases. Pharmacists also have access to the Iowa Immunization Registry Information System (IRIS), which allows us to access a patient’s vaccination history and administer multiple vaccines simultaneously (if needed). Currently, 30 states grant student pharmacists the ability to provide immunizations to patients as well. Not only is it important for pharmacists to provide immunizations, it is equally important to provide appropriate educational resources in order to maintain immunization rates and spread awareness.

How are pharmacy students trained in administering immunizations?
Student pharmacist immunization training is an extensive 16-week educational and practice based program that provides students with the skills necessary to become champions of vaccine advocacy, education, and administration. First, students learn the basics of immunology and how it is applied to life-threatening diseases. Next, we study proper vaccine administration and storage conditions. Lastly, we must practice immunization techniques by administering saline-based immunizations to practice dummies and then to other student pharmacists under the supervision of the College of Pharmacy faculty.

Why were you drawn to this student organization?
As part of the healthcare team, pharmacists and pharmacy students want to make a positive impact on their patients and the community. The controversy over vaccinations is one area where we can use our expertise and knowledge for education and ultimately decrease the spread of vaccine-preventable diseases. We wanted to take the time to learn both sides of the argument and use our communication skills to spread awareness about the misconceptions surrounding vaccines. We knew that if we were passionate and enthusiastic about this project, it would motivate ourselves and other student pharmacists to reach out to the community and make an impact on as many people as possible.

How will being involved in Operation Immunization make you a better pharmacist?
Operation Immunization is unique in the sense that vaccines are much more controversial with the public, so it has taught us how to approach difficult circumstances with an open mind and develop effective communication skills to provide teaching and education. There will be many times in our professional careers as pharmacists that we may have different opinions than a physician, patient, or another pharmacist. However, the skills we have developed from this project will allow us to address the issue by communicating in a professional and respectable manner to reach a positive outcome.
UPCOMING EVENTS

August 20
White Coat Ceremony
Marriott Hotel and Conference Center, Coralville

September 29
Osterhaus Symposium and Alumni Awards Ceremony
Old Capitol Senate Chambers, University of Iowa, Iowa City

College of Pharmacy Building Groundbreaking
University of Iowa, Iowa City

September 30
Alumni, Family, and Friends Celebration
Sheraton Hotel, Iowa City

October 1
Homecoming Tailgate and Football Game
University of Iowa, Iowa City

November 11
Dean’s Appreciation Dinner
University Club, Iowa City

Keep in touch with the College of Pharmacy
Be sure to keep your contact information up to date with the College of Pharmacy for all the latest news and events. Don’t forget to share your personal and professional news as well!

Email us:
pharmacy-alumni@uiowa.edu

Use our website:
pharmacy.uiowa.edu/alumni-friends/keep-touch

Call us:
319-335-8348

In the Next Issue
The College of Pharmacy has made great strides this year. The next issue of HawkScripts will be a special issue to include the 2016 Annual Report!

Read about how we are
• Discovering and growing together,
• Building excellence, and
• Achieving outcomes that matter