Johnsrud Receives Osterhaus Award
Entrepreneur Celebrated for Contributions to Pharmacy
Dear Friends,

Last fall, I had the pleasure of awarding TJ Johnsrud, ’66 BSPh, our college’s fifth-ever Osterhaus Medal for Lifetime Achievement (page 2). If I had one word to describe TJ, it would be “entrepreneur.” TJ and Bob O., the award’s namesake, have each taken on the risk of business ownership and development.

Each has also gone beyond that dictionary definition of an entrepreneur to transform pharmacy practice and patient care. Each identified a need in their profession and drew upon their unique strengths to fill it. They are innovators and change agents.

That larger spirit of entrepreneurism lives large among all of our pharmacy family. In fact, it makes us a force to be reckoned with.

In this issue, we spotlight the research of Rob Kerns, ’96 PhD. Rob is a professor and heads our division of Medicinal and Natural Products Chemistry. Within his scientific area, he is often searching for a needle in a haystack that could mean a new drug is discovered or developed. He relishes the challenge and sees each failure in the lab as another step taken on the path to success. That’s also the entrepreneurial spirit (page 14).

On page 24, Steve Mullenix, ’74 BSPh, and Jim Otterbeck, two more leaders and entrepreneurs are profiled. Each has developed unique approaches to problems that exist on a grand scale. Each is energized through the connections they’ve made with other Executive Leadership Board members. Each has blazed a unique, bold path that truly improves patients’ lives.

This issue also honors our University of Iowa Pharmaceuticals (UIP) division, which celebrated 40 years of manufacturing using Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) regulations in 2014. The hardworking folks in that service division are keeping us competitive in the ever-evolving and challenging pharmaceutical industry (page 8).

Finally, thank you to all of you. I appreciate your collective drive to bring the pharmacy profession to new heights. The profession, and the world, is better having you in it.

Professionally yours,

Don
Donald E. Letendre
Dean and Professor
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ENTREPRENEUR CELEBRATED FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO PHARMACY

Johnsrud Receives Osterhaus Award

“As long as we keep the patient in the middle of whatever strategy we employ as pharmacists, we will succeed.”

TJ Johnsrud
TJ Johnsrud received the 2014 Osterhaus Medal for Lifetime Achievement — the fifth ever given — in an October symposium.

Johnsrud, ’66 BSPh, is the founder and president of NuCara Management Group, Inc., headquartered in Conrad, Iowa. The medal is the college’s pinnacle award, honoring those who have advanced the pharmacy profession in profound ways, or made substantial strides in drug development or drug discovery. The award’s namesake, Robert Osterhaus, ’52 BSPh, is the former owner of the forward-thinking Osterhaus Pharmacy in Maquoketa, Iowa. Dean Donald Letendre called Johnsrud a change agent who challenges the status quo; a mentor and friend to many. “One word in my mind summarizes TJ,” said Letendre, “Entrepreneur.”

When Johnsrud started his career, pharmacists operated differently than today.

“I was told by some of my peers that it was unprofessional to put the name of the medicine on the prescription bottle or to talk with the patient about their medicine,” he said. “Look at the progress over the last forty-some years.”

Johnsrud began his career as a pharmacist in Cedar Rapids, before moving to Conrad, Iowa, to launch Conrad Pharmacy. He added locations, new specialties and branded the whole company “NuCara” in 2004.

Currently, the NuCara Management Group and Dakota Drug co-own and oversee pharmacy locations in Iowa, Illinois, Minnesota, North Dakota and Texas. NuCara offers community pharmacy practice, as well as home medical equipment, specialty pharmacy, and respiratory services. It is an industry leader in sterile and non-sterile compounding, developing patent-ready formulations.

“NuCara survived chiefly because of building relationships and having good people step forward at key times in the history of the company,” Johnsrud said at the symposium.

Johnsrud called Osterhaus a mentor and good friend. “The test of good ideas in pharmacy is that if it is decided on Bob and Ann’s porch, it can be done,” he added. “Many ideas have been spawned on that porch that are significant in pharmacy today.”

It was there that a new model of pharmacy practice of enhanced patient care was discussed that began being piloted across Iowa in seven community pharmacies in summer of 2014, including four of NuCara’s. The model allows a technician to check another technician in dispensing while the pharmacist focuses on the patient.

Johnsrud has relied upon the solid foundation the college has offered him.

He added: “As long as we keep the patient in the middle of whatever strategy we employ as pharmacists, we will succeed.”
During the 2014 University of Iowa Homecoming celebration, College of Pharmacy alumni and friends gathered to celebrate the accomplishments of their peers during the annual Alumni Recognition Dinner.

This year’s celebration honored Distinguished, Honorary Alumni, and Genesis Award recipients.

2014 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD RECIPIENTS

Dennis M. Erb, ’84 PhD

Dennis M. Erb joined Merck in January 1984 as a Senior Research Scientist in Pharmaceutical Research & Development, Merck Research Laboratories (MRL).

In his 30 years at Merck, Erb has broadened his experience with assignments of increasing responsibility in Project Planning and Management (MRL), Pharmaceutical Engineering & Technical Sciences (Merck Manufacturing) and Worldwide Regulatory Affairs (MRL). From 2008 to 2012, Erb led the Japan Clinical and Regulatory Development organization responsible for strategic development and implementation of clinical research, scientific leadership and product registration in Japan.

In September 2012, Erb returned to the U.S. and was appointed to his current position leading the Global Regulatory Affairs organization. In this capacity he has responsibility for all strategic and operational aspects of Merck’s regulatory activities worldwide. His scope of responsibilities also includes leadership of the worldwide product safety organization and clinical development activities in China.

Erb received his PhD in Pharmaceutics from the University of Iowa College of Pharmacy in 1984 and his BSPh from the University of Connecticut College of Pharmacy in 1979.
Stephen Mullenix, ‘74 BSPh

Steve Mullenix joined the National Council for Prescription Drug Programs in 2009 and currently serves as senior vice president of public policy and industry relations.

Mullenix previously served as director of professional and trade relations for Covidien/ Mallinckrodt Pharmaceuticals. He also served as vice president of Managed Care and Professional Services during a ten year period with the national pharmacy franchise organization, Medicap Pharmacies, Inc. He is the former executive vice president of the national drug utilization review and pharmacy consulting company, Q-A, Inc. and vice president and chief operating officer for the Iowa Pharmacy Association and its for-profit subsidiary, PNI.

Mullenix has been an active member of numerous state, national and international pharmacy organizations including the Iowa Pharmacy Association, the American Pharmacists Association, the National Community Pharmacists Association, the American Society of Health System Pharmacists, the National Association of Chain Drug Stores, the National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations, the Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy, the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists, the American Society of Association Executives, and the International Pharmacy Federation.

Mullenix has served in a number of elected positions and appointments during his professional career. Currently, he serves on leadership and advisory boards at the Colleges of Pharmacy for both the University of Iowa and the University of Arkansas. He is also a member of the national Health Information Technology Collaborative Board and its Health Information Technology Steering Committee and is a member of the board for the Iowa Prescription Drug Corporation.

Mullenix represents the National Council Prescription Drug Programs in the areas of public policy, and professional and industry relations both nationally and internationally.
2014 HONORARY ALUMNI AWARD RECIPIENTS

James Otterbeck, ’83 BBA

Jim Otterbeck is the chairman of OnePoint Patient Care, the largest independently owned hospice pharmacy services provider. In November 2005, Mr. Otterbeck acquired Professional Pharmacy (a Tempe, Arizona-based hospice pharmacy). Professional Pharmacy was renamed OnePoint Patient Care, LLC, and has since expanded to nine locations and captured approximately 10 percent share of the rapidly-expanding hospice specialty care pharmacy market. OnePoint is the only major provider offering clinical expertise, custom compounding, and same-day delivery to hospice patients from all of its dispensing locations.

Mr. Otterbeck began his career at IBM before transitioning to AT&T prior to attending business school. After joining Gemini Consulting post graduate school and becoming the managing partner of Gemini’s technology practice in Europe, Otterbeck founded The VenCom Group, a focused private equity investment company. While at VenCom, Mr. Otterbeck established several technology companies returning over 300 percent to minority investors. After the sale of its largest holding, OnePoint Communications, to Verizon in August of 2000, Mr. Otterbeck assumed the role of Senior Vice President - Broadband with Verizon until 2002.

After receiving his Bachelor of Business Administration in decision sciences from the University of Iowa in 1983, Mr. Otterbeck attended Northwestern University where he received his Master of Business Administration in economics and marketing from the J.L. Kellogg Graduate School of Management in 1989.

Robert Greenwood ’77, BSPh

Bob J. Greenwood of Waterloo is a dedicated leader in the pharmacy profession and his community.

Greenwood — a graduate of Omaha’s Creighton University School of Pharmacy and Health Professions — is a pharmacist, pharmacy owner, and longtime Waterloo City Council member. Greenwood and his wife, Chery, own three pharmacies: Greenwood Drug in Waterloo; Denver Drug in Denver, Iowa; and Greenwood’s Compounding Center in Waterloo. They are also partners in two other practices: Martin Health Services Pharmacy in Denver, Iowa; and Reinbeck Pharmacy in Reinbeck, Iowa.

Greenwood is actively involved in health care issues on local, state, and national levels. He is currently a member of and President-Elect of the Iowa Pharmacy Association (IPA). He has served as an officer and director for the National Community Pharmacists Association (NCPA), and as its president in 2010-11. Greenwood is a member of the APhA.

He has received two prestigious awards by the pharmacy profession: The Bowl of Hygeia in 2011 from the IPA, and the Hubert H. Humphrey award from the American Pharmacists Association (APhA) in 2013. He recently received an Alumni Merit award from Creighton. Greenwood is an adjunct professor and preceptor at both our college and Creighton University, where he also serves on the Dean’s advisory committee.
2014 GENESIS AWARD RECIPIENTS

Kuberan Balagurunathan, '00 PhD
Kuby Balagurunathan received his BSc in Chemistry from St. Joseph’s College, Trichy, India and MSc from the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras, before receiving his PhD from the University of Iowa in Medicinal & Natural Products Chemistry in 2000. His graduate advisor was Robert J. Linhardt. After obtaining his doctoral degree, Balagurunathan completed postdoctoral training at MIT with Robert D. Rosenberg in the Department of Biology.

In 2004, Balagurunathan began his independent scientific and academic career as Assistant Professor of Medicinal Chemistry in the College of Pharmacy at The University of Utah, where he established his research program at the intersection of chemistry and biology. Currently, he is a tenured Professor of Medicinal Chemistry and Adjunct Professor of Bioengineering. He is also a participating faculty member in the Interdepartmental Program in Neuroscience and Biological Chemistry.

While in the College of Pharmacy at The University of Utah, Balagurunathan has received the Teacher of the Year Award twice. He serves on a wide variety of other teaching and mentoring committees, and he has been the primary advisor to 11 graduate degree students, eight postdoctoral fellows, 20 undergraduate researchers, three high school students and several other visiting scientists or various research associates.

Nora Stelter, '00 PharmD
Nora Stelter, PharmD, is an Associate Professor, Pharmacy Practice, and Coordinator, Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experiences (IPPE) at Drake University College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences.

In her current role, she delivers education and wellness programs to senior citizens at senior centers in Polk County and serves as a preceptor for introductory and advanced pharmacy practice experiences at her site. She also coordinates IPPEs for third year student pharmacists. Stelter also enjoys dedicating her time as a chapter advisor for the American Pharmacists Association Academy of Student Pharmacists at Drake. In addition, she serves as a member of the Collaborative Education Institute to develop quality, innovative continuing professional development programs for pharmacists and technicians.

Prior to her current academic career, Stelter spent eight years at the National Association of Chain Drug Stores (NACDS) where her most recent position was Director of Education and Training where she developed pharmacy education and training programs for chain pharmacists and managed all student programs.

Stelter is a Chicago-area native who earned her Doctor of Pharmacy degree at the University of Iowa in 2000. In addition to her responsibilities at Drake, Stelter works as a relief pharmacist at an area chain pharmacy.
While the origins of the University of Iowa Pharmaceuticals—or UIP—can be traced as far back as 1905, it was in 1974 that the facility took on the role of a contract pharmaceutical services provider to external clients.

In 1974, UIP was formally registered with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and began producing clinical materials that were compliant with current Good Manufacturing Practices (cGMP). The 40-year milestone reached in 2014 is an accomplishment few other university-based pharmaceutical manufacturers can claim.

UIP Director Mick Wells, ’87 BSPh, ’90 PhD, attributed the facility’s success to each employee’s hard work and experience and his predecessors’ forward-thinking leadership.

“They did an excellent job growing UIP and were fiscally responsible enough to save money for a rainy day,” he said.

“Anyone with enough money can buy equipment and facilities, but one must have excellent staff to complete the picture,” Wells added.

“Nimble, cost-competitive and fully compliant”

UIP Director of Business Development Randy Yeates, ’86 RPh, ’98 MBA, feels UIP’s unique success stems from effectively challenging the belief that university-run operations are slow, expensive and don’t adhere to all appropriate practices.

“We are very nimble, cost-competitive and fully compliant with cGMPs,” said Yeates.

“It helped that UIP transitioned to providing contract services over a long time period, rather than starting from scratch,” he added.

The University of Iowa College of Pharmacy Drug Service started manufacturing, rather than simply dispensing, medications for the University’s hospital in 1928. In the early 1960s, the division began to expand, changing its name to the College of Pharmacy Division of Pharmaceutical Service. By 1974, it gained its first non-UI client, the National Cancer Institute.

UIP — A MEETING OF THE MINDS

The division’s current name came out of the 2008 merger of the Division of Pharmaceutical Service and the Center for Advanced Drug Development, formed in 1992 to offer contract analytical services to non-UI clients.

Wells is most proud of the drugs the service division has helped its clients develop to combat human illness and disease.
Yeates recalled a particularly rewarding project the facility worked on with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to help a small town in Haiti. In that community, one in five people carried the parasite that causes elephantiasis, a condition characterized by severe enlargement of a part of the body, especially the limbs. Research revealed that when the subject population cooked with a special salt containing diethylcarbamazine citrate, essentially all evidence of the parasite was eliminated within three months, according to Yeates.

FILLING A NICHE
“UIP fills a critical niche in the contract pharmaceutical development and manufacturing arena,” said Wells. “While UIP works for clients that span from virtual companies to large pharmaceutical companies, most of our clients are small companies. These small businesses cannot receive the same speed of response or interest in their needs from large contract manufacturers.”

UIP also is of great use to other universities.

“We are a unique resource to other research universities because we provide a source for clinical trial materials manufacturing,” said Yeates. “Typically larger contract pharmaceutical services companies are not really very interested in working with university researchers conducting small clinical trials. We routinely have researchers call us who have been struggling to find someone willing to talk with them about producing their materials.”

CURRENTLY IN THE HOPPER
At any given time, UIP is busy working on 40 to 50 different projects. One current project involves a new molecular entity to treat chronic liver disease.

“This drug is on the fast track to becoming the next commercial, prescription drug product that UIP has been involved with for a client,” said Wells.

Other current projects include development of an adjunct therapy for the treatment of various cancers and commercial production of a topical gel used to treat a rare form of cancer.

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The University of Iowa Pharmaceuticals Timeline

**1905** University of Iowa College of Pharmacy dispenses medication for use in the UI Hospital. It also makes non-drug products like flavorings and soaps.

**1928** The University of Iowa College of Pharmacy Drug Service is created and begins manufacturing drug products for the UI Hospital.

**Early 1960s** The Drug Service expands and changes its name to the College of Pharmacy Division of Pharmaceutical Service.

**1974** The division becomes registered with the FDA, gains current Good Manufacturing Practices (cGMP) compliance and signs on its first non-university client—the National Cancer Institute (NCI), with whom it gains their Parenteral Dosage Forms Contract.

**Early 1990s** Pharmaceutical Service starts working with a major generic drug manufacturing company to produce low-cost generic versions of commonly utilized anti-cancer drugs. It also obtains the NCI’s Solid Oral Dosage Forms Contract.

**1993** The Center for Advanced Drug Development is formed to offer contract analytical services to clients outside the University of Iowa.

**1998** An extensive relationship begins with a major drug company to produce a unique life-extending anti-cancer drug to fight brain cancer.

**2008** The Center for Advanced Drug Development and Pharmaceutical Service merge to form The University of Iowa Pharmaceuticals (UIP).

**2009** UIP forges an informal partnership with the University of Rochester Clinical Materials Unit.

**2014** UIP marks 40 years as a cGMP-compliant drug product manufacturer and analytical services provider.
“I teach students to always seek to improve themselves.”

Susan S. Vos, PharmD, BCPS
Susan S. Vos, PharmD, BCPS, clinical associate professor and director of the Professional Experience Program, was recognized as the University of Iowa College of Pharmacy Collegiate Teacher of the Year for the 2013-2014 academic year.

After graduating from the University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy in 2003, Vos completed a Pharmacy Practice Residency in Memphis, Tenn. and a Pediatric Specialty Residency in Charleston, S.C. before joining the faculty at the University of Iowa College of Pharmacy.

“I was inspired to teach because of the wonderful faculty at the University of Tennessee and the Pediatric Residency Preceptors at the Medical University of South Carolina,” Vos said. “Seeing faculty run around the classroom to get students’ attention, witnessing the devotion of the preceptors who stayed after hours at the hospital because a patient needed them, or hearing the personal stories of patients from faculty who knew them well — these are some of the fond memories that made it easy to decide to become a faculty member.”

Vos has held leadership roles with the American Pharmacists Association, American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy, the Iowa Pharmacy Association, and has been a member of the Pediatric Pharmacy Advocacy Group and maintained board certification in pharmacotherapy. As the APhA-ASP chapter advisor, she works hands-on to mentor students and foster leadership skills. “The ability to leave a legacy to student pharmacists is what continues to make the most tremendous impact on my life as a teacher,” she said.

Vos focuses her classroom teaching on pediatrics and pharmacy practice. She co-coordinates a pediatrics elective course and the first module in a series of Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experiences and teaches in various therapeutics modules related to pediatrics. She serves as a preceptor for students and residents in the Pediatric Pulmonary and Allergy Clinic at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics and for a global health experience in Punta Gorda, Belize.

“I teach students to always seek to improve themselves,” she said. “I think students also need to find time to do what they love — whether it is spending time with family and friends, involvement in sports, traveling, or volunteerism. My goal is to help students succeed in the classroom and in their careers, but most importantly, in life.”
The following faculty members were recognized with class awards.

**John Swegle, P3 Teacher of the Year**

John Swegle, clinical associate professor of Pharmacy Practice and Science, is the clinical pharmacist for the Mercy Family Medicine Residency in Mason City. The residency program is affiliated with Mercy Medical Center-North Iowa and serves as a teaching center for students from different disciplines, including medicine, nursing and pharmacy. Swegle also serves as a preceptor for pharmacy students and pharmacy practice residents. In addition, he is a consultant pharmacist for Hospice of North Iowa and a faculty member for the Mercy Medical Center-North Iowa Palliative Medicine Fellowship. He is a 1996 graduate of the UI College of Pharmacy, and currently serves as president of the Iowa Pharmacy Association.

**Gary Milavetz, P2 Teacher of the Year**

Gary Milavetz received his Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy and Doctor of Pharmacy from the University of Minnesota. After completing a clinical pharmacy fellowship in pediatric respiratory diseases, he was appointed to the faculty of the University of Iowa College of Pharmacy. Currently, he is an associate professor of pharmacy and head of the Applied Clinical Sciences Division in the Department of Professional Practice and Science. He is also a clinical pharmacist in the Allergy and Pulmonary Division of the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics. He sees patients and directs senior pharmacy clerkship students at the Pediatric Allergy and Pulmonary Clinics. Milavetz guides professional and graduate student learning in respiratory therapeutics and pediatric pharmacotherapy topics. His research has focused on pediatric and respiratory pharmacotherapeutics in the past and most recently in improving the understanding the effects of drugs on driving performance.

**DJ Murry, P1 Teacher of the Year**

DJ Murry is an associate professor and director of the Analytical Laboratory at the University of Iowa College of Pharmacy. He received his Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy from the University of Iowa in 1987, and then completed an American Society of Health-Systems Pharmacists accredited residency in Hospital Pharmacy. He returned to Iowa to complete his Doctor of Pharmacy in 1991 and then completed a three-year fellowship in Pharmacokinetics at St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital in Memphis. Murry has held faculty appointments at Baylor College of Medicine and Purdue University. He currently serves as course co-coordinator and instructor for Introduction to Clinical Pharmacogenomics and instructor for Clinical Pharmacokinetics, Pharmacology, and Pharmaceutics in the PharmD curriculum. Murry is course director and lecturer for Introduction to Pharmaceutical Sciences Research, course co-coordinator and lecturer for Clinical Pharmacogenomics and Principles of Experimental Therapeutics and lecturer for Quantitative Research Methods and Applied Clinical and Translational Science.
The following preceptors were recognized for excellence in teaching and mentoring students.

**IPPE Preceptor: Craig Clark, Clark’s Health Mart Pharmacy, Cedar Rapids**
Craig Clark is the pharmacist and owner of Clark’s Health Mart Pharmacy in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. He received his Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy from the University of Iowa College of Pharmacy in 1978. Upon earning his degree, Clark took a position as a staff pharmacist at the Northwest Medical Clinic Pharmacy, then worked as a staff pharmacist at Paramount Pharmacy before opening Clark’s Pharmacy in 1980. His pharmacy has been a rotation site for the community pharmacy pharmaceutical care rotation since 1995, and he has been an adjunct professor for the college since 1997. Clark is a member of the Iowa Pharmacists Association and the National Community Pharmacists Association. The Discovery Living Service Agency named him Pharmacist of the Year in 2006. In June 2014, Clark was awarded the Bowl of Hygeia Award.

**APPE Preceptor: Matt Porepp, University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, Iowa City**
Mathew Porepp is an acute care clinical pharmacist at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, a position he has held since 2008. He is the primary clinical pharmacist serving the cardiothoracic surgery/cardiology/vascular surgery unit. Recently, Porepp served as interim director of pharmacy at Marengo Memorial Hospital from February to May 2014. Additionally, he is an educator responsible for training UIHC clinical pharmacists to the Computer Programs and Systems (CPSI) computer system, which serves Keokuk Area Hospital. Porepp earned his Doctor of Pharmacy from Drake University in 2008.

**Faculty Preceptor: Mike Farley, Mercy Hospital, Iowa City**
T. Michael Farley is a clinical assistant professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science at the University of Iowa College of Pharmacy. He also serves as a clinical pharmacy specialist on the hospitalist team at Mercy Hospital in Iowa City. Farley was a 2007 graduate of the University of Iowa College of Pharmacy, completed a PGY1 pharmacy residency at St. Claire Regional Medical Center in Morehead, Ky., and a PGY2 internal medicine pharmacy residency at the University of Kentucky Chandler Medical Center in Lexington, Ky. Following his residencies, Farley stayed in Kentucky, serving as a clinical pharmacist and residency preceptor at St. Claire, before returning to Iowa in 2010. His research interests are focused on pharmacist-physician collaboration in the community hospital environment. In this work, he studies pharmacist involvement in medication reconciliation, anti-coagulation, and general internal medicine.
“They were designed as antibiotics. And they were awful as antibiotics. But our collaborators found that they killed cancer cells.”

Robert J. Kerns, Professor and Head of the Division of Medicinal and Natural Products Chemistry
Robert J. Kerns is a medicinal chemist at heart.

Kerns is Professor and Head of the Division of Medicinal and Natural Products Chemistry (MNPC) in the department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Experimental Therapeutics (PSET). He received a PhD from the MNPC division in 1996. He returned in 2002, after being a postdoctoral fellow at Princeton University, and a faculty member at Wayne State University in Detroit.

Kerns currently leads MNPC graduate student recruiting, and students help carry out research in his laboratory. He tells graduate students: “Find the lab where the science winds you up. Because if it doesn’t, it’s going to be a long haul.”

Medicinal chemistry is what winds up Kerns, a native of Edgewood, Iowa. He tinkers with molecules in the quest to make them work – or work better – as drugs.

Kerns collaborates with other scientists including microbiologists, biochemists, pharmacologists and others. Current collaborators are from the University of Iowa, Johns Hopkins, Vanderbilt, Rutgers and the University of Minnesota. Kerns’ research programs have received financial support from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Department of Defense, American Cancer Society, and American Heart Association.

Kerns’ multidisciplinary team draws upon his unique expertise. Someone may have a biologically-active molecule that has promising properties and might be useful as a drug. Kerns will size up the molecule’s chemical structure, then make a call about its future. Many an excited colleague has presented him with a natural product or molecule that appears to effectively combat a disease or have a desired activity ... in a petri dish or test tube. But often, the molecules are simply not compatible for use as a drug in people. The challenge for a medicinal chemist is to design new derivatives of such molecules that can be used as a drug in people.

“Medicinal chemistry isn’t just making derivatives of molecules for their activity,” Kerns explained. “We also make new versions of molecules to avoid problems such as metabolism, poor solubility, and toxicity. Often, our goal is to simplify the molecular structure to optimize favorable activity against diseases. But also, we typically need to make the molecule act more druglike in the body.”

Some of the promising molecules Kerns is working to perfect fight infectious diseases, inflammatory lung disease, obesity, and cancer.

One of Kerns’ main programs involves designing and chemically-making new derivatives of commonly-used antibiotics (fluoroquinolones) to kill drug-resistant bacteria, including bacteria that are resistant to currently-used fluoroquinolones.

When working on designing a batch of new potential antibiotics recently, it was no surprise that some of the compounds were inactive duds. But Kerns’ group sent the duds — along with those having promising bacteria-fighting properties — to collaborators at the University of Minnesota for evaluation against a cancer target in humans. When the collaborators ran those tests and reported back, the news on the duds was surprising.

“They were designed as antibiotics,” Kerns said. “And they were awful as antibiotics. But our collaborators found that they killed cancer cells.” The National Cancer Institute has tested them with promising results. Biologists are now studying whether the compounds fight cancer in mice. If so, the agents will undergo rigorous preclinical evaluation. It would need to be proven more effective than current anti-cancer drugs on the market.

A separate area of study in Kerns’ lab involves using a new type of carbohydrate-based drug molecule to try to prevent lung damage in inflammatory lung diseases. Inflammatory lung diseases can throw normally-helpful lung enzymes out of balance, causing them to wreak havoc on the lungs. Kerns’ group has created molecules that stop such enzymes’ destructive behavior. The next step is to see if these new molecules work in an animal model of inflammatory lung disease.

Chances are extremely slim that Kerns will lose his enthusiasm for using chemistry to solve problems in medicine anytime soon. “It’s fun,” Kerns said. “It’s kind of like a puzzle.”
The College of Pharmacy had a busy week celebrating the University of Iowa’s Homecoming, Oct. 4-11, 2014. Students and alumni were treated to a throwback theme, “Gold and Black Take Me Back.”

College of Pharmacy students participated in the annual student organization competition — placing first for the fifth time in six years. They competed in the Recyclable Boat Races, Ruckus at the Rec, and the annual Homecoming parade. The 2014 parade float featured several alumni, as well.

Alumni and students were invited to participate in and attend several events hosted by the College of Pharmacy. Two alumni — Robert Fecik, ’94 BSPh, and Kuberan Balagurunathan, ’00 PhD — presented seminars to faculty and students. Several alumni were also recognized during the annual Alumni Dinner. Friends of the college were invited to celebrate the culmination of the week’s festivities at a pre-game tailgate and the Iowa vs. Indiana Homecoming football game. Many thanks to TJ Johnsrud, Hal Jackson, and Deidre Nims for their assistance with the alumni and friends tailgate.
On Saturday, Aug. 23, 108 students were formally welcomed to the college and the profession of pharmacy during the annual White Coat Ceremony. During the ceremony, Dean Donald Letendre charged the students with four tasks: to get involved, work together, enjoy themselves, and get to know their colleagues. With hard work, determination, and dedication, these students will be in the same ballroom in four years with degrees conferred, ready to be a part of the pharmacy profession.
This honor roll gratefully recognizes graduates, faculty, and friends who contributed $185 or more from July 1, 2013, through June 30, 2014, to the College of Pharmacy through the University of Iowa Foundation, the preferred channel for private support of all areas of the University.

THE COLLEGE OF PHARMACY 1847 SOCIETY

The following living alumni and friends have informed the UI Foundation of their intent to provide a deferred gift, of any size, to benefit the College of Pharmacy (and approved this public listing in the honor roll of contributors). Members of the College of Pharmacy 1847 Society as of October 7, 2014, include:

Anonymous Members (37)
Dorothy M. Bennett
Dorothy M. Bennett
Beverly S. Bousselot
Dennis C. Bousselot
Ed Casabas
Floyd R. Domer
Judith E. Domer
Donald M. Dunshee
Sue A. Dunshee
David A. Grout
Jane D. Grout
Linda E. Gustavson
Clifford W. Hart
Janet S. Hinderliter
Elizabeth E. Jansen
Michael D. Jansen
David L. Maher
Marilyn J. Maher
Edward L. Maier
J. Patrick McDonnell
Susan E. McDonnell
Crystal E. Michael
Richard D. Michael
Frances E. Mikkelsen
Arthur A. Nelson
Sherida G. Nelson
Dorothy F. Ohlend
Robert E. Ohlend
George N. Paradissis
Janice M. Paradissis
Mary L. Parsons
Lyneta Grap Piela
Ronald A. Piela
Hal Schimmelpfennig
Douglas W. Talley
Rhea L. Talley
Karen K. Wichman
Kenneth C. Wichman
Victor A. Yanchick

Norma J. Carlson
Jody G. Christiansen
Todd M. Christiansen
Floyd R. Domer
Judith E. Domer
Barbara Schott
Fleckenstein
Lawrence L.
Fleckenstein
Richard P. Gates
Sonia M. Gates
Dale E. Greenwood
Jay Griffey
Linda Boyd Griffey
Linda K. Grimm
J. Keith Guillory
Beth A. Hartauer
Kerry (Gus) Hartauer
George C. Hiller
Jayne E. Hiller
Hedy M. Ho
Thomas C. I. Ho
Hans U. Hufschmid
Jayne E. Hufschmid
Hy-Vee, Inc.
Iowa Pharmacy Foundation
Kathleen Jaeger
Nancy Jezyk
T. J. Johnsrud
Randy P. Juhl
Renee T. Juhl
Patrick E. Keefe
Susan Kay Keefe
Amol S. Ketkar
Vaishali A. Ketkar
Miekeleen Turnmire
Koerth

Donald E. Letendre
Louise Letendre
El Lilly and Company
David L. Maher
Marilyn J. Maher
Patricia J. McCutchan
Ann E. Montgomery
Janet A. Mullenix
Stephen C. Mullenix
NACDS Foundation
Ann Duhigg Osterhaus
Marianne S. Osterhaus
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Walgreen Co.
Huey-Wen An Wang

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Diane M. Albers
Gary R. Albers
Beth Ann Bird
Aaron J. Brock
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CVS Health
Lykke A. Cannon
David E. Carlson

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Deborah Donovan Baird
Stephen R. Baird
Richard G. Barajas
Carolyn E. Beno
Carol J. Blomberg
Harvey E. Blomberg
Diane K. Brownlee
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Margo Daniel
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James McGinity
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Terry J. Medhurst
Jane A. Nicholson
John C. Nicholson
H. Rand Petersen
Mary Louise Petersen
Pharmacists Mutual Insurance Company
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Cathy D. Temple
Thomas R. Temple
Jason Unger
Kelly L. Unger
Grace L. Vick
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Sandra K. Walling
Neil F. Webster
Donna R. Yanich
Victor A. Yanich
Sara Petersen Barnes
Ghada A. Bawazer
Stephen M. Berge
Teresa Shibley Berge
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Jeffrey A. Cleveland
Kira R. Cleveland
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Victoria Daniel
Sean R. DeFrates
Wayne A. De Jong
Maureen D. Donovan
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William M. Drilling
Elizabeth Erdos
John E. Evers
Patricia Fester
Elizabeth L. Fraizer
Carol Wilken Gardner
Kenneth D. Gardner
Julie A. Garren
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John R. Hennagir
Roy A. Hicks
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Samuel J. Huff
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Carolyn B. Joy
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Dale Eric Wurster
Pamela A. Wurster
Elizabeth L. Marner Yeates
Randall R. Yeates
Mengping Zhou

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Samuel V. Anderegg
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Gail P. Ardery
Brett H. Barker
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Kelly M. Bartlett
Lucas J. Bartlett
Jordan F. Baye
Lisa M. Baye
Kevin L. Bebout
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Emily A. Beckett
Jon F. Beyer
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Denise Bugos
Gerald M. Burke
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Jannet M. Carmichael
Barry L. Carter
Susan K. Carter
Edi Casabar
Angelica Casillas
Christine M. Catney
Harriet E. Chapman
James V. Cheslik
Kathleen L. Cheslik
Elizabeth Chrischilles
Gene Chrischilles
Craig L. Clark
Pamela J. Clark
Michael J. Colgan
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Lana Criswell
Thomas J. Criswell
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Neal A. Daley
Katelyn C. Deiber
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Dawn R. Dillito

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Janet G. Axen
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GIVE ONLINE
Supporting the College of Pharmacy is only a click away. Visit www.uifoundation.org/pharmacy to make a gift online.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
If you would like more information about supporting the College of Pharmacy, please contact Mundi McCarty, director of development, via e-mail at mundi-mccarty@uiowa.edu. You may also contact Mundi by mail or phone:

The University of Iowa Foundation
Levitt Center for University Advancement
P.O. Box 4550
Iowa City, Iowa 52244-4550
(319) 335-3305
toll-free (800) 648-6973

Your inquiry will be treated confidentially.

CORRECTIONS
The recognition extended to those listed in this honor roll is one small way to thank contributors. Every effort has been made to ensure that this honor roll is accurate. If your name has been omitted, misspelled, or misplaced, we apologize. Please contact the UI Foundation with any questions or corrections.

Steven D. DiLullo
Kristi L. Dimke
Mark T. Dimke
Angela L. Dimmitt
James D. Dimmitt
Jessie L. Dunne
Joshua M. Dunne
Rachel J. Elsey
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Beth E. Peterson
James W. Peterson
A gift from Donald E. Letendre and Paul W. Abramowitz has been designated to establish the Abramowitz-Letendre Health Systems Pharmacy Scholarship within the University of Iowa College of Pharmacy. The scholarship will support students with an interest in health systems pharmacy.

Letendre is currently the Dean of the College of Pharmacy, serving since September 2007. Abramowitz served as professor and assistant dean at the College of Pharmacy. Paul and Don first met in 1978 while completing their respective clinical pharmacy residencies at the University of Michigan and the University of Kentucky. They remained friends and colleagues and their paths crossed many times over the years.

When Letendre joined the College of Pharmacy in 2007 as its ninth dean, Abramowitz was associate hospital director and chief pharmacy officer at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, and they had the opportunity to work together. Abramowitz is now chief executive officer of the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists, and a professor emeritus at the University of Iowa.

Abramowitz and Letendre’s work in hospitals, health-systems and related associations over the years led them to create this endowed scholarship benefitting deserving student-pharmacists with an interest in health systems pharmacy.
Giving Back Through Stock Gifts

Roger E. Overton, ’77 BSPh, isn’t just a successful University of Iowa College of Pharmacy graduate; he’s also a savvy investor and a generous UI contributor.

Thanks to a passion for playing the stock market, Overton was able to make a charitable donation to the UI College of Pharmacy by using shares of appreciated stock.

“I began purchasing stocks after taking some UI business courses while I was completing my pharmacy degree,” he says. “Making a stock gift is an easy way to support Iowa pharmacy. It’s a method of giving that won’t affect your current budget—and also has benefits at tax time.”

Overton focused his stock investments on areas that were related to his work as a practicing pharmacist. Throughout the years, he’s purchased everything from Pfizer and Medcap to LabCorps, and Teva.

“I wanted to put these investments to good use for the college,” he says. “When I was a student, tuition was just $310 per semester, but now it’s much higher. I hope all of our alumni understand that today’s students really need our support.”

Though making a gift of stock takes a bit more planning than a traditional cash donation, it can be an effective—and painless—way to give without cutting into your regular income.

If you’re interested in making a gift of stock for the UI College of Pharmacy, here are some helpful tips to keep in mind:

• If you have sold securities this year and will be subject to a capital gains tax, keep in mind that gifts of cash or appreciated securities may partially or fully offset the tax on your gains.
• For increased tax benefits, use securities that you have owned for more than one year—and that have increased in value—to fund your gift. You will avoid paying capital gains tax on the appreciated value and may qualify for a charitable deduction.
• If you own securities that are worth less than you paid for them, and you doubt they will regain their value, consider selling them and using the proceeds to make a charitable gift. The combined capital loss and charitable income tax deduction can total more than the investment’s current value.

“I would encourage our college’s young alumni to purchase stock now, with an eye toward future giving,” Overton says. “Giving even a small piece of a stock’s increase can make a big difference, both for the donor and for the college.”

To learn more about how gifts of appreciated stock 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 UI Foundation and the College of Pharmacy are honored to announce a bequest from Keith Guillory to support the Keith Guillory Pharmaceutics Graduate Fellowship.

Guillory served as a faculty member in the division of pharmaceutics from 1964–1994. He is now a professor emeritus in the College of Pharmacy. This past summer, he was honored for his commitment and service to the College of Pharmacy for over 50 years.

The fellowship was originally established by Guillory’s friends and former students to support the recruitment of outstanding students in the graduate program in pharmaceutics, and is intended to honor Dr. Guillory for years of dedication and energy in educating and mentoring students. He has been a donor to this fund since it was established in 1999, and has also generously contributed to the college for over 30 years.

The College of Pharmacy has received a gift from Helen Benke Byington designated to support the College of Pharmacy Building Fund. Helen’s late husband, William Byington, ’52 BSPh, was a graduate of the college, and Helen also attended the University of Iowa, earning her degree in nursing. The Byingtons have been loyal supporters of the college for almost 30 years.

A pledge to the College of Pharmacy has been received from Charles ‘Chuck’ H. Schwenke, ’64 BSPh. This gift has been designated to establish the Charles and Jacqueline Schwenke Scholarship Fund within the University of Iowa College of Pharmacy. He and his late wife have been loyal supporters of the college for over 20 years.
Top to bottom, left to right:

Steve Firman, ’76 BSPh, Tom Temple, ’77 MS, Brianne Bakken, fourth-year pharmacy student, and William Wimmer participated in the IPA Eggleston-Granberg Golf Classic.

Doctor of Pharmacy candidates Alison Bieber and Allison Barker attended the annual Dean’s Appreciation Dinner celebrating scholarship donors and recipients, as well as professional mentors such as Anthony Pudlo, pictured.

Dean Letendre gave two invited lectures in Taiwan and Japan in June 2014. While there, he visited Taipei Medical University’s College of Pharmacy, including alumni and friends of the UI College of Pharmacy. Left to right: Elizabeth (Liz) Chang, ’13 PhD, Shium-Yunn (Amel) Sheu, HsiangYin (Shawn) Chen, ’96 MS, ’98 PharmD, Dean Donald Letendre, Chieh-Hsi (Jackson) Wu, DuShien Chien, ’86 PhD, Peggy Chien, and Chuang-Chien (Mike) Chineh.

The UI College of Pharmacy, UIHC Department of Pharmaceutical Care, and the Iowa Pharmacy Association hosted the second annual pre-game tailgate with the University of Wisconsin School of Pharmacy, UW Health Pharmacy Services, and the Pharmacy Society of Wisconsin. Pictured are Dean Donald Letendre, Dean Steve Swanson, UW Hospitals and Clinics Director of Pharmacy Steve Rough, and UI Hospitals and Clinics Associate Director and Chief Pharmacy Officer Mike Brownlee, ’01 PharmD.

Iowa Pharmacy Association formed a RABGRAI team this past summer. The team included UI alumni, faculty, and staff.

Dean Letendre visited several alumni in the San Diego area in November, including Ron Betts, ’73 MS, pictured, who provided Dean Letendre with a tour of the La Jolla Cove Research Center. Letendre visited with Rachel and Mike, ’75 BSPh, Caparelli, as well as Suzanne Bradbury, ’97 PharmD.

Richard Winnike, ’79 BSPh, ’89 PhD, Eric Schmitt, ’88 BSPh, ’93 PhD, and Ali Salem were among the many students, faculty, and alumni that attended the American Association of Pharmaceutical Science Annual Meeting in San Diego this fall.

Lee Kirsch traveled to Bangkok, Thailand, to participate in the OSCS (Office of the Civil Service Commission) International Education Expo 2014. Kirsch is pictured alongside Ambassador Kristie Kenney and Walaisiri Muangsiri, ’03 PhD, and Pornpen Werawatganone, ’04, PhD. Both Walaisiri and Werawatganone are Pharmaceutical Sciences faculty members at Chulalongkorn University in Thailand.

If you are interested in finding out more about upcoming events, or if you would like to host an alumni event in your area, please contact Kayla Lalor at kayla-lalor@uiowa.edu.
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.

Stephen C. Mullenix, ’74 BSPh

Steve Mullenix has spent his career ironing out bugs in the health care system for pharmacists and patients.

Since 2009, Mullenix has worked for the Arizona-based National Council for Prescription Drug Programs (NCPDP), currently as senior vice president for public policy and industry relations. Through the council, more than 1,600 members of the pharmacy services industry solve problems and advocate for patient care.

After graduating, Mullenix worked in community pharmacy. Then for more than a decade, he directed and developed clinical services in hospital pharmacies in hometown of Ottumwa, Iowa.

Next, he joined the leadership team of the Iowa Pharmacy Association and its for-profit subsidiary, PNI. He led efforts to ensure the best care for ambulatory patients receiving medications.

Mullenix was also instrumental in developing a program to identify potential problems in Medicaid recipients’ medication regimens. He went on to institute that program nationally as the executive vice president of Q-A Inc.

Later, Mullenix became vice president of a national pharmacy franchise organization, Medicap Pharmacies, Inc. There, he helped independent pharmacies join health plans’ emerging networks. He also developed Medicap’s innovative pharmacist professional service program called Counseling By Appointment. In 2003, Mullenix became the director of professional and trade relations for Covidien/Mallinckrodt Pharmaceuticals.

To the Executive Leadership Board, Mullenix brings advice about industry standards in development. Often these involve emerging health information technology and its potential impact on pharmacy practice.

“I see the health care system from a technology perspective,” Mullenix said. “Pharmacists need easy access to accurate patient information to do their jobs well. Likewise, other members of the healthcare team need pharmacists’ unique expertise.”

Mullenix added, “I’ve learned a lot from my experiences here, during my academic years, and continuing afterwards through the relationships I’ve maintained.”
James Otterbeck, ’83 BBA

Jim Otterbeck wants to improve end-of-life health care.

“We are constantly frustrated that the correct medicine and dosage level cannot be provided with the urgency, professionalism and accuracy that is needed for somebody in their last stages of life,” said Otterbeck. “People in hospice need aggressive pain and symptom management dosages and they need it now.”

Otterbeck decided to be a part of a new solution for hospice patients. He thought about how large chains have replaced a lot of small, independent pharmacies that had been better equipped to manage compounding, dosage levels, and urgency. He and a business partner struck out to find a better model for the modern age.

They discovered Professional Pharmacy in Phoenix, Ariz. It was a pharmacy dedicated exclusively to serving the hospice industry in its local area.

In 2005, Otterbeck bought the business and has taken its business model nation-wide. Otterbeck is the founder, former CEO, and current chairman of the business, now known as OnePoint Patient Care, LLC. It has grown from serving 1,000 patients per day in Arizona to more than 24,000 in 22 states.

“We build a dedicated, local hospice pharmacy wherever we serve,” said Otterbeck. “We get the right drugs to the right patient typically in the same day. They are also custom compounded appropriately. Late-stage cancer patients, for example, need aggressive pain and symptom management that is not always available via oral solids, so we custom compound gels or infusion therapies.”

“So much energy and passion goes into the beginning of life,” said Otterbeck. “I’d like to see our health care system direct more energy and passion into the end of life. Let’s help people make that transition with as much dignity and as little pain as possible.”

This summer through OnePoint, Otterbeck gifted $1.5 million to establish the James A. Otterbeck OnePoint Patient Care Professorship in Hospice and Palliative Care in the University of Iowa College of Pharmacy.

Otterbeck feels that the University of Iowa is uniquely suited to bring various health care colleges together — including nursing, medical, and pharmacy and others — to bring better care for patients.

“If I can help bring those disciplines together to help care for somebody in the last stages of life, then I’ll feel like I made a difference,” Otterbeck added.

Otterbeck is a University of Iowa graduate and resides primarily in Naples, Fla.
1970s
Paul Lata, ’76, BPh, was selected by the Pharmacy Society of Wisconsin as Pharmacist of the Year for 2014. Each year the award is granted to a special individual who has made a significant impact in the pharmacy practice in Wisconsin.

Miekeleen (Koerth) Hart, ’79 BPh, married Jim Hart over Labor Day weekend. In an addition to being an alumna of the College of Pharmacy, Koerth also serves on its Executive Leadership Board.

1990s
Susan C. Winckler, ’92 BPh, presented the fifth annual William A. Zellmer Lecture on Sept. 16, 2014, as part of The American Society Policy Week activities in Bethesda, Md.

Phone: 319-335-7301
Mail: University of Iowa College of Pharmacy 115 S. Grand Ave. Iowa City, IA 52242-1112

2000s
Yvonne (DeSloover) Koch, ’00 PharmD, earned her Board Certification in Ambulatory Care Pharmacy. She is an ambulatory care clinical pharmacist at the VA Medical Center in Iowa City.

Justin Wilson, ’03 Residency, of Norman, Okla., was appointed for a 5-year term on the Oklahoma State Board of Pharmacy that began July 1, 2013. Justin is the co-owner of Valu-Med Pharmacy in Midwest City, Okla., BestYet Pharmacy in Harrah, Okla., and Valu-Med Pharmacy in Fort Gibson, Okla. He is also an assistant clinical professor with the University of Oklahoma College of Pharmacy.

Tiffany Chamberlain, ’04 PharmD, was recognized with a Forty Under 40 award by the Corridor Business Journal. The annual awards recognize forty leaders under the age of 40 who are making a difference in the Iowa City/Coralville/North Liberty/Cedar Rapids Corridor.

College of Pharmacy alumni Tony Tong, ’91 PhD, Yihong Qiu, ’92 PhD, and Jatin Patel, ’91 PhD, worked together at a Food and Drug Administration conference in Bethesda, Md. Tong works for Teva Pharmaceuticals, Qiu for Abbvie, and Patel for Bristol-Myers Squibb Co.

Rick Gates, ’95 BPh, and Sonia Gates, ’95 BPh, represented the UI College of Pharmacy as they ran in a half marathon in San Diego in June. Their team name was “Hawk Rx.”

2010s
Jesse Hollanbaugh, ’10 PhD, has accepted a position as a supervisor of pharmacy services at Helen Devos Children’s Hospital in Grand Rapids, Mich. In this leadership role he directs pharmacy patient care activities, is directly involved in the pediatric pharmacy residency program for both the PGY1 and PGY2 residents, works on multidisciplinary teams of providers in clinical and operational decision support and advises on clinical study
design for both the clinical pharmacy specialists and residents.

**Samm Anderegg, '11 PharmD**, has added responsibilities of clinical assistant professor at the University of Georgia College of Pharmacy to his workload. He continues to serve as the pharmacy manager, oncology service line at the Georgia Regents Health System.

MedOne Healthcare Systems announced that **Nathan Harold, '12 PharmD**, has joined the company as clinical pharmacy manager. In his new position, Harold oversees clinical programs and protocols. He will transition into the role of managing MedOne Pharmacy Services.

**Diana Karkow, '12 PharmD**, began a new role as pharmaceutical fellow with the UI College of Pharmacy and UI Hospitals and Clinics. Her fellowship is directed by **Erika Ernst**, associate professor, and will focus on the clinical research of infectious diseases.

**Brian Glenn, '13, PharmD**, was appointed the new manager of Medicap Pharmacy in Osceola. Glenn’s experience in pharmacy began when he returned to Osceola to work as an intern in Clarke County Hospital’s pharmacy. He became the new pharmacy manager and pharmacist of Medicap in 2014, where he will continue the level of service customers have experienced at Medicap for years.

The 26th meeting of Leadership Pharmacy, a new practitioner leadership conference hosted by the Iowa Pharmacy Association, was held Aug. 7-10, 2014 in Galena, Ill. The conference is available to 20 pharmacists in Iowa and Wisconsin, ten from each state, who are interested in advancing their leadership skills in the profession of pharmacy. Participants from the UI College of Pharmacy included:

- **Gary Christensen, '09 PharmD**, Iowa Falls, Iowa
- **Kyra Corbett, '04 PharmD**, North Liberty, Iowa
- **John Daniel, '99 PharmD**, Fort Dodge, Iowa
- **Danielle Kennedy, '13 Resident**, Rochester, Minn.
- **Kate Oltrogge Pape**, UI College of Pharmacy clinical assistant professor, Coralville, Iowa
- **Wes Pilkington, '11 PharmD**, Iowa City, Iowa

**James “Jim” Adams Obrecht, ’60 BSPh**, passed away on Oct. 7, 2014. He was born on Nov. 7, 1935 near Kirkman in western Iowa. After completing his pharmacy education, Jim worked at Walter Rexall Drug in downtown Ames. Jim and his stepfather, Phil Walter, opened North Grand Rexall Drug. In 1978, Jim established a pharmacy in Huxley called Ballard Drug. He retired after working for Hy-Vee in Ames and Boone. On Nov. 9, 1985, Obrecht married Judirae (Hendricks) Harris. He was a member of Memorial Lutheran Church in Ames, where he had served on the board. He was also a charter member of Ames Morning Rotary, served as president of the Ames Chamber of Commerce, and over the years, served on the boards at First United Methodist Church, United Way of Story County and the Story County Heart Association.

**J. Patrick (Pat) McDonnell, ’66 BSPh**, of Charles City, Iowa, passed away on Nov. 8, 2014 at his winter home in Chandler, Arizona. After graduating from the College of Pharmacy, he was hired as an industrial pharmacist by Salsbury Animal Health. He worked in several capacities for the company’s many corporate names for the next 40 years, retiring in 2006. In 1983 McDonnell and his wife, Sue, purchased the Nashua Pharmacy, which they managed until 1985. He was a licensed pharmacist for 48 years and continued to practice pharmacy part-time in both Iowa and Arizona.
Tanattha Kittisopee, '01 PhD, welcomed her son Teetanat on July 6, 2014.

Cynthia Tindall, '01 PharmD, celebrated the first birthday of her first grandchild, Sebastian Wiley Miller, on Aug. 18, 2014.

Ryan Flugge, '02 PharmD, and his wife, Jennifer, welcomed their daughter Emma Lu Flugge on Feb. 14, 2014. She was 8 pounds, 5 ounces, and 19.5 inches long.

Carolyn and Joseph Oxencis, both '05 PharmD, welcomed their daughter, Tara Lucille, on May 6, 2014. Tara’s grandfather is Joseph M. Oxencis, '80 BSPh.

Kendra (Nelson) Norman, '06 PharmD, welcomed her son, Xander Reid, on Aug. 22, 2014. He weighed 6 pounds, 9 ounces, and was 19 inches long.

Emily Beckett, '07 PharmD, and husband, Brian, welcomed their son, Samuel Allen Beckett, on June 20, 2014. He weighed 7 pounds, 8 ounces, and was 20 inches long.

David Scott, '07 PharmD, and wife, Andrea, welcomed their second daughter, Amelia Rose, on April 21, 2014. She was 7 pounds, 12 ounces, and 20 inches long.

Graceyn Gates Barker was born on Aug. 4, 2014 at 6 pounds, and 19 inches to parents Brett Barker, '08 PharmD, and his wife, Tracy. She joins big sisters Ella and Lexi.

Kimberly (Gavin) Graham, '08 PharmD, and husband, David, welcomed their son, Gavin Patrick Bernard, on July 14, 2014. He weighed 8 pounds, 3 ounces and was 20.25 inches long.

Aggie Stuart, '08 PharmD, welcomed her daughter Charlie Stuart on June 12, 2014.

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.

Alisha (Picht) Helbing, '10 PharmD, and her husband, Justin, welcomed their daughter, Evelyn Lorelei Helbing, on Dec. 19, 2013. She was 7 pounds, 6 ounces, and 20 inches long.

RaShauna Applewhite, '10 PharmD, and her husband, Nolan, welcomed their third child, Nalani Elle, on May 2, 2014. She weighed 6 pounds, 13.5 ounces, and was 20 inches long.
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!

**Alicen (Wagenbach) Sinn, '11 PharmD**, and her husband, Kenton, welcomed their baby girl, Olivia Rory, on June 6, 2014. She was 9 pounds, 6 ounces, and 21 inches long.

**Elizabeth (Wittchow) Amelon, '12 PharmD**, and her husband, Matt, welcomed Ella Joan on Sept. 18, 2014. She was 7 pounds, 14 ounces, and 21 inches.

**Brittany Dougherty, '16 PharmD candidate**, welcomed her son, Emmett Thomas Dougherty, on June 30, 2014. He weighed 7 pounds, 9 ounces and was 20.5 inches long.

**Quynh Hoa Nguyen** welcomed her son, San Tri Nguyen, on April 28, 2014.

**Aliasger Salem**, Bighley Professor and Head of the Division of Pharmaceutics and Translational Therapeutics, and his wife, Sara, welcomed their daughter Safiyya on July 22, 2014. She weighed 6 pounds, 8.2 ounces.

**Kawther Ahmed**, a graduate student in Pharmaceutics and Translational Therapeutics and **Ali Al-Jumaili**, a graduate student in Pharmaceutical Socioeconomics welcomed their son, Abd-Alazeez, on Sept. 19, 2014.

**Guohua An** joined the college as an assistant professor in the Division of Pharmaceutics and Translational Therapeutics on Sept. 23, 2014.

**Susan Barrett** was appointed as the new UI Pharmaceuticals (UIP) senior accountant. She was previously employed at the Department of Psychiatry, where she worked primarily with grants.

**Jenny Seyfer** is a long-time staff member with the Professional Experience Program (PEP). As of July 1, 2014, she also has a faculty appointment as an instructor (clinical) in the Division of Applied Clinical Sciences (ACS) to reflect the increased scope of her responsibilities.

**Sara Wiedenfeld** is an assistant professor (clinical) in the Division of Applied Clinical Sciences as of May 5, 2014. She has a shared position with the Siouxland Medical Education Foundation Family Medicine Residency in Sioux City.
Pat Keefe, ’69 BSPh, and third-year student Jake Meyer completed a mission trip to Kabingo, Uganda during summer 2014. The project, Hope for Kabingo, enlists volunteers from a diverse array of backgrounds to provide necessary medical care to rural Ugandans suffering from relentless poverty. Approximately 2,400 individuals were treated throughout the trip with over 5,000 prescriptions filled.

Aaron C. Miller, a graduate student in Pharmaceutical Socioeconomics, won the Wiederholt Award for the best presentation at the Midwest Social and Administrative Pharmacy Conference at Purdue University for his presentation entitled “Practical Limitations of Case-Control Exact Matching”.

Associate Professor Jonathan Doorn was an invited speaker at an international neurodegenerative disease symposium at the Korea Advanced Institute for Science and Technology (KAIST) in Daejeon, South Korea on August 22. KAIST was established by the Korean government with the help of American policymakers in 1971 as the nation’s first research-oriented science and engineering institution.

The fourth annual College of Pharmacy Emeritus Luncheon was held at the University Club in Iowa City on Oct. 28, 2014.

Kate Oltrogge Pape, assistant professor (clinical) at the college and clinical pharmacy specialist at UIHC, has been named chair elect for 2014 of the American Burn Association (ABA) Pharmacy Special Interest Group (SIG).

The University of Iowa and Jilin University of Changchun, China, have entered into a reciprocal academic agreement. The joint agreement encapsulates the exchange of scholars, faculty, and researchers in the hopes of sharing and expanding the educational experience on a global level. Jilin University Dean Jin Pei visited the College of Pharmacy to present the agreement.

2014 Teachers of the Year were selected by colleges and schools of pharmacy across the nation and submitted to (American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy) AACP by their deans. They were honored at the 2014 annual meeting of the AACP. At the UI College of Pharmacy, Susan S. Vos, PharmD, BCPS, received the honor (See related story on page 10). We are proud of our alumni among other Collegiate Teachers of the Year: Jon T. Knezevich, ’06 PharmD, Creighton University, Omaha, Neb. Ginelle A. Bryant, ’07 PharmD, Drake University, Des Moines. Renu F. Singh, ’93 PharmD, University of California, San Diego Skaggs School of Pharmacy. Laura M. Borgelt, ’95 BSPh, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, Denver, Colo.
On Jan. 1, 2015, Larry Fleckenstein, professor and interim department head of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Experimental Therapeutics, retired after 23 years of service to the college. He also served as director of the Clinical Pharmacokinetics Laboratory. Since 2001, he has served as chair of the Pyronaridine-Artesunate Development Team at Medicines for Malaria Venture, and is a past chair of the Clinical Pharmacology and Translational Research Section of the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists. Much of Fleckenstein’s research focused on antimalarial treatments, specifically pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics (PK/PD) and how these disciplines relate to the influence of disease states or population factors on the variability and elimination of drugs from the human body.

Long-time employee in the Professional Experience Program, Sandra Johnson, also retired recently. Johnson was employed by the College of Pharmacy for over 27 years, most recently as the associate director and administrator of Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experiences.

Mary Starry, clinical assistant professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice & Science, retired on Dec. 19, 2014. Starry primarily shared her experience with community pharmacy, long-term care pharmacy, hospital pharmacy, home infusion pharmacy, and diabetes patient education with the students she worked with in the Pharmacy Practice Laboratory. She also worked with diabetes related topics in the Therapeutics, Ambulatory Care and Acute Care courses. She was awarded the collegiate teacher of the year award in 2008.
Alyssa Billmeyer is a third-year pharmacy student who is the first student from the college to serve as president of the Graduate and Professional Student Government (GPSG). Originally from Marion, Iowa, Billmeyer earned a Bachelor of Arts in interdepartmental studies with an emphasis in health science and minors in chemistry and global health studies from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. She’s currently pursuing the joint Doctor of Pharmacy/Master of Public Health and expects to complete her degrees in 2016.
Why did you decide to attend the University of Iowa? Also, what drew you to pharmacy?

I grew up in Marion, Iowa, and being a Hawkeye fan was pretty much ingrained in me. But it wasn’t until my Hawkeye Visit Day my senior year of high school that I knew I was going to the UI. It wasn’t until my sophomore year, when I started taking organic chemistry, that a career in pharmacy came into the picture. After talking to my adviser and changing some of my classes around, I decided to declare an interest in pharmacy.

That year I also got a job—the one I still hold—at University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics Ambulatory Care Pharmacies as a student pharmacy technician. There, I work side-by-side with talented pharmacists, pharmacy students, and administrators who solidified my thoughts about attending the UI College of Pharmacy.

Why pursue the joint PharmD/MPH degree?

I decided to pursue my joint PharmD/MPH degree for two reasons. The first was that I was very interested in global health as an undergraduate. I was part of the Global Health Club, participated in the India Winterim, attended the Global Health Symposiums on campus, and even minored in global health because I loved it so much.

That interest still lies with me, and I knew I would be able to gain a better understanding of how pharmacy can benefit the general health of individuals here and across the world through classes in these programs.

I also wanted to pursue the program because I am very interested in policy, specifically health policy. I hope to work in hospital pharmacy administration or pharmacy association management, and the classes I take in the UI College of Public Health relate directly to issues I may face in one of my future careers. A lot of my classes in the College of Public Health have taken a hands-on, active approach to learning, allowing me to not only learn the way a health system works, but work through real-life scenarios that pertain to topics I’m interested in. I’m very happy I chose to do the dual degree. It’s a lot of extra work, but well worth the time.

What attracted you to becoming involved with GPSG?

I’m proud to be part of an organization that prepares individuals to go on to make a statewide impact. We have dentists, physicians, pharmacists, nurses, and lawyers who graduate from programs at the UI who serve Iowans every day.

The GPSG represents the UI’s graduate and professional student body while seeking to improve students’ educational experiences overall. Providing grants for students to travel, research, and serve—as well as to advocate for student support—are among the organization’s fundamental objectives.

With a graduate and professional student body of over 10,000 students, GPSG is comprised of at least two delegates from each of the UI’s five professional colleges (Pharmacy, Law, Medicine, Dentistry, and Business) as well as five representatives from the Graduate College.

How has your time as a student at the UI College of Pharmacy prepared you for what you’re experiencing now and for what lies ahead?

I owe so much of where I am now, and what I know will lie ahead, to the College of Pharmacy. Nearly everyone at the College of Pharmacy is in some form of leadership role—and that’s what makes it great. There are countless organizations that allow us to be involved not only at the college level, but also at the community, state, and national levels as well. There are also countless opportunities for us as students to interact with faculty members outside of the classroom, to do work with world- renowned researchers, to interact with real pharmacists in our communities and across the world, and to get real-life pharmacy practice experiences before we even graduate.

What’s your best memory so far as a Hawkeye?

Being at this university now for seven years, I have countless memories of being a Hawkeye. But I would have to say my favorite one was when I found out I was accepted into the College of Pharmacy and would be a Hawkeye for four more years.
Interested in becoming a mentor?

“I think that growth and excitement about the profession flows equally in both directions in a mentor relationship. It has been a wonderful way to provide new students to a glimpse of what is possible in their future and for them to reinvigorate the passion that they have for their new career.”

—John Hamiel, ’97 PharmD, Elk Run Heights, Iowa

Are you interested in becoming a mentor? Contact barbara-kelley@uiowa.edu for more information.

Keep in touch with the College of Pharmacy

Be sure to keep your information up-to-date with the College of Pharmacy for all the latest news and events. If you have updated contact information, please send to kayla-lalor@uiowa.edu.