



# From the Dean's Desk

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

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Dear colleagues,

In 1865, words like "innovation" and "entrepreneur" were not the buzzwords they are today. Yet when 10 men met that year to reorganize and reopen the Maryland College of Pharmacy, first established in 1841, the move exemplified all that is meant by entrepreneurialism. Seeing a need in the community, the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy's earliest advocates pressed forward an agenda to expand and improve the practice of pharmacy and introduced a spirit of innovation that is still prominent at our School today.



I came to realize during our 175th anniversary year in 2016 that many School alumni embody the innovative spirit demonstrated by our founders, using their own tenacity and determination to make a substantial impact on human health, on the profession of pharmacy, on biomedical research, and on the development and use of medicines.

At the same time, our School community identified pharmacy entrepreneurship, or as we have trademarked it, "pharmapreneurism," as a high priority in our current strategic plan. Exclusive to the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy, pharmapreneurism describes the School's commitment to supporting and best positioning our world-class faculty, our wonderful students, and our exceptional staff to achieve their career aspirations and therefore address our nation's health care, research, policy, and societal needs.

So on May 10, the School of Pharmacy celebrated nine of the most impactful graduates in the extraordinary 175-year history of the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy at an Alumni Awards of Service and Excellence Dinner held at the Baltimore Museum of Industry. The dinner recognized these nine men and women as School of Pharmacy founding pharmapreneurs in honor of their entrepreneurial vision and leadership. You can read more about them in the story below.

Because of the examples set forth by our founding pharmapreneurs, the School of Pharmacy is committed to providing our faculty, students, and staff with the tools and the resources they need to solve the perennial, long-term problems facing health care, research, and society. This issue of Capsule focuses on our efforts to inculcate pharmapreneurism into our culture, into our curriculum, into our practice and research initiatives, and into our commitment to lead American pharmacy education.

[Kudos!](#)

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As we move into our next 175 years, we have an unprecedented opportunity to ignite creativity, confidence, and fearlessness to empower our faculty, students, and our staff to be critical thinkers and problem solvers.

In the spirit of expertise, influence, and impact

*Natalie D Eddington*

[Natalie D. Eddington, PhD, FAAPS, FCP](#)  
[Dean and Professor](#)

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## Shark Tank Competition Celebrates Pharmapreneurial Innovation



The School of Pharmacy hosted a Shark Tank-style competition in June to showcase the pharmapreneurial talent of faculty across its Departments of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research (PHSR), Pharmacy Practice and Science (PPS), and Pharmaceutical Sciences (PSC). The competition celebrated the School's recently launched pharmapreneurism initiative, and awarded \$50,000 to three winning teams - one from each department - to help support their pioneering projects. [Read more here...](#)

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## Evening Gala Honors School's Founding Pharmapreneurs



The School of Pharmacy concluded the celebration of its 175th anniversary in May with an evening gala at the Baltimore Museum of Industry that celebrated nine of its most extraordinary alumni and heralded the next era of innovation at the School - an era of pharmapreneurism. The nine distinguished alumni were individuals who have been recognized nationally for their entrepreneurial vision and transformational accomplishments. The School presented each of them with Founding Pharmapreneur Awards of Service and Excellence to commemorate their work as unparalleled leaders and innovative examples of successful pharmapreneurism. [Read more here...](#)

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## School Hosts 175th Anniversary Luncheon to Honor Exceptional Alumni

Distinguished alumni and their guests gathered in Pharmacy Hall in April, as the School of Pharmacy hosted its 175th Anniversary Alumni Awards of Service and Excellence Luncheon. The event celebrated 37 outstanding alumni who were nominated for the honor by their fellow alumni and who epitomize expertise, influence, and impact in the School's mission areas of education, research, practice, and community service. [Read more here...](#)



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## PHSR Faculty Named University Teacher of the Year

Please join me in congratulating [Fadia Shaya, PhD](#), professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research (PHSR) and the department's vice chair for academic affairs, on her selection as the University of Maryland, Baltimore's (UMB) Founders Week Teacher of the Year. This is a prestigious award of which Dr. Shaya is truly deserving. Dr. Shaya is an inspirational educator, teacher, and mentor to predoctoral students, postdoctoral fellows, and junior faculty. She engages her students in research very early on, and includes them in publications. Under her mentorship, her trainees have been awarded prestigious research and training grants. Her courses are highly sought after and often referenced by graduates as among their most influential. Fluent in five languages, Dr. Shaya has trained visiting scholars from many countries, including Armenia, France, Israel, Lebanon, and Turkey, and is a popular guest speaker, nationally and internationally. Committed to interprofessional education (IPE), she organized an inter-school IPE program on training students to counter the opioid epidemic and how to administer naloxone. Dr. Shaya also has supported the training of minority students and junior faculty, under the NIH minority supplement mechanism. She serves as a mentor to inner city high school students through the UMB Bioscience Summer Program. As PHSR's vice chair for academic affairs, Dr. Shaya has helped introduce population health and health services research-based courses in the PharmD curriculum and expand dual-degree options for pharmacy students. Dr. Shaya will be formally recognized for this honor at UMB's Founders Gala on Oct. 14.



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## School of Pharmacy and UCSF Partner for New Initiative on Pediatric Drug and Device Development

The School of Pharmacy has established a new collaborative partnership with the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) Schools of Medicine and Pharmacy. Led by the [Center for Translational Medicine \(CTM\)](#) at the School of Pharmacy, the partnership brings together academic leaders in the fields of pediatrics, pediatric clinical pharmacology, pharmacometrics, and regulatory science for a new initiative focused on advancing pediatric drug and device development and providing expanded research and education opportunities for faculty, students, and trainees at both institutions. This initiative will bring together a premier network of pediatric researchers to identify opportunities for the development of new therapeutics for pediatric applications and establish cutting-edge programs to support the preclinical and clinical development of existing and novel therapeutics for pediatric populations, including clinical trials. The partnership also establishes exchange programs through which faculty, students, and trainees from both institutions can pursue either a short- or long-term course of study. [Read more here...](#)



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## Faculty and Staff Assess Antimicrobial Stewardship Practices in Zambia

[Emily Heil, PharmD, BCPS-AQ ID, AAHVP](#), assistant professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science (PPS) at the School of Pharmacy, and [Neha S. Pandit, PharmD, BCPS, AAHVP](#), associate professor and vice chair for research and scholarship in PPS, traveled to Zambia in June as part of a new project to assess antibiotic use practices that will contribute to improved antimicrobial stewardship at the University Teaching Hospital in Lusaka. Drs. Heil and Pandit's first trip was an exploratory visit to assess current antimicrobial use practices and establish a foundation on which to conduct further research and implementation of antimicrobial stewardship initiatives. Dr. Heil previously received a \$5,000 seed grant from the University of Maryland, Baltimore's Center for Global Education Initiatives to help cover travel costs associated with this visit. [Read more here...](#)



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## SOP and Hopkins Partner to Host Drug Discovery Symposium



The School of Pharmacy welcomed more than 200 researchers from across the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) and Johns Hopkins University (JHU) to the first-ever UMB-JHU Joint Symposium on Drug Discovery in February. Organized by [Paul Shapiro, PhD](#), professor and chair of the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences at the School of Pharmacy, and Takashi Tsukamoto, PhD, associate professor of neurology and director of medicinal chemistry for the Johns Hopkins Drug Discovery Program, the symposium provided an open forum for scientific exchange and interactive communication among students, postdoctoral fellows, and faculty from two of Baltimore's premier academic institutions. [Read more here...](#)

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## Pharmaceutical Sciences Takes Center Stage for University's CURE Scholars



Students from the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) CURE Scholars Program visited the School of Pharmacy throughout the month of July to gain hands-on experience conducting research in the field of pharmaceutical sciences. The visits were organized by [Lisa Jones, PhD](#), assistant professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences at the School of Pharmacy, as part of her \$1.1 million CAREER Award from the National Science Foundation, which supports her ongoing work to develop a new method to study the structure of cell membrane proteins in the cellular environment. [Read more here..](#)

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## School Partners with University of Maryland Quality Care Network to Expand Pharmacy Services



The School of Pharmacy has contracted with the University of Maryland Quality Care Network (UMQCN) to provide pharmacy services and case management support to approximately 125,000 patients who receive care under the network. Patients from private insurance, as well as Medicaid and Medicare patients, will receive care coordination services from pharmacy faculty and staff in the network in collaboration with more than 350 primary care providers across Maryland. Through the new contract with UMQCN, faculty and staff from the School of Pharmacy will be responsible for providing a variety of services to patients in the network, including medication management, telehealth management, drug information, and patient and provider education on numerous medication-related issues. [Read more here...](#)

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## Daniel Mullins Named Recipient of International Professional Leadership Award



[Daniel Mullins](#), professor and chair of the Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, has been named the recipient of the 2017 Marilyn Dix Smith Leadership Award by the International Society of Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research (ISPOR). Named for the

founding executive director of ISPOR, the Marilyn Dix Smith Leadership Award is presented annually to an individual who has demonstrated extraordinary leadership to the organization. Dr. Mullins has been a member of ISPOR for nearly 15 years and has served in a number of leadership roles within the organization, chairing and co-chairing several task forces and committees, including the organizing committee for its 13th Annual International Meeting in 2008, and its Faculty Advisors Council. He also currently serves as co-editor-in-chief for Value in Health, ISPOR's professional journal. [Read more here...](#)

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## Kudos!

Our faculty, staff, and students are extremely talented individuals who are often recognized for their expertise by our School, University, and external organizations. Here is a list of recent achievements.

### Administration

- The Office of Communications and Marketing and the Office of Development and Alumni Affairs received a Gold Award from the Hermes Creative Awards for their collaborative Online Giving Day project. Communications and Marketing's submission on a redesign of its online news center received an honorable mention.

### PharmD Students

- Cori Gray, a third-year student pharmacist, and Anne Williams, a fourth-year student pharmacist, have been named PQA-CVS Health Foundation Scholars.
- Olivia Renaldo, a third-year student pharmacist, was named chair-elect of the national Pediatric Pharmacy Advocacy Group's Student Council.

### PPS Faculty and Staff

- Bruce Anderson, PharmD, professor of pharmacy practice and science and director of the Maryland Poison Center, has been elected to the Board of Directors of the American Association of Poison Control Centers for a three year term.
- [Heather Congdon, PharmD](#), associate professor of pharmacy practice and science and assistant dean for Shady Grove, has been named chair of the National Academies of Practice's Pharmacy Academy.
- [Agnes Ann Feemster, PharmD](#), assistant professor of pharmacy practice and science and assistant dean for experiential learning, has been elected to the Board of Directors of the Maryland Society of Health-System Pharmacists.
- Pedro Gamez, LAN administrator at the Maryland Poison Center, was named the University of Maryland, Baltimore's July Employee of the Month.
- Lyn Godrich, BSN, RN, CSPI, and Michael Hidtis, PharmD, CSPI, of the Maryland Poison Center, have been re-certified by the American Association of Poison Control Centers (AAPCC) as specialists in poison information. Elizabeth Millwee, BSN, RN, has been certified by AAPCC as a specialist in poison information.
- [Joey Mattingly, PharmD, MBA](#), assistant professor of pharmacy practice and science, received the 2017 Volunteer of the Year award from the Professional Fraternity Association.
- [Katy Pincus, PharmD](#), assistant professor of pharmacy practice and science, was named the School of Pharmacy's Faculty Preceptor of the Year.

- [Brent Reed, PharmD](#), associate professor of pharmacy practice and science, was named the School of Pharmacy's Class of 2017 Faculty Member of the Year.
- [Magaly Rodriguez de Bittner, PharmD](#), FAPhA, professor of pharmacy practice and science and associate dean for clinical services and practice transformation, has been elected to the American Pharmacists Association's Board of Trustees for a three-year term beginning March 2018. She has also been appointed to the Editorial Board of the journal *Preventing Chronic Disease: Public Health Research, Practice, and Policy*, published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- [Deanna Tran, PharmD](#), assistant professor of pharmacy practice and science, has been appointed to a three-year term on the Editorial Board of the *Journal of the American Pharmacists Association*.

#### **PHSR Faculty, Staff, and Students**

- [Hillary Edwards, MPH](#), assistant director of program management and evaluation in the PATIENTS Program, has been named president of the UMB Staff Senate.
- [Elisabeth Oehrlein](#), a graduate student in the Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, received the 2017 Health Technology Assessment International (HTAI) Best Oral Student Presentation Award at the HTAI annual meeting in Rome in June.
- [Fadia Shaya, PhD](#), professor of pharmaceutical health services research, has been elected to AcademyHealth's Board of Directors.

#### **PSC Faculty, Staff, and Students**

- The School's student chapter of the [American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists](#) received an Honorable Mention in the 2017 Student Chapter of the Year competition.
- [Andrew Coop, PhD](#), professor of pharmaceutical sciences and associate dean for academic affairs, has been named chair of the Awards Committee of the College on Problems of Drug Dependence.
- Alecia Dent, a graduate student in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, was elected chair of the Graduate Research Seminar for the 2019 Gordon Research Conference on the Cell Biology of Metals.
- [James Polli, PhD](#), the Shangraw/Noxell Endowed Chair in Industrial Pharmacy and Pharmaceuticals, has received a U.S. Patent for "Compositions and Methods to Evaluate Hepatobiliary/Gastrointestinal Health, Enterohepatic Circulation, and Drug Interactions."