

From the Dean's Desk

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

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Apr. 11, 2018

Dear colleagues,

One of the most meaningful experiences in my 10-year tenure as dean of the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy happened just a few weeks ago. I was invited by our student pharmacists to participate in an event in Pharmacy Hall to bring awareness to the public health crisis that is gun violence. One of our students is an alumnus of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Fla. She organized the event in support of her alma mater and to bring attention to the role that pharmacists and other health care professionals can and should play in advocating for any and all measures that keep us safe and healthy. It truly was a moving event, which you can read about in this newsletter.



This commitment to public health and to advocacy is a characteristic that I see demonstrated through concrete action time and again in our students. Their dedication shows through the more than 280,000 hours of community service each of our graduating classes performs by the time they graduate. This is service through their rotation sites, at UMB, and in the local community.

I couldn't be more proud of the advocates and professionals our students are becoming.

In the spirit of expertise, influence, and impact

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

Student Pharmacists Unite Against Gun Violence

1 p.m. - 3 p.m.
Pharmacy Hall

The University of Maryland School of Pharmacy presents the Paul A. Pumpian Memorial Lecture featuring Noel E. Wilkin, RPh, BSP '89, PhD '97, Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at the University of Mississippi. Dr. Wilkin will present "Innovation and Meaning: The Building Blocks of Entrepreneurship and Professional Satisfaction" on April 11, at 1 p.m. in Pharmacy Hall, Room N103.



[David Stewarts Association \(DSA\) Dinner](#)

Apr. 12, 2018
6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Pharmacy Hall

This year's David Stewart Associates (DSA) Society Reception will be held on April 12 at 6 p.m. in the Ellen H. Yankellow Grand Atrium in Pharmacy Hall. This reception celebrates the generosity of our leadership donors who make a gift to the School of \$1,000 or more annually. At the reception, I will be recognizing one of our alumni, David M. Yoder, PharmD '98, MBA, executive director of integrated care management at the BlueCross BlueShield Association's Federal Employee Plan, as this year's recipient of the Key to Pharmacy Hall, the highest honor awarded by the School. If you would like to renew your DSA membership or if you are interested in becoming a DSA member, please contact Greer Griffith at 6-5893 or ggriffith@rx.umaryland.edu.

Following the school shooting in Parkland, Fla., in February, our student pharmacists came together to host a meaningful event in Pharmacy Hall on March 1 to recognize the 17 lives lost and to bring awareness to gun violence as a public health issue. The event was organized by Alli Cowett, a third year student pharmacist who is a graduate of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School. Ms. Cowett wrote a post on the experience for [Inside SOP](#), the School's blog. Read it [here](#).

PSC Names New Emerson Chair



[Angela Wilks, PhD](#), professor and program chair for chemical and biological discovery in the [Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences \(PSC\)](#), has been named the new Isaac E. Emerson Chair of Pharmaceutical Sciences. Established in 1927, the endowed chair honors faculty members who have demonstrated exemplary leadership across the School and their field of research. Wilks received her doctorate in biochemistry at the University of Leeds in England, where her research focused on the mechanism of heme degradation. She completed a postdoctoral fellowship and served as a research assistant professor at the University of California, San Francisco before joining the School of Pharmacy as an assistant professor in 1998. Her current research, which spans multiple disciplines, aims to understand the mechanisms by which pathogenic (disease causing) bacteria acquire and utilize heme as an iron source. Her work has led to the structural characterization of several proteins involved in heme uptake and

Alumni Survey

The School of Pharmacy strives to update, develop, and expand initiatives for all of our graduates. To accomplish this task, we

have sent a survey to all of our alumni with the hope of gaining valuable insight into the ways in which our graduates wish to receive information on the School and the kinds of engagement opportunities that our alumni seek. If you are an alumnus, please be sure to check your mailbox or inbox for instructions on how to access this survey. And thank you in advance for taking time to complete it.

degradation, as well as the design of potential therapeutic agents that reduce a bacterium's virulence by targeting its iron metabolism. [Read more here...](#)

PPS Faculty Member Receives AACP New Investigator Award to Study Pharmapreneurship



[Joey Mattingly, PharmD, MBA](#), an assistant professor of pharmacy practice and science, has received a \$10,000 New Investigator Award from the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy for his project, "Pharmapreneur: Defining the Role of Entrepreneurialism in Schools of Pharmacy." Dr. Mattingly wrote a post for our blog on the project. [Read it here...](#)

Second Annual Giving Day Rallies School Community



The School of Pharmacy hosted its second annual Giving Day on Feb. 2 to help generate gifts for its annual fund and three departments - the Departments of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, Pharmacy Practice and Science, and Pharmaceutical Sciences. The event built on the success of the School's first Giving Day- which was held in early 2017 - and raised more than \$32,000 from 187 faculty, staff, students,

School Establishes Learning Health Care Community in Baltimore



[Daniel Mullins, PhD](#), professor and chair of the [Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research](#) and director of [The Patient-Centered Involvement in Evaluating the Effectiveness of Treatments \(PATIENTS\) Program](#) at the School of Pharmacy, has been awarded a \$250,000 investigator-initiated grant from Merck to develop guidance for an innovative Learning Health Care Community in West Baltimore. The project, titled "Co-developing Sustainable Learning Health Care Communities Using Community-Based Participatory Research," aims to increase collaboration between patients and health care systems and promote greater health equity across the local area. The grant will be used to support pilot work for future grants to implement recommendations from the guidance and create healthier communities in the neighborhoods located to the west of the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) campus. [Read more here...](#)

Faculty Member Receives National Consultant Pharmacy Award



[Chanel Whittaker, PharmD](#), BCGP, BCPS, FASCP, associate professor in the [Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science \(PPS\)](#)

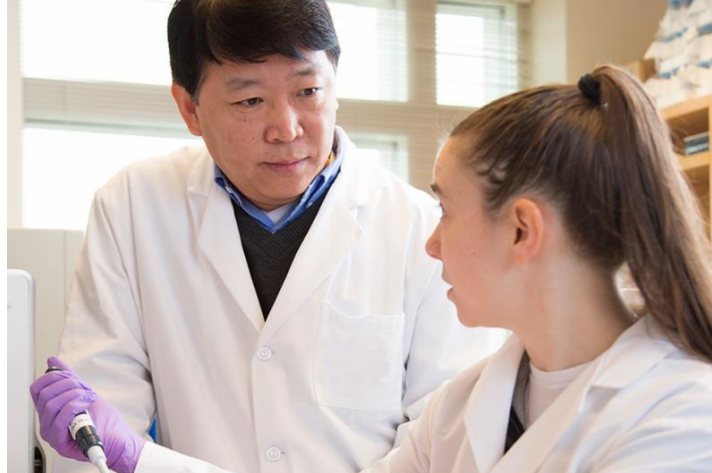
and director of education and training for the [Peter Lamy Center on Drug Therapy and Aging](#), has been named the 2017 recipient of the Armon Neel Senior Care Pharmacist Award by the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists (ASCP). Presented annually, the Armon Neel Senior Care Pharmacist Award recognizes individuals who apply their knowledge of geriatric pharmacotherapy on a daily basis to significantly improve the quality of life of the senior population, while also contributing to the goals of ASCP. [Read more here...](#)

Researchers Awarded \$500,000 Grant to Focus on Patient-drive Value Assessment



A team of researchers from the [Departments of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research \(PHSR\)](#) and [Pharmacy Practice and Science](#) have been awarded a three-year, \$500,000 grant from the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA) Foundation to establish a new Center of Excellence for Patient-Driven Value Assessment at the School. Led by [Susan dosReis, PhD](#), professor in PHSR, the center will strive to promote the inclusion of diverse patient voices in research to help uncover the elements of value in health care that are most important to patients. This center is one of only two funded by the PhRMA Foundation to lead the development of transformative strategies to better assess the value of medicines and health care services while improving patient outcomes and reducing inefficiency in health care. [Read more here...](#)

PSC Researcher Named One of Five Finalists in National Toxicity Challenge



[Hongbing Wang, PhD](#), professor and program chair for experimental and translational therapeutics in the [Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences](#), has been named one of five finalists in the national Transform Toxicity Testing Challenge: Innovating for Metabolism. Dr. Wang will receive \$100,000 from the National Toxicology Program - a joint program of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - to support his continued work to develop a new cell culture model that allows existing high-throughput screening assays to produce physiologically relevant metabolites, accelerating the drug discovery process and decreasing researchers' reliance on animal studies, which are often costly and time consuming. As he prepares for the final stage of the challenge, Dr. Wang will be partnering with a leading biotechnology firm to patent and translate this new system into a marketable initiative for use in pharmaceutical laboratories around the world. [Read more here...](#)

UMB Opens Interprofessional Clinic in Prince George's County



A University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB)-led clinic has begun helping patients who are discharged from the University of Maryland Prince George's County (UMPG) Hospital Center to succeed in their transitions from hospital or the emergency department to home by addressing circumstances that could harm their health and lead to readmissions. The new Interprofessional Care Transitions Clinic (ICTC) in Cheverly, Md., is designed to expand access and continuity of care for Medicare, Medicaid, and newly insured patients who lack access to a primary care provider by addressing that gap after their discharge. To facilitate

patients' linkages to providers within the community, the ICTC combines the clinic and two UMB-managed resources: the Governor's Wellmobile operated by the UM School of Nursing (UMSON) and the e-Health Center operated by the School of Pharmacy. The clinic is an interprofessional, team-based program that includes pharmacists, nurse practitioners, social workers, and lawyers. [Read more here...](#)

McPherson Named Visionary in Hospice and Palliative Medicine



[Mary Lynn McPherson, PharmD](#), MA, MDE, BCPS, CPE, professor and executive director of advanced post-graduate education in palliative care in the [Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science](#), has been named a Visionary in Hospice and Palliative Medicine by the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine (AAHPM). She is one of 30 health care professionals, and the only pharmacist, to be honored by the organization in 2017 in recognition of her continued work to advance the field. [Read more here...](#)

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 [Offices of Communications and Marketing](#) and [Development and Alumni Affairs](#) received an Award of Excellence from the Public Relations Society of America-Maryland Chapter for their 2017 Online Giving Day project.

PharmD Students

- The School of Pharmacy's student chapter of the Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy received the Chapter of the Year award at the AMCP annual meeting in October in Dallas, Texas.
- The School of Pharmacy's chapter of the American Pharmacists Association-Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP) was a Division A winner in the organization's Back the PAC campaign.
- The School of Pharmacy's Sigma chapter of Kappa Psi has been named a top-performing chapter for the 2016-2017 academic year.
- Leigh Anne Cervino and Andrew Wherley, both third-year student pharmacists, won the 2017 American Society of Health-System

Pharmacists Local Clinical Skills competition.

- Jessica Krummel, a second-year student pharmacist, has received a 2017 EPIC Pharmacies, Inc., student grant award.
- Charles Summerlin, a third-year student pharmacist, has received a Student Leadership Award from the American Pharmacists Association-Academy of Student Pharmacists.

PPS Faculty and Staff

- Cynthia Boyle, PharmD, professor, has received the Phi Lambda Sigma-Procter & Gamble National Leadership Award.
- [Kimberly Claeys, PharmD](#), assistant professor, has been appointed to the Research Committee of the Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America.
- [Joga Gobburu, PhD](#), professor and director of the [Center for Translational Medicine](#), has been named a fellow of the International Society of Pharmacometrics.
- [Jeffrey Gonzales, PharmD](#), associate professor, has been appointed treasurer of the Baltimore chapter of the Society of Critical Care Medicine.
- [Mojdeh Heavner, PharmD](#), assistant professor, has been appointed to the Society of Critical Care Medicine's Membership Committee and has been appointed to the board of the society's Baltimore chapter.
- [Emily Heil, PharmD](#), assistant professor, has been named secretary/treasurer for and a board member of the Society of Infectious Diseases Pharmacists.
- [Lauren Hynicka, PharmD](#), associate professor, has been named chair-elect of the American College of Clinical Pharmacy's GI/Liver/Nutrition Practice and Research Network.
- [Cherokee Layson-Wolf, PharmD](#), associate dean of student affairs and associate professor, has received a Certificate of Recognition from the American Pharmacists Association-Academy of Pharmacy Practice and Management's Immunizing Pharmacists Special Interest Group.
- [Mary Lynn McPherson, PharmD](#), professor, has been selected to receive the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center's Debra Sivesind Career Award, which she will receive in September at the University's 22nd Annual Interdisciplinary Conference on Supportive Care, Hospice, and Palliative Medicine.
- [Brent Reed, PharmD](#), associate professor, received the Junior Investigator Award from the American College of Clinical Pharmacy's Cardiology Practice and Research Network.
- [Deanna Tran, PharmD](#), assistant professor, has been elected secretary of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy's Laboratory Special Interest Group (SIG) and has been appointed chair of the SIG's Communications Committee. She has also been named a member of the Maryland Department of Health's Advisory Council on Health and Wellness.
- [Mona Tsoukleris, PharmD](#), associate professor, has been named president-elect of the Association of Asthma Educators.

PHSR Faculty, Staff, and Students

- [C. Daniel Mullins, PhD](#), professor and chair, has been named

director of the Community and Collaboration Core within UMB's Institute for Clinical & Translational Research.

- [Ebere Onukwugha, PhD](#), associate professor and executive director of [Pharmaceutical Research Computing](#), has been named associate director of the Biostatistics Core within UMB's Institute for Clinical & Translational Research.
- Dinci Pennap, graduate student, was the recipient of the *JAMA Pediatrics* 2017 Trainee Paper of the Year award for her article "Patterns of Early Mental Health Diagnosis and Medication Treatment in a Medicaid-insured Birth Cohort."
- [Fadia Shaya, PhD](#), professor, has been named associate director of the Informatics Core within UMB's Institute for Clinical & Translational Research.

PSC Faculty, Staff, and Students

- Gary Hollenbeck, staff member in the Good Manufacturing Practice Facility, received the 2018 Distinguished Alumnus Award from Purdue University College of Pharmacy.