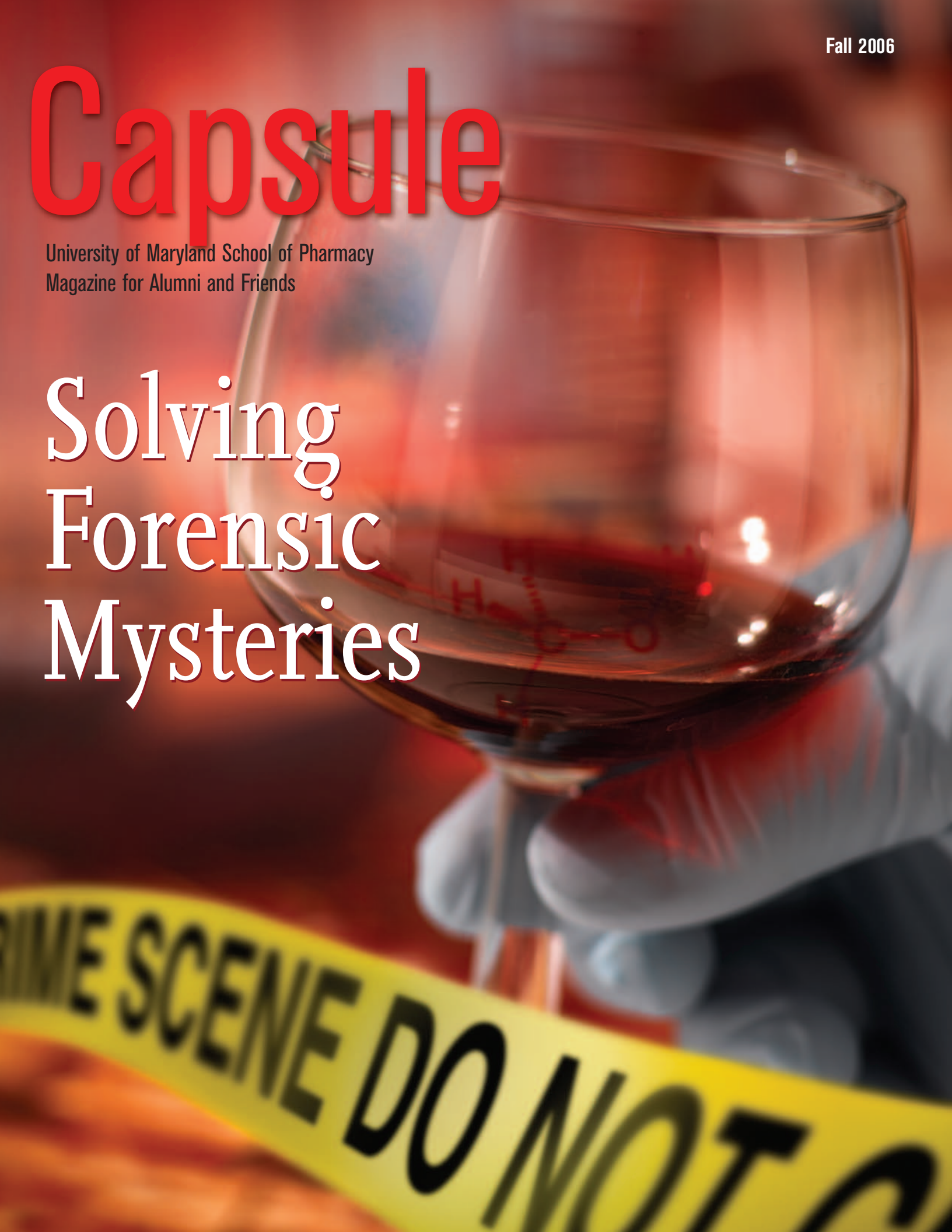
Fall 2006

Capsule

University of Maryland School of Pharmacy
Magazine for Alumni and Friends

Solving Forensic Mysteries



Dean's MESSAGE

As the School of Pharmacy enters the second year of its three-year Strategic Plan, significant progress is being made:

- The faculty has adopted an updated set of curricular outcomes that prepare us for a revitalized PharmD program.
- Research and scholarship is flourishing with the maturing of the Center for Nanomedicine and Cellular Delivery, the appointment of new faculty in the departments of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research and Pharmaceutical Sciences, and the initiation of a faculty search in clinical and translational studies in the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science.
- The School is initiating new roles for pharmacists in Maryland as characterized by the Maryland P3 Program, rolled out in Allegany County this July.

However, meeting enrollment goals to fulfill Maryland's need for pharmacists, while assuring the necessary resources to properly fund the PharmD program, has been an elusive goal. To address this issue and to better position the School for continued excellence in teaching, research, and service, the School has undertaken a growth initiative. This initiative seeks to double the PharmD enrollment at the School of Pharmacy over the next 10 years. It will do so both by enlarging the program at the Baltimore campus when the Pharmacy Hall Addition is completed and by extending PharmD education to a satellite program outside of Baltimore.

We hope to open a satellite program soon at the Universities at Shady Grove, (USG), a regional University System of Maryland higher education center located in Montgomery County. This setting will allow us to establish a presence in the suburban Washington, D.C., counties of Prince George's, Frederick, and Montgomery—the second major population center in Maryland. USG offers existing facilities and infrastructure along with almost 20 years of experience in supporting the delivery of degree programs from other Maryland universities.

Under our plan, a core of faculty and staff would be established and housed at Shady Grove to facilitate laboratories, discussion groups, and clinical experiences. Lectures would be delivered via distance education techniques from the Baltimore campus, which would remain as the hub for pharmaceutical education in the state.

The new Pharmacy Hall Addition, which will double the size of the existing Pharmacy Hall, will be the home of an expanded faculty across the disciplines in pharmacy, in close proximity to collaborative faculty and programs across the UMB campus.

The growth initiative is generating excitement and enthusiasm throughout the state as the School of Pharmacy enters a new phase of its development. And it is with excitement and enthusiasm that I also enter a new stage of development.

Next summer, after more than 17 years in the dean's office, I will retire from the deanship and begin a one-year sabbatical. I have enjoyed the opportunity to work with a gifted and talented group of faculty and staff over the years, and our students are always terrific. The support of our alumni and friends has made my job so much easier and rewarding. President Ramsay has appointed a committee that is engaged in a national search for my successor. I look forward to a smooth transition and value my interactions with you.

David A. Knapp

David A. Knapp, PhD
Dean

Capsule Contents

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Fall 2006

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2
SCHOOL NEWS

8
USING FORENSIC TOOLS TO SOLVE TOUGH PUZZLES IN TOXICOLOGY
BY ROBYN FIESER

12
PRECEPTORS BUILD THE PROFESSION FOR TOMORROW'S GENERATION
BY JEFFREY RAYMOND

15
PHARMACISTS HELP TO EASE PAIN FOR THE DYING
BY GWEN NEWMAN

18
STUDENT NEWS

21
ALUMNI NEWS

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SCHOOL *news*

New Associate Dean Takes Up Post

David S. Roffman, PharmD, BCPS, assumed the position of associate dean for Academic Affairs on July 1. He succeeds Magaly Rodriguez de Bittner, who was named chair of the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science at the School.

Roffman, a faculty member since 1973, has made significant contributions to the School of Pharmacy and the profession of pharmacy in the area of cardiology. He instituted the first cardiovascular pharmacotherapy specialty practice in Maryland and has been a therapeutic consultant in the Cardiac Care Unit at the University of Maryland Medical System for more than 25 years. As one of the first 16 board-certified pharmacotherapy specialists in the United States to receive added certification in cardiology, he also has maintained an ambulatory care practice in various clinics at the Baltimore Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

Roffman has contributed to the professional and educational literature, receiving the Richard W. Lyman Award for best publication of the year in the *American Journal of Pharmaceutical Education* and the W. Arthur Purdum Award for sustained and significant contributions to the profession from the Maryland Society of Health-Systems Pharmacists.

Widely recognized for his teaching excellence, Roffman was named "Teacher of the Year" by the faculty of the School of Pharmacy in 1989, and on two occasions by the pharmacy school graduating class in 1990 and 2002. He was one of the first two faculty in the School of Pharmacy to be designated a Dean's Distinguished Educator.

College of Notre Dame students worked in Pharmaceutical Sciences faculty labs this summer. From left to right, student Lisa Johnson with program director and Associate Professor Paul Shapiro, and associate professor Steve Hoag with student Natalie Walker. Not pictured are Megan Pierson and Associate Professor Andy Coop.

Looking for the Next Generation of Pharmaceutical Scientists

Three undergraduate students from the College of Notre Dame of Maryland received $4,000 stipends this summer to assist School of Pharmacy Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences faculty in the laboratory. Lisa Johnson, Natalie Walker, and Megan Pierson were nominated for the opportunity to gain hundreds of hours of valuable research experience by their mentors at the college's chemistry department, Angela Sherman, PhD and Alfred D'Agostino, PhD.

"The goal of this program is for us to raise visibility and attract more top-quality students to our Pharmaceutical Sciences PhD program. It is hoped that the students will have a positive research experience and ultimately apply to the Pharmaceutical Sciences graduate program," says Paul Shapiro, PhD, the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences graduate program director.

This is the second year the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences has run the program, which is supported by funds from the Office of the Dean and the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences. There are plans to bring the program to other area colleges and universities in the future.

City Charity Invests in Nano Center

The School of Pharmacy joins the University of Maryland Biotechnology Institute and the University of Maryland's A. James Clark School of Engineering as recipients of a $1 million grant from the Robert W. Deutsch Foundation to further their studies of nanoscale drug discovery. Hamid Ghandehari, PhD, an associate professor at the School and director of the Center for Nanomedicine and Cellular Delivery, explained to Baltimore's *The Daily Record,* "You're scaling down the size of the device by which you can do a lot of drug discovery. The advantage of that is you can do a lot more of it and more precisely. This could change drug discovery, make it faster and more efficient—and down the road—cheaper."

The foundation is a 15-year-old Baltimore charitable organization with a $12 million endowment. This is the foundation's first research grant.

Dr. Zuckerman and Mr. Hernandez with faculty and students at Chiang Mai University

Promoting Research and Public Health Practice in Thailand

Ilene Zuckerman, PharmD, PhD, associate dean for Research and Graduate Education and associate professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research (PHSR) and her PhD candidate, José Josue Hernandez, traveled to Thailand this summer under a travel award sponsored by the Global Health Foundation's grant from the John E. Fogarty International Center of the National Institutes of Health. The purpose of this grant is to promote multidisciplinary research and public health practice in low and middle-income countries.

For six weeks, Hernandez implemented his proposal, "Feasibility of a Study to Ascertain the Prevalence and Risk Factors Associated with Suboptimal Prescribing Among Elderly Outpatients Visiting the Chulalongkorn University Hospital in Thailand." Zuckerman spent two weeks at Chulalongkorn University assisting with the project and providing lectures to graduate and pharmacy students.

Zuckerman and Hernandez also spoke to faculty and students at Chiang Mai University. Vithaya Kulsomboon, PhD, MPHM, chair of the Social Pharmacy Department at Chulalongkorn University, is the project collaborator in Thailand and also a graduate of the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy PHSR PhD program. Along with the Global Health Foundation, other funding sources include the School of Pharmacy, and the Chulalongkorn University Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences in Bangkok, Thailand.

From left to right, Dr. Vithaya Kulsomboon, Jose Hernandez, Dr. Pornpen Pramyothin, Dr. Ilene Zuckerman, and Dr. Yupadee Sirisinsuk at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok, Thailand

New Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Education

Ilene Zuckerman, PharmD, PhD, associate professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, was appointed associate dean for Research and Graduate Education in September.

Zuckerman earned a Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy in 1981 and a Doctor of Pharmacy in 1983 from the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy. In 2005, she earned a PhD in epidemiology from the University of Maryland School of Medicine. She has served on the faculty since 1983.

Zuckerman is also is director of Medication Appropriateness Studies at the School's Peter Lamy Center for Drug Therapy and Aging, and is founder and executive director of Pharmaceutical Research Computing (PRC), a School of Pharmacy center that provides computing and analytic support to faculty.

Her research focuses on improving drug therapy in vulnerable populations. She is principal investigator on a career development grant funded by the National Institute on Aging to examine risk factors for transitions to nursing home among community-dwelling elderly. She also currently serves as associate director of the University of Maryland DEcIDE (Developing Evidence to Inform Decisions About Effectiveness) Network.

She is involved in research to improve pediatric asthma management, develop methods to study effectiveness of dementia treatments, and assess the effects of gaps in prescription coverage on drug use in severely mentally ill Medicare beneficiaries.

Zuckerman will be focusing on advancing the viability and impact of research and scholarship throughout the School. She is especially interested in advancing clinical/translational research, and on developing scholarly collaborations among the departments.

SCHOOL *news*

Faculty Appointments

Eberechukwu Akobundu, PhD

Research Assistant Professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research

Eberechukwu Akobundu earned a PhD in economics, summa cum laude, from Virginia Tech. She completed a postdoctoral fellowship in pharmacoeconomics at the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy. The recipient of a K12 Multidisciplinary Clinical Research career development grant, she is a member of the first cohort of Clinical Research Scholars at the University. The K12 Multidisciplinary Clinical Research Career Development Program, funded by the National Institutes of Health, is a new program at the University that supports the early career development of clinical research scholars.

RESEARCH INTEREST: Akobundu is studying the costs associated with patient discharges made against medical advice among cardiovascular disease patients and is collecting primary data to identify the reasons reported for these discharges.

> **"Teaching is leading students into a situation from which they can only escape by thinking. The same also applies to research."**

Amy J. Davidoff, PhD

Research Assistant Professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research

Davidoff earned her PhD in health economics and received the John C. Hume Award for Excellence in Doctoral Research from The Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health. She also holds an MS in health policy and management from the University of Massachusetts. Previously, Davidoff served on the faculty of University of Maryland, Baltimore County in its graduate Department of Public Policy and was a senior research associate at the Urban Institute. She also served at The Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health as a research associate.

RESEARCH INTEREST: Davidoff's research focuses on how federal and state policies affect public and private insurance coverage, as well as how insurance coverage affects use of services and ultimately, health status. Her prior research has examined Medicare, Medicaid and state children's health insurance programs eligibility policy and determinants of participation; effects of regulations in the private insurance market; and effects of managed care among the publicly insured. Davidoff is interested in extending her work to focus on public policies relevant to prescription drug coverage.

Anjan Nan, PhD

Research Assistant Professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences

Nan earned his BS in pharmaceutical sciences from Jadavpur University, Calcutta, India and his PhD in pharmaceutics from the University of Mississippi. For the last two years, Nan has been working as a research scientist at the School under the supervision of Hamid Ghandehari, PhD, and is a member of the School's Center for Nanomedicine and Cellular Delivery.

RESEARCH INTEREST: Nan's research focus is on novel controlled drug delivery systems such as water-soluble polymer therapeutics for targeted delivery and imaging of cancer. Another area of research recently undertaken is the biological evaluation of inorganic silica nanotubes for potential application as multifunctional nanomedicine.

> **"The School of Pharmacy provides an ideal platform to foster my research interests through collaborative efforts in the design and development of advanced therapeutic systems and their clinical translation into disease prevention and treatment."**

Hongbing Wang, PhD

Assistant Professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences

Wang holds a PhD in toxicology from Shanghai Medical University, China, an MS in toxicology, and an MB in medicine from Shanxi Medical University, China. He was a National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences postdoctoral fellow at the National Institutes of Health in Research Triangle Park, N.C. Most recently, Wang was a postdoctoral research associate, then a research assistant professor at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill School of Pharmacy, where he was actively involved in NIH-funded research and the creation of collaborations with pharmaceutical companies such as Pfizer, BMS, and Qualyst, Inc.

RESEARCH INTEREST: Wang's primary research focus is the molecular mechanisms that govern the xenobiotic-induced regulation of metabolizing enzymes and drug transporters in humans. Other interests involve the metabolism dependent prodrug bioactivation and transport-related drug resistance, particularly P450 mediated biotransformation, of chemotherapeutics (such as cyclophosphamide and ifosphamide) in liver and breast cancer.

> **"I am excited to be a member of Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences in the School of Pharmacy. The excellent research environment and great opportunities to collaborate with researchers both on and off campus are extremely attractive."**

> **"I am very excited to be joining the faculty and look forward to pursuing my research in collaboration with new colleagues at the School of Pharmacy and, more broadly, at UMB."**

Edwin Pozharski, PhD

Assistant Professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences

Pozharski earned a PhD in biophysics from the Institute of Theoretical and Experimental Biophysics of the Russian Academy of Sciences. After initial postdoctoral research at Northwestern University, he became a postdoctoral fellow focusing on protein crystallography at Brandeis University.

RESEARCH INTEREST: Pozharski's primary research interest is in the area of molecular recognition by proteins. His work targets various aspects of this process, including the interplay between affinity and specificity in recognition of small molecules, mechanisms of regulation of protein activity, and the role of protein dynamics in molecular recognition.

"Structural biology is a fascinating subject and a very exciting field of research. It addresses the very secret of life by studying the mechanism of action of the tiny molecular machines called proteins, and also leads to new discoveries in medicine that may have direct impact on human lives."

Heroin Habit Could be Kicked with Pill

What if there was a pill that made heroin addicts less interested in taking the drug? And what if this pill stayed in the system long enough so addicts only had to take it once a day?

This pill exists, and it is called buprenorphine. Anthony Tommasello, PhD, director of the Office of Substance Abuse Studies at the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy, not only has been telling fellow pharmacists about buprenorphine, but he also wants them to "get passionate" about it.

A federal law passed in 2000 allows doctors to prescribe buprenorphine to up to 30 patients at a time. Once patients receive the drug regimen and follow-up counseling, doctors can add other buprenorphine patients to their rolls.

Though hundreds of doctors in Maryland are certified to prescribe buprenorphine, Tommasello says many of them are reluctant to prescribe it, perhaps because of concerns about working with addicts. But, he says, doctors could help many people in numerous communities if they promoted the prescription.

Pharmacists, he adds, can also help. Tommasello is running "train the trainers" workshops that allow pharmacists to share the word about buprenorphine with their colleagues across the country. Not only can pharmacists learn more about the drug, he says, they can also learn to recognize symptoms of opioid dependence and urge such patients to see a doctor who can prescribe buprenorphine.

"People see pharmacists much more frequently than they see doctors," Tommasello says. "If pharmacy is going to be a patient care profession, then we've got to be an active interface between patients and their medications."

— Jeffrey Raymond

Professional bodybuilder Lisa Aukland takes the stage.

Maryland Poison Center in Strong Hands During Night Shift

FOR THE LAST 14 YEARS, LATE NIGHT CALLERS TO THE Maryland Poison Center at the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy have found themselves in very strong hands when Lisa Aukland, PharmD '99, and certified specialist in poison information, picks up the telephone. Actually, the telephone is probably the lightest thing she picks up all day, but answering it carries a weighty responsibility.

Since 1992, Aukland has worked the poison center's "graveyard shift" providing important information about overdose and poisoning triage, treatment, education, and prevention to medical professionals and the public.

Besides her "strengths" in pharmacy, Aukland is a championship-level bodybuilder. She works the night shift so that she can have days free to train. Training starts when she wakes at 3 p.m.

"I start with about 35 minutes of cardio on the treadmill or stationery bike," says Aukland, who started lifting weights just to stay in shape but was drawn into power lifting. She says she no longer is a power lifter, but that power lifting provided the foundation for the rippling muscles she displays on stage. She now focuses on lifting for "body sculpting," focusing on a different body part—legs, arms, back chest—each day.

With a health care professional's understanding of well-being, Aukland follows a rigorous diet and workout regime, but is careful not to over train before an event.

So what does a championship-level bodybuilder eat?

"Orange roughy and asparagus are my favorites," says Aukland, who says she eats seven or eight small meals a day when working up to a competition. She does not skimp with the carbohydrates, using only the most complex "carbs" for fuel.

"Oatmeal and yams are my staple carbs," she adds. She also likes baking, and when she's not working up to a competition she does splurge on an occasional pizza.

A dog breeder and trainer in her "spare time," the 17-year Bel Air, Md., resident and Virginia native also serves as a scientific guru for her weightlifting friends, helping them sort good science from bad science regarding training, supplements, and diet.

Aukland competed in the Ms. Olympia Finals in Las Vegas at the end of September, finishing fifth out of 14. Prior to her trip to Las Vegas, she was the subject of an ABC-TV "Inside Edition" story.

— Randolph Fillmore

SCHOOL *news*

Laurels

Nicole Brandt, PharmD, was recently named a Fellow of the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists, a designation that signifies the recipient has achieved a balance of experience that goes well beyond regular pharmacy practice.

Natalie D. Eddington, PhD, received the "National Women of Color All Star Award" during the 2006 National Women of Color in Technology Conference, held in Atlanta, Ga., in October. Eddington, chair of the School of Pharmacy Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, is also featured in the nationally distributed *Women of Color* magazine.

Stuart Haines, PharmD, was selected by his peers as Distinguished Practitioner in Pharmacy from the National Academies of Practice. This award recognizes Haines' enduring contributions to health care practice. He received the National Academies of Practice Medallion in a November ceremony.

Stephen Hoag, PhD, has been appointed the School of Pharmacy's representative to the U.S. Pharmacopeia (USP) Convention, which represents those sections of the pharmaceutical care system that are impacted by, and in turn impact, USP's activities. Hoag will continue as a member of the USP Council of Experts.

Yuan Luo, PhD, presented a talk titled, "The Disease Pathogenesis Cascade Implicates the Site of Action of Preventative Drugs," at the 9th International Geneva/Springfield Symposium on Advances in Alzheimer Therapy, held in Geneva, Switzerland.

James Polli, PhD, was guest editor for a recent issue of the journal, *Molecular Pharmaceutics*. The issue focuses on "Bile Acid Disposition and Drug Pharmacokinetic Implications."

Fadia T. Shaya, PhD, was the recipient of the award for Excellence and Promise of Distinction in Hypertension and Cardiovascular Disease Research from the International Society for Hypertension in Blacks.

Kelly Summers, PharmD, published two items: "Letters and Commentary: Potential Drug-Food Interactions with Pomegranate Juice," in *Annals of Pharmacotherapy* July/August 2006 and "Cost-Effectiveness Analysis of Antithrombotic Therapy in Nonurgent Percutaneous Coronary Intervention," in *Pharmacotherapy* 2006.

Arash Hatefi, PhD, completed his postdoctoral studies this summer at the School in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and is now on the pharmaceutical sciences department faculty at Washington State University.

Flaubert Tchantchou, PhD, a postdoctoral research fellow in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, was appointed associate editor for the *Journal of Alzheimer's Disease*. The international multidisciplinary journal facilitates progress in understanding the etiology, pathogenesis, epidemiology, genetics, behavior, treatment, and psychology of Alzheimer's disease.

Mona Tsoukleris, PharmD, published "Effectiveness of Nebulizer Use: Targeted Asthma Education on Underserved Children with Asthma" in *Archives of Pediatric Adolescent Medicine* in 2006.

Ashiwel Undie, PhD, was recognized at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County Mentor's Reception for having effectively shepherded several Meyerhoff/MARC/McNair students and interns into graduate programs. During the past 10 years, Undie has guided at least seven students into PhD, MD/PhD and PharmD/PhD programs at various institutions, including the School of Pharmacy.

Angela Wilks, PhD, presented "How Heme Tips the Struggle for Iron in Favor of the Bacterial Pathogen" at the 2006 Gordon Research Conference on "The Biology and Chemistry of Tetrapyrroles." The conference was held in July in Newport, R.I.

Faculty Present at World Congress Meeting in Brazil

Several faculty members traveled to Salvador Bahia, Brazil, in August for the World Congress of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences 2006, 66th International Congress of International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP). Every year, FIP organizes the World Congress of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, where thousands of pharmacists meet, learn, share, and exchange views. **Gary Smith, PharmD**, was co-chair of a session and gave a presentation, "Pharmacists as Advocates of Public Health: Does the Pharmacy School Curriculum Prepare Pharmacists for a Public Health Role?" **James Polli, PhD**, and **Peter Swaan, PhD**, also made presentations. Swaan's talk was "Application of Nanoparticles in Pharmaceutical Drug Delivery" in a nanotechnology symposium. Polli's talk was "Measurements of Solubility and Permeability" in a symposium on bioequivalence and the biopharmaceutical classification system.

ALUMNI *profile*

Yaffe Pharmacy Legacy Lives on in Scholarship

In 1973, when Leslie [Yaffe] Solomon was 32, her father's Potomac, Md., community pharmacy burned to the ground. To the Yaffe family, it was more than just a building. For Morris and his wife, Edna, and their children, Leslie, Bruce, and Samuel Yaffe, the pharmacy was like a member of the family. While they were waiting for the store to be rebuilt, the Yaffe family set up a trailer on the site to dispense prescriptions.

For the Yaffe children, the Potomac Village Pharmacy was as much about their father—and the summers they spent stocking the shelves and working the counter—as it was about the family business.

"The fire was traumatic for us," says Leslie. "The drug store was another part of the family. It was a big part of our lives." Seven years later, Morris Yaffe, suffering from heart disease, died at the age of 67.

Today, to commemorate Yaffe's commitment to pharmacy—a commitment that included his service as president and member of the Maryland Board of Pharmacy—his children are establishing a scholarship in his name.

"My father was very active in the pharmacy community, and he was very involved with students," says Bruce. "He would have wanted to help students obtain their degrees."

When it is fully funded in approximately five years with $25,000, the Morris R. Yaffe Scholarship Endowment will be awarded to students in the School of Pharmacy either through a merit-based system or on the basis of financial need.

For the Yaffe children, establishing the scholarship is the realization of a long-term dream that began 10 years ago. To Bruce, who worked in his father's community pharmacy during the summers and managed the store after it burned, establishing the scholarship is something he wasn't sure was possible.

Initially, the task seemed too expensive and complicated. "We thought you had to have hundreds of thousands of dollars, and that it was something only rich and famous people could do," adds Leslie. "But now I realize it's the perfect thing to do. My father would be really pleased."

Morris Yaffe graduated from the School of Pharmacy in 1936. After a short stint working for a pharmacist in downtown Washington, D.C., and then working for his brother, also a pharmacist, Yaffe opened his first pharmacy, Parkway Pharmacy, in Bethesda, Md. In 1956, an opportunity arose to open Potomac Village, where he quickly became an integral part of the community.

"Doc," as he was known by all, wouldn't hesitate to make prescription deliveries to sick customers in snowstorms or even after hours. He frequently visited area elementary schools and churches to lecture on drug use and abuse.

Leslie recalls how much her father enjoyed serving people. An amateur chef, Yaffe also hosted dinner parties for his clients, and Leslie would provide the homemade desserts.

"My dad loved his profession. He believed his job was to take care of people," she says.

—Robyn Fieser

Morris Yaffe, Class of 1936

To learn about ways you can create a scholarship or make a gift visit *www.pharmacy.umaryland.edu*

Using Forensic Tools to solve tough puzzles in *toxicology*

BY ROBYN FIESER

The ability to think critically is a crucial component of any science education. For two alumni of the School of Pharmacy, the development of that ability led them to careers a little far off the beaten path—even in the wide array of careers now possible to pharmacy graduates.

Through the field of forensic toxicology—developing drug and alcohol tests and procedures to determine the cause or causes of death—Yale Caplan, PhD '68, BSP '63, has spent most of his career solving pharmacological puzzles. The School of Pharmacy alumnus who followed in Caplan's forensic footsteps a few years later, Alphonse Poklis, PhD '74, BSP '69, became a nationally renowned forensic toxicologist educator and consultant.

When Caplan and Poklis received their doctoral degrees from the School of Pharmacy, the field of forensic toxicology was focused primarily on post-mortem toxicology. The field later expanded into the area of drug and alcohol testing in law enforcement and employment settings—areas in which Caplan and Poklis also work.

These days, surrounded by neatly piled folders in his Pikesville home, Caplan can pick the legal cases he wants to consult on—from medical malpractice and highway accidents—to tattoos gone awry. He has risen within his peers to arrive on the short list of about 20 board-certified forensic toxicologists in the United States who receive calls on cases as varied as adulterated urine samples in the workplace to how someone died in a homicide.

A former clinical professor of pathology in the School of Medicine and an adjunct professor in the School of Pharmacy, Caplan is representative of the versatile, science-based career that a pharmacy graduate can pursue.

From medicinal and physical chemistry to molecular biology and pharmacokinetics, students at the School of Pharmacy receive a solid education in the pharmaceutical sciences, as they develop the ability to think critically.

For Caplan, his bachelor's degree in pharmacy and doctoral degree in medicinal chemistry from the School of Pharmacy were preparation for a career in science in addition to preparation for a career in pharmacy. His interest in the field of medicinal chemistry was fueled at the School of Pharmacy. "Some of the professors were just phenomenal," says Caplan. "They went above and beyond the call of duty to get you interested."

After graduation, he planned to work for a pharmaceutical company in the area of drug development. "The big thing then was drug metabolism, how drugs are handled by the body," says Caplan. But that pharmaceutical position never surfaced. Instead, he accepted a position at Sinai Hospital of Baltimore doing preclinical evaluation

of new cancer drugs and preparing them for use in patients.

A year later came the real turning point: a job at the morgue.

The toxicology lab in the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME) in Baltimore offered Caplan the opportunity to apply the fundamentals he had learned in the School of Pharmacy. "Even though it's a professional degree, the pharmacy degree is both a degree and a license in science," says Caplan.

In the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, it was Caplan's job to identify poisons—everything from industrial chemicals to illegal drugs—in the bodies of the deceased through toxicological testing of blood, urine, hair, and tissue samples, and to confer with the medical examiners in determining the cause of death. In many cases, Caplan would comb through case histories to determine whether drugs and alcohol were involved.

The work perfectly blended Caplan's interests: drug metabolism, drug effects, and analysis. Caplan initially planned just to get some basic training at the OCME, where he worked under Henry Freimuth, a pioneer in the field. But at age 32, just five years after he started as an assistant toxicologist, he was made chief toxicologist, a position he kept until moving to a private laboratory in 1991.

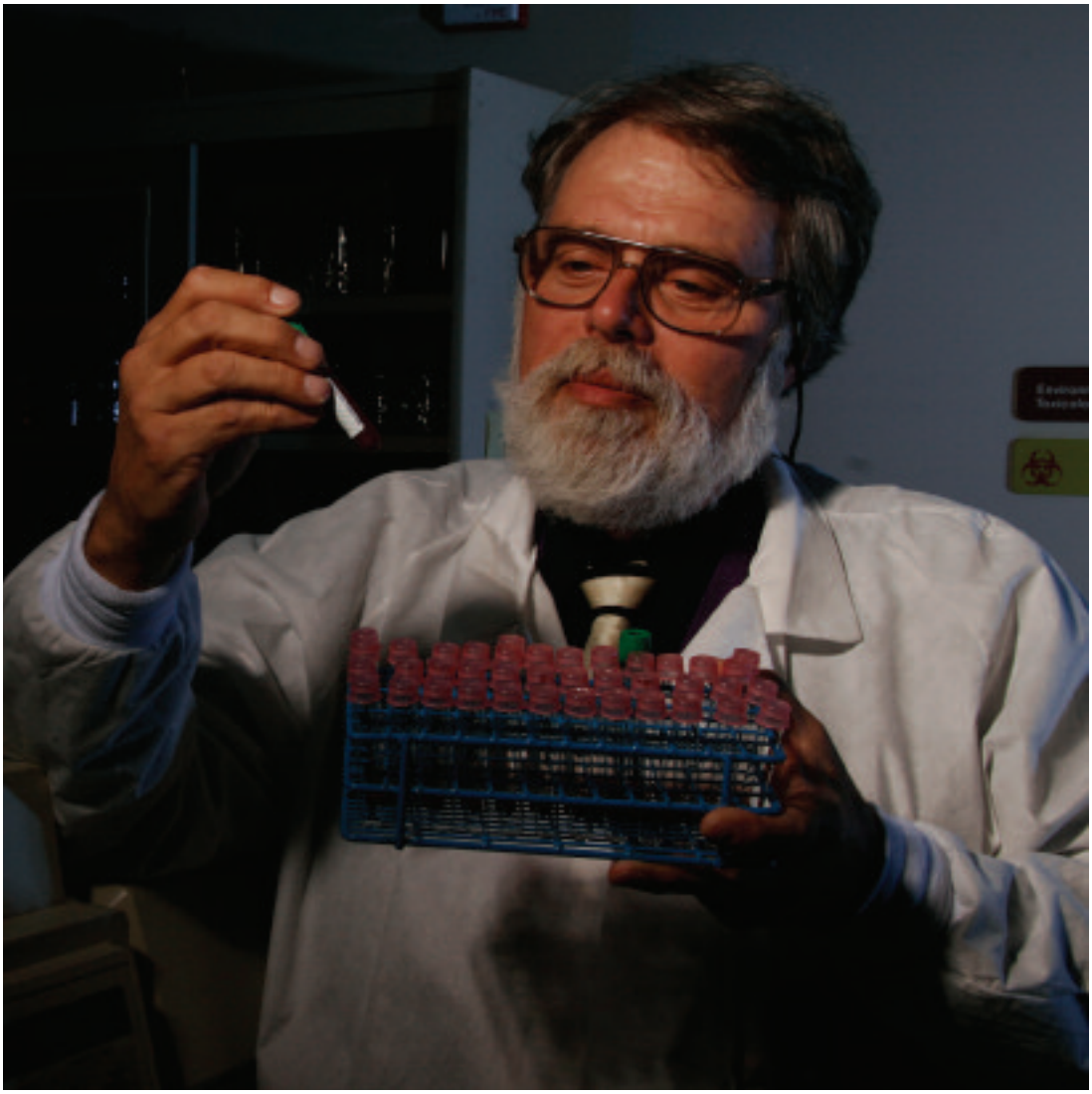
"Pharmacy, chemistry, biology—I have used them all. It was a comprehensive education that provided a high-reaching ladder of opportunity," he says.

It's the same ladder that Poklis climbed to become a renowned forensic toxicologist who consults and lectures on toxicology issues for organizations that include the FBI Academy. He also presents expert testimony in courts throughout the country. These days, Poklis is a professor of pathology at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) and an affiliate professor for forensic science, chemistry, and pharmacology.

Like Caplan, Poklis started his career in the halls of the School of Pharmacy, graduating in 1969. As a U.S. Public Health Service fellow, he too studied forensic toxicology at the OCME in Baltimore under Freimuth and received his doctorate degree in forensic

Yale Caplan, pictured at the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner in Baltimore, determines causes of death through forensic toxicology.

Photograph by Robert Burke



As a nationally renowned forensic toxicologist, Alphonse Poklis presents expert testimony in courts throughout the U.S.

toxicology in 1974 from the University of Maryland.

Just as Caplan did, Poklis spent a large part of his career in state offices of the medical examiner in Delaware, North Dakota, and Missouri, analyzing medical evidence in homicide cases and testifying in court.

A rash of homicide poisonings in St. Louis in the mid-1970s, where Poklis was the only certified forensic toxicologist at the time, landed him on the witness stand in a number of cases, including arsenic and poisonings.

His lectures at the FBI Academy on criminal poisonings and drug use in robbery, kidnapping, and sexual assault—to FBI agents and state and local law enforcement officers—made Poklis a valuable contact for law enforcement officials. When he moved to Virginia 20 years ago, those contacts led to consultancy work. "If anyone had a poisoning, they would go to their notes and remember me. At their suggestion, a prosecutor or investigating officer would give me a call," says Poklis.

By looking at emergency room records in one Los Angeles case, Poklis was able to determine how and where a woman continuously poisoned her husband with oleander, and eventually killed him with a lethal dose of antifreeze.

In other cases, he determined the timeline of chronic arsenic poisonings by piecing together hair samples and emergency room records. Over time, arsenic moves from the root of the hair through the strands of hair. Gaps in arsenic deposits throughout strands of hair represent time between poison doses. The chemical detective work that Poklis performed by tracking those gaps has been important when the evidence came up against a defense that argued that a chronic poisoning is a suicide.

In most cases, Poklis' and Caplans' analyses do not lead to court testimony. More often, they make suggestions about the kinds of toxicology tests and expert testimony a prosecutor will need for trial. If the defense hires a toxicologist to refute the prosecution and place doubt on the details of the poisoning, they serve as the rebuttal witnesses.

"When I look at something, I look at it as a toxicologist. I'm not trying to play attorney, but I'm thinking about what an attorney would do to refute the evidence," says Poklis. "I'm already looking—and prepared with the facts to use if they do that."

The key to giving testimony is making science understood, says Caplan. He took the same approach 20 years ago when he was put in charge of determining how Len Bias, a University of

Photographs by Jay Paul

Maryland basketball star, died.

The death, called one of sports' most shocking tragedies, spurred a flurry of controversy. "Everyone wanted to find an alternative to the idea that Bias inhaled the cocaine," says Caplan.

An empty soda can found at the death scene and trace amounts of cocaine in Bias' stomach gave rise to speculation that he was given cocaine without his knowledge. However, tests on the can found no trace of the drug. But cocaine was found on a straw. Caplan determined that the amount of cocaine found in Bias' stomach was consistent with what could have been deposited simply by inhaling the drug.

"It's a matter of understanding the science and letting the science tell the truth," Caplan says.

But for Caplan and Poklis, working on high-profile cases did not always garner as much attention as one would think. And that is not a bad thing. "Success is keeping your name out of the newspaper," Poklis says. "What I have found in explaining toxicology is that, even if you explain it well, it is still boring to the press."

A good example came in the 1980s when Poklis testified in the trial of a male, cardiac care nurse accused of murdering 12 hospital patients in the Los Angeles area with lidocaine, a drug used to slow the heart. Poklis, who had data from tissue tests on people accidentally injected with a lethal dose of the drug, was the rebuttal witness against the defense.

The trial started in October 1981 with a flurry of media activity. By the time Poklis testified in April the next year and the prosecution rested, only one local reporter was in attendance.

But the contributions of both Caplan and Poklis to the field of forensic toxicology extend far beyond post-mortem work.

Caplan developed new methodologies to allow broader testing—tests that could detect a wider variety of drugs. New tests become increasingly important as the number of new drugs steadily rises.

Caplan's specialty, however, is alcohol testing. State and local police conduct alcohol testing (for cases of driving while intoxicated) in Maryland under the scientific oversight of the state's chief toxicologist. That means Caplan wrote the regulations for alcohol testing, certified the equipment, and trained police officers to use it. He also interpreted the tests for accidents that required legal testimony. When state lawmakers considered legislation on alcohol testing over the years—decreasing the blood alcohol level, for example—they consulted Caplan.

When drug testing hit the federal workplace under a mandate by President Ronald Reagan, Caplan was at the forefront. He developed one of the first laboratories to become certified under the new program.

He trained thousands of medical review officers, who analyze employer drug tests and look for alternative explanations to positive results for illegal drug use.

Drug testing work led Caplan to many cases involving challenges to federal drug testing programs. He testified, for example, in cases in which the pilots' union sued the Federal Aviation Administration over its drug-testing policy.

More recently, he testified on the merits of the federal workplace drug-testing program after job candidates were found to manipulate urine samples to pass the test.

"I never thought I would write a paper about the characterization of urine. Everyone knows what urine is, but the question was, is the urine really urine?" says Caplan. "How diluted can it be? That became an issue in workplace testing."

Today he still consults with federal agencies, including the Department of Transportation, on workplace testing. His accomplishments are apparent by the number of prestigious positions he has held, including current president of the American Board of Forensic Toxicology and past president of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences.

But with everything the two School of Pharmacy alumni have accomplished over the years, it is teaching that brings them the greatest satisfaction.

Poklis, who teaches in several departments at VCU and runs the university's medical center toxicology laboratory, considers himself lucky to have been able to mix research with practice and teaching.

"I love working with young people," said Poklis. "They keep you young."

Caplan agrees. "They are your legacy," he says. "The students are the major contribution; you really live on through them."

"When I look at something, I look at it as a toxicologist. I'm not trying to play attorney, but I'm thinking about what an attorney would do to refute the evidence."

— Alphonse Poklis

PRECEPTORS

Build the Profession for Tomorrow's Generation

BY JEFFREY RAYMOND

Left to right: Preceptor Hoai An Truong, student pharmacists Amol Joshi, Margaret Roberts, Marie Meyer, Kun Cai, and Preceptor Sheri Haupt collaborated on a summer safety patient education project during an advanced practice community pharmaceutical care rotation at Happy Harry's Pharmacy in Perryville, Md. last August.

Pharmacy educators are working hard to meet a growing demand nationwide for pharmacists, even as pharmacy professionals are being challenged to provide more comprehensive services.

The most recent results from the Pharmacy Manpower Project show the demand index at 4.21 on a five-point scale, continuing a trend "toward a more severe national shortage." Meanwhile, the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) reported that 86 Doctor of Pharmacy programs were fully accredited as of January 2006, with four more at candidate status and five at precandidate status. Educational standards simultaneously are being raised, placing additional pressure on programs.

The University of Maryland School of Pharmacy is prepared to meet these challenges with, among other things, plans to expand its student enrollment—and its roster of preceptors. These measures will take one of the nation's foremost pharmacy schools to an even higher level.

Assistant Professor Cynthia J. Boyle, PharmD, is trying to stay ahead of the curve. As director of the Experiential Learning Program, Boyle is charged with recruiting and retaining preceptors—practicing pharmacists who accept assignments to teach students in the clinical environment, which has become an increasingly complex endeavor.

ACPE standards already mandate that students receive 25 percent of their training from preceptors in various practice settings. And according to Boyle, 2007 standards will raise the figure to 30 percent.

Providing introductory and advanced rotations for students throughout all four professional years is a point of pride for the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy. But that means the constant search for preceptors is gaining intensity. With more than 500 preceptors affiliated with the School, there still remains a need for more practitioners to work with pharmacy students, especially in certain areas such as ambulatory care, internal medicine, and advanced community and institutional experiences.

Other programs, meanwhile, are looking to add to their own rosters. Although the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy is the only one of its kind in the state, a number of pharmacy schools

Ginger Apyar, PD, BSP
Pharmacy Manager, Happy Harry's Pharmacy
Kent Island, Md.; President, Maryland
Pharmacists Association

"What makes being a preceptor so rewarding for me is seeing the enthusiasm the student pharmacist brings into the community pharmacy to advance patient care. Each student pharmacist I have had on rotation has been totally committed to the patient.

My role has been to take this dynamic and have the student pharmacist learn to effectively communicate the clinical information to the patient and to answer any over-the-counter questions that may arise. I try to instill in each student pharmacist that once they graduate, they need to stay involved in the future of pharmacy by joining one of the professional associations."

Jeffrey Brewer, PharmD, BCPS '98
Clinical Pharmacy Specialist, Primary Care
Department of Pharmacy; Director, PGY2
Ambulatory Care Pharmacy Residency
The Johns Hopkins Hospital

"Teaching is an extension of my passion for pharmacy. I have always wanted to help people and with two parents who were educators, I believe pharmacy and precepting are the core of my God-given vocation in life. But it is not always easy. Between my attitude, the learner's attitude and job stress, precepting can be downright impossible at times. The keys to a good learning experience are concise learning objectives, clear expectations from both parties discussed up front, balanced constructive criticism and praise, opportunities for the learner to excel—and having fun when appropriate."

Brian Grover, PharmD, BCPS '03
Clinical Specialist, University of Maryland
Medical Center

"This is my second year as a preceptor. I became a preceptor because I like working with the students to help them learn how to become more effective clinical practitioners.

They get the general information through their classes. I enjoy helping to reinforce that information and allowing them to apply it directly to specific patients.

I hope that the students find their rotations exciting and feel they are benefiting from the experience. I look forward to precepting because the students continue to help me learn how to be a more effective educator."

in the nearby states of Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia, as well as the District of Columbia, also use Maryland preceptors.

Boyle says other schools often are competing not only for top students, but also for pharmacists willing to serve as preceptors. Schools also compete for sites for experiential learning. "It's a challenge within all schools of pharmacy," she acknowledges.

Serving as a preceptor can be challenging and time-consuming work. Preceptors are appointed as clinical faculty members with official standing and must create learning opportunities in specific areas of study. "A rotation is not just an experience; it's also a course," says Boyle. Preceptors must evaluate students' performance in meeting course objectives—all while meeting the obligations of their primary jobs.

In 2005, the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy published specific criteria for what makes an excellent preceptor. An exemplary preceptor should be a role-model practitioner; be an effective, organized, and enthusiastic teacher; encourage self-directed learning with constructive feedback; have well-developed interpersonal skills; possess leadership/management skills; and embody his/her practice philosophy.

The University of Maryland School of Pharmacy provides its "Academy of Preceptors," which is comprised of all active preceptors, with both instruction and assistance, including development seminars and a preceptor survival kit for basic training. In return, preceptors receive what Boyle calls "a modest honorarium" and are invited to School events throughout the year.

Boyle says she looks for preceptors who, for altruistic reasons or a tie to the School or the profession, simply want to teach future generations of pharmacists. The job takes a level of commitment—to their workplace and their students—that is not easily reached. And preceptors must possess the professionalism to represent the School.

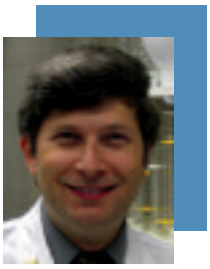
"There is a lot of expertise out there," Boyle says. She maintains close ties to state pharmacy groups and finds that leaders of professional organizations frequently are preceptors. "They are sometimes our best ambassadors."

Boyle hears, almost universally, the same motivations from preceptors willing to serve: a desire to share their knowledge; a sense of loyalty to the School; a sense that interacting with students helps keep their own skills sharp; and an opportunity to

Elora Hilmas, PharmD, BCPS '99
Pediatric Pharmacy Manager and Clinical Specialist, University of Maryland Medical Center

"I am a preceptor because I love to teach. I have taught pharmacy students, pharmacy practice residents, and pediatric specialty residents. Each experience has challenged me at different levels, and I find that I learn as much from students as I teach them.

My school rotations were inspirational because of the wonderful role models I met who encouraged me to excel. I especially enjoy it when I am able to inspire a student to pursue pediatric practice. My favorite preceptor experiences have come when I have been able to hire former students or assist students with finding residencies or jobs."



Scott Kuperman, PD, BSP '88
Compounding Pharmacist/Manager for NeighborCare Pharmacy, Columbia, Md.

"I have been a preceptor since a few years after graduation and have continued to find it an immensely satisfying and educational experience. I do this because I felt I owed a debt of gratitude to the University for providing such excellent preparation for my career.

It has been fascinating, observing how the curriculum has evolved over time to produce more and more highly trained clinicians, and to see how the student body has become so marvelously diverse. The most satisfying part of being a preceptor is coming in contact with former students once they become licensed pharmacists and knowing that I have had some part in their becoming practitioners of our noble profession.

By precepting, I feel that I can continue to make a greater difference in improving health care, not only among the patients with whom I directly interact, but, by extension, with the individuals my former students serve as well."

Deirdre Younger, RPh, MS
Coordinator, Pharmacy and Support Services Health Center Pharmacy, University of Maryland, College Park

"I precept students because I enjoy teaching and serving as a role model. Precepting allows me to give back to the profession in a way that can influence future pharmacists— and subsequently the profession.

It also gives me the opportunity to view pharmacy through fresh eyes with new and different perspectives. I have found that students can often see situations more subjectively.

One of my favorite things is to discuss these new perspectives and determine if any can be implemented at my practice site to enhance the experiences of students and possibly even customer service."

give back to the profession.

Some students, in fact, complete their experiential rotations determined to become preceptors themselves. That attitude thrills Boyle, who loves enlisting recent graduates, although she sometimes questions whether bright-eyed students fully understand the responsibilities involved. "We should do a better job of explaining to each graduating class exactly what preceptors do," she says.

Boyle sees progress on the horizon in an effort to make the preceptor's job easier, at least administratively. Pharmacy schools, which sometimes share preceptors, know they must standardize student assessment processes and perhaps schedules. She believes a likely place to start is with advanced practice rotations, which occur in most schools after didactic coursework is finished.

While the School does what it can to help students and preceptors succeed together, issues at the clinical site can arise. The School monitors those issues but, Boyle says, students "need to be problem solvers and accept responsibility."

Meanwhile, a particularly good student experience with a preceptor can lead to a long-lasting mentoring relationship in which a preceptor may follow up with educational and career advice, write letters of recommendation, or even serve as what Boyle calls a "life coach." By being exposed to a number of preceptors, even the most focused students can learn to value parts of their education and the profession that they might not otherwise have considered.

"Inevitably," Boyle says, "students are exposed to things that change their minds or open their eyes."

Pharmacists Help to Ease Pain for the Dying

BY GWEN NEWMAN

Today's pharmacists are helping to alleviate the pain and suffering of the more than 1 million hospice patients in the United States who are nearing death each day. Some do it through the medications they provide; others do it through the knowledge they dispense or the time they share counseling patients or educating providers.

As creator of the nation's first residency program in palliative care for pharmacists, University of Maryland School of Pharmacy Professor Mary Lynn McPherson, PharmD '86, is actively training others to take on this crucial role that is steadily gaining in both visibility and popularity—a role she relishes.

"There is a saying that there are two things you can count on in life—paying taxes and dying," says McPherson, who is also a professor in the School of Nursing. "That dying part is important. Nowhere in your whole life are fears and misconceptions more rampant than in death and dying."

For McPherson, a pharmacist active in end-of-life care for the past 18 years, one of the greatest compliments of her career came from a personal note of thanks. It was sent to a hospice team from someone who noted that a "miracle drug" had not just eased the pain and suffering of a loved one, it eliminated it. It was, McPherson says, the first time that patient had felt no pain in many months. The physical relief brought emotional relief for everyone around the patient—and personal satisfaction for those who, like McPherson, so often work quietly behind the scenes to enhance the quality of life for others.

The field of palliative care is relatively young, and the number of hospice programs has grown from just a handful in 1974 to more than 4,000 today—with most care delivered in the comfort of the patient's home. Hospice patients are those for whom treatment has switched from cure to comfort, with an emphasis on enhancing the quality of life of those last remaining days.

Almost half of all hospice patients have been diagnosed with cancer; others suffer from side effects from debilitating and chronic diseases such as diabetes and heart disease. Most hospice patients have fewer than six months to live and are on multiple

Mary Lynn McPherson, PharmD

McPherson says that pharmacists are being called upon more and more frequently to educate the physicians and nurses who are actually administering the drugs.

medications with varied and complex sets of potential side effects.

Long known for dispensing medications from behind the counters of local drug stores, pharmacists today are increasingly being recognized for their expertise in pain management as well as their skill as counselors, communicators, and educators. Nowhere is this more visible than in the growing field of palliative care. Pharmacists are prominent members of a diverse palliative care team focused not only on the medical but also on the financial, mental, emotional, and spiritual concerns of dying patients and their loved ones.

As the illness runs its course, many hospice patients endure increasing ailments, as well as pain, until they pass away. McPherson teaches her students that short-term solutions are sometimes as simple as re-evaluating the patient's current drugs.

An adjustment may be needed in dosage or in form of a drug. Some drugs might be discontinued due to side effects; others may be introduced for ease of use. A patient having a hard time swallowing large tablets may benefit from an alternative administered via liquid. A more potent drug administered less often throughout the day may be substituted for a less potent drug that requires more frequent disruption of the patient's daily schedule. It often is the pharmacist who can identify alternative drugs that are more effective, easier to use, less costly for the patient, and more economical for the health care system.

"It drives me insane to hear, 'There's nothing more I can do for you,'" says McPherson. More and more frequently, she adds, pharmacists are being called upon to educate the physicians and nurses who are actually administering the drugs and to counsel patients and their family members. They also remain on constant call to answer questions or respond to concerns from either health care providers or loved ones of hospice patients.

The quest for both more effective drugs and longer-lasting pain relief is the job of more and more pharmacists, and they are passing this knowledge on to others. Many of them find their way to Baltimore, where the School of Pharmacy offers a one-year residency in palliative care. The goal of this residency—the first of its kind when created 10 years ago and one of just a handful nationwide—is to help the resident develop expert knowledge and skills in palliative care, including pain and symptom management.

The course is comprehensive, diverse, and demanding. All residents participate in experiential rotations in a variety of settings including home-based palliative care, in-patient palliative care, acute pain management, oncology, and hospice/palliative care programs. All residents of the palliative care program also provide actual pharmaceutical care to hospice programs and have teaching responsibilities with students on palliative care rotation through the School of Pharmacy.

Laura Scarpaci, PharmD, was a first-year pharmacy student when her grandfather was admitted into a hospice program. The experience cemented her career focus. She completed the palliative care residency program in 2006. Today, she helps train pharmacists who work directly with many of the nation's hospices.

"I was able to see firsthand the benefit my grandfather and my family were able to receive from the hospice program," Scarpaci recalls. "And as a student at the School of Pharmacy, it struck me how different the field of palliative medicine is from other areas of health care. It truly embraces a team approach to caring for a patient. Every discipline is involved—including pharmacy, nursing, medicine, social work, and spiritual care."

The residency program was first suggested by Calvin Knowlton, PhD, '92, a pharmacist and noted entrepreneur who earned his doctorate in pharmacoeconomics

from the University of Maryland. He saw a growing need for pharmacists knowledgeable in pain management to keep pace with the growing hospice community and to treat each patient individually versus systematically.

In 1996, Knowlton launched excelleRx, a Philadelphia-based company that provides pharmaceutical products and services to approximately 800 hospice agencies with some 70,000 patients in 46 states. Three state-of-the-art call centers in Philadelphia, Memphis, and Phoenix allow specially trained pharmacists and support staff to provide clinical consultations to hospice nurses and physicians. The excelleRx call center takes as many as 6,000 calls and dispenses an estimated 25,000 prescriptions daily.

Knowlton's vision is for pharmacists to provide prospective medication management services. ExcelleRx pharmacists use evidence-based guidelines and best practices to select the most appropriate medication for the patient—first through patient-specific assessments, then through analyzed data. The company has built a computer software program that can quickly summarize past patient experiences with certain drugs and/or drug combinations in order to better tailor current patient care plans.

Knowlton has earned many accolades for his pioneering roles. At the same time that he was launching excelleRx, he was advocating for more specialized training programs in which pharmacists are valued and rewarded for their expertise in pain management and knowledge of palliative care and end-of-life issues.

McPherson recalls his proposal and is delighted at the response to what she calls the oldest and "most enduring" of residency programs for pharmacists specializing in palliative care.

Jill Pfeiffenberger, PharmD, completed the residency program in 2002. She now serves as vice president of learning and development with excelleRx and oversees the professional training and continuing education of the company's pharmacists and technicians.

Bridget Fowler, PharmD, who had the experience of working with AIDS patients and "seeing firsthand how treatments can affect quality of life," completed the program in 2001. Today, she is a member of the palliative care team at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston, Mass., where she mentors other clinical specialists, coordinates the institute's oncology and palliative care residency program, and leads the educational efforts for the institute's pharmacy department.

"The University of Maryland program not only provided me with an education in palliative care, but it also taught me how to be an effective teacher, which has been one of the most valuable lessons," says Fowler. "I would certainly recommend the program to any pharmacist with an interest in improving a patient's quality of life. The skills learned can easily be applied to so many areas including hospice, palliative care, pain clinics, oncology, HIV/AIDS, and other advanced diseases."

"Lynn is a very effective preceptor," adds Fowler. "She pushed me farther than I thought I could go in one short year."

Pfeiffenberger agrees, "Lynn is dedicated to educating health care professionals in the field of palliative care so they can in turn provide better care for patients at the end of their life. She is highly motivated and passionate about this area and in making a difference. She instills this in each of her residents."

"I would absolutely recommend the program to others," says Scarpaci, who is now a clinical education manager at excelleRx. "I find that this field, although very sad at times, can also be one of the most fulfilling. By helping to relieve patients' symptoms, you are allowing them to spend very valuable time with their friends and family."

Calvin Knowlton, PhD

Calvin Knowlton, founder of excelleRx, saw a growing need for pharmacists knowledgeable in pain management to keep pace with the growing hospice community.

STUDENT *news*

UMB Fall Fest

School of Pharmacy students enjoy the annual Fall Fest, a campuswide celebration to kick off the new semester.

Correction

In the fall 2005 issue of *Capsule,* we erroneously reported Dennis Ferguson, BSP '79, as one of the speakers at the Student Leadership Retreat. The speaker was actually Paul Gurny, deputy secretary for Health Care Financing in the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. We apologize for the error.

Katie Fuller and Mary Bradbury at the top in Utah

SCODAE Activites

Top Addiction Conference in Utah

Through the help of the Student Committee on Drug Abuse Education (SCODAE) and SGA funding, the five SCODAE officers attended the nation's top addiction conference: The University of Utah's School on Alcoholism and Other Drug Dependencies in Salt Lake City in June. After a week of intense emotional, academic, and professional lectures, meetings, and workshops, the officers had a chance to enjoy the beautiful natural landscape of the Wasatch mountain range and the attractions of downtown Salt Lake City. This conference has provided invaluable experience for recovering addicts, addiction counselors, or substance abuse health professionals. "It also provided some real life insight into our own teaching programs as well as help for our experiences later in life as an individual and a pharmacist," said Michael Filtz. "I think it is the extracurricular activities and opportunities, such as these, that make the School of Pharmacy such a well-rounded program and helps to develop better professional pharmacists," he added.

SCODAE officers (left to right): former President Nicholas Tsourounis, Treasurer Joni Pederson, President Kristin Micciche, Vice President Katie Fuller, Secretary Mary Bradbury, and Historian/Webmaster Michael Filtz

Organizational Gala

First-year PharmD students mingle at the Organizational Gala, where the School's 17 student organizations are showcased. The event helps new students get involved in student activities.

Pasta Lunch

Anthony Tommasello, PhD, director of the Office of Substance Abuse, and Michael Filtz help prepare food at the annual SCODAE pasta lunch. The lunch helps attract students to join the organization, as well as raising operating funds.

SGA Boat Cruise

This year's SGA Boat Cruise drew the largest turnout ever. More than 220 students, faculty, residents, and staff climbed on board the Bay Lady on Sept. 26 for dinner, dancing, pharmacy contests, and casino-like games. This year's cruise was generously co-sponsored by Giant Pharmacy, which also provided about $1,000 in raffle prizes.

STUDENT *news*

Laurels

Charlene Ramjohn-Bashk, PharmD, a PhD candidate in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, received an American Foundation for Pharmaceutical Education Pre-doctoral Fellowship Award. The award enables students to make progress in pursuit of their PhD.

Michael Cuda, second-year PharmD student, was selected by the Mayo Clinic in Florida to be a pharmacy intern during the past summer.

Christopher Cunningham, a PhD candidate in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, received a travel award from International Narcotics Research to attend its conference in St. Paul, Minn.

Hazem E. Hassan, a PhD candidate in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, was awarded the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists (AAPS) Graduate Student Symposium in Pharmacokinetics, Pharmacodynamics, Drug Metabolism, and Clinical Studies. The award was presented this fall at the AAPS annual meeting in San Antonio, Texas.

Jing Julia Ju, a PhD candidate in the Department of Pharmaceutical Health Sciences Research, received the School of Pharmacy Arthur Schwartz Memorial Scholarship for this academic year. She is currently completing coursework and developing her dissertation topic.

Latasha Weeks, fourth-year PharmD student, was chosen as the national secretary of the Student National Pharmaceutical Association, (SNPhA) for 2006-2007 at this year's convention. She has just completed her term as president of the UMB chapter of SNPhA. Weeks is joined on the national front by **Lisa Clayville**, fourth-year PharmD student, who is the American Pharmacists Association Academy of Student Pharmacists member-at-large on the Executive Committee, and **Jaime Wilkins**, third-year PharmD student, who is vice chair of the American Association of Health Care Professionals Student Forum Executive Committee.

Kelly Kitchens, a PhD candidate in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, was selected by the Controlled Release Society,(CRS)-Capsugel Award Committee to receive one of the 2006 Capsugel Innovative Aspects of Oral Drug Delivery & Absorption Awards. Kitchens presented her paper "Size, Charge and Surface Modification Influence Poly (Amidoamine) Transport" at the annual CRS meeting in Vienna, Austria in July.

Vijay V. Upreti, a PhD candidate in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, received first prize for an oral presentation given at Graduate Research Day at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. The category was Chemical Engineering, Health Sciences, and Pharmaceutical Sciences. Upreti also was selected by the 2006 Program Committee of the American College of Clinical Pharmacology as one of eight students to receive a Student/Trainee Award. The award recognizes outstanding research abstracts submitted for the 35th Annual Meeting, held in September in Cambridge, Mass.

Satish Valluri, a PhD candidate in the Department of Pharmaceutical Health Sciences Research, has been elected president of the Graduate Students Association (GSA) at the University of Maryland, Baltimore for 2006-07. GSA is comprised of graduate students from the various schools of UMB.

Project Jump Start

Every Friday evening, a group of University of Maryland, Baltimore students ventures into West Baltimore with meals, toiletries, and clothing, looking for people in need of help. Using these tokens as a kind of "street cred," says John E. Watts IV, a fourth-year student in the School of Pharmacy, members of the group are able to talk with the homeless about their health and social needs, and try to connect them with resources at the University. "This population is very fragile," adds Watts, leader of this mercy mission called Project Jump Start. "If you break the trust once, you might not see them again."

The leaders of Project Jump Start recently won three $2,000 Albert Schweitzer Fellowship grants to help fulfill their mission of improving the health of some of the poorest people on the West Side of Baltimore. The project involves students from other University schools, including student leaders Dan Anderson from the School of Medicine, and Patricia C. Keegan from the School of Social Work.

Although the students don't provide any medical care, they do use their skills to identify the medical and social needs of the homeless people they meet, then find appropriate channels to meet those needs. To keep the project going after they graduate, the student leaders are seeking retired medical professionals willing to donate their time and skills, as well as students looking for clinical and philanthropic opportunities.

Watts says he's wanted to do philanthropic work since he was a child and realized the disparities between his comfortable life on a Colorado farm and the lives of those born into poverty around the world. With a background in classical music, he recently organized a concert to benefit Project Jump Start. "It just seems wrong," he says, "not to share the talents you have been given."

— Jeffrey Raymond

A Message from the Alumni President

Joe DeMino

With fall in full swing and the holidays before us, there won't be a dull moment ahead as the Alumni Association moves forward with its goals to:

- Strengthen outreach and membership
- Improve communication with alumni through print and Web efforts
- Create lasting traditions through Alumni Association-sponsored events, such as the Graduation Banquet and our new Jazz Mimosa Reunion Brunch.

Following the overwhelming response and success of last year's alumni and friends receptions, we will continue to host receptions across the country taking advantage of many national conference sites. Mark your calendars now and expect Maryland alumni to be out in full force this year at National Community Pharmacists Association, (Las Vegas), American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists, (San Antonio), American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (Anaheim, Calif.), American Pharmaceutical Association (Atlanta), and Maryland Pharmacists Association (Ocean City, Md.).

We also have added several receptions including "Gifts of Time" in October, which recognized the volunteer efforts of alumni, preceptors, and friends of the School of Pharmacy. Other alumni events include a Montgomery County reception at the Lakewood Country Club in November, and in January, a reception for alumni employed by various government agencies, including the U.S. Public Health Services and U.S. Food and Drug Administration. For details, please visit our alumni calendar and Web site at: *www.pharmacy.umaryland.edu/alumni*.

When meeting and speaking with alumni across the state, I get a recurrent question: *What is the benefit of being part of, or taking a more active role in, the Alumni Association?*

Whether it has been a single year or two decades since you crossed through the hallowed doors of the School of Pharmacy, the benefit of being a Maryland-brand pharmacist is that you have a built-in network of contacts with someone always willing and available to assist you.

Being a Maryland alumnus opens doors and sparks conversations. Whether it is becoming a preceptor and giving back to the profession, helping with the admissions of future pharmacists, or just coming out to socialize at one of our many events, you will feel that Maryland pride. Come join us this year! Get involved and build connections that will last a lifetime.

Remember this is YOUR alumni association. Thank you for making me proud of my profession and my alma mater.

Sincerely,

Joseph A. DeMino, BSP '84
President

Alumni Association Executive Board Members (*Front row left to right*): Anne Leavitt; Doris Voigt, PharmD '04; Abigail Strawberry, BSP '93; Jen Fan, PharmD '97. (*Back row left to right*): Lynette Bradley-Baker, PhD '99, BSP '92; Joe DeMino, BSP '84; Tony Guerra, PharmD '97; Matt Shimoda, PharmD '84; Chuck Sandler, BSP '62; and Capt. James Bresette, PharmD '97.

ALUMNI *profile*

Maryland Delegate Bennett Bozman in Washington, D.C.

Bozman served as a volunteer in the Berlin Fire Company for 35 years, including a period as chief.

Bozman and Maryland Delegate Norman Conway

SCHOOL LOSES GOOD FRIEND:

Honoring Bennett Bozman

On April 27, the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy lost Bennett Bozman, a graduate of its Class of 1961, a practicing community pharmacist throughout most of his career, and a longtime member of the Maryland General Assembly. He died from complications of diabetes just days before his 70th birthday. Bozman is remembered for working tirelessly throughout his career on behalf of the citizens of the state of Maryland, the profession of pharmacy, the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy, pharmacy students, and those who pharmacists serve.

"His dual passions for public service and pharmacy crossed at the School of Pharmacy," recalls Dean David A. Knapp, PhD.

Calling Bozman "a staunch friend of the school," Knapp adds that Bozman, throughout his career in public service, worked closely with the School to help it grow. "Bennett was a key player in ensuring that the School received planning funds for our new building," says Knapp.

After graduating from the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy, Bozman served as a pharmacist in the U.S. Coast Guard until 1969, then returned to the Maryland Eastern Shore to open a pharmacy practice. By the late 1970s he was becoming active politically, serving on the Worcester County Democratic Central Committee from 1978 to 1990. He was elected to the Maryland General Assembly's House of Delegates in 1991, representing Wicomico and Worcester counties. He ultimately took a leadership role in the House in 1995, serving as deputy majority whip.

During his service on the House Ways and Means Committee, Bozman worked closely with committee member and Montgomery County Delegate Sheila Hixson.

"To know him was to love him," says Del. Hixson. "When he was your friend, he was your friend; there was no vacillating. Bennett had compassion and understanding."

According to Del. Hixson, Bozman had three important "worlds "—family, pharmacy—and the volunteer fire department. Bozman served in the Berlin volunteer fire department for 35 years, where he served as

Bennett and
Betty Ann Bozman

Bennett with daughters Sondra Daisey (left) and Katherine Engle

fire chief as well. The day after his death, the Berlin firehouse was draped in black and black sashes hung from the fire engines.

Those who served in the General Assembly with Bozman have also felt his loss, from both public and private perspectives.

"He never let the General Assembly forget health care, and pharmacy was never left out of health care policy issues," says Hixson. "He was a roving ambassador for the School of Pharmacy and he kept the School and the profession of pharmacy in the eyes of the Legislature."

Chair of the House Committee on Appropriations Delegate Norman Conway, who also represents Wicomico and Worcester counties, worked closely with Bozman for almost 20 years. He recalls that Bozman did not just serve constituents on the Eastern Shore. Rather, he served the citizens of Maryland.

"We were the 'Shore Boys,' and proud to be so, but were able to build bridges with our colleagues," says Conway. "Bennett believed in a 'One Maryland' concept that meant that if there was a problem in any part of Maryland, then Maryland had a problem, and he was first to seek solutions."

Volunteerism and community service were important to Bozman. He belonged to and played key roles in organizations such as the Veterans of Foreign Wars, The Elks, Ducks Unlimited, Berlin-Ocean City Jaycees, Berlin Lions Club and Worcester County Farm Bureau. His public service associations included membership on the Maryland Tourism Development Board, and service on the Forum for Rural Maryland and the Board of County Commissioners, among others. In 1989, he was the recipient of the Bowl of Hygeia for the State of Maryland, a national pharmacy award.

Bozman also was a long time active member of the Maryland Pharmacists Association (MPhA). At its summer 2006 meeting, MPhA offered for the first time the *Bennett Bozman Scholarship Award*, through which Bozman's legacy of public service and pharmacy will live on through pharmacy students.

"It will be awarded every year to a pharmacy student who demonstrates the same kind of commitment to community service and advocacy for pharmacy that Bennett was known for," says MPhA executive director Howard Schiff.

The first recipient of the *Bennett Bozman Scholarship Award* was Lisa Clayville, a third-year student who also is the Academy of Student Pharmacists member at large and a native of the Maryland Eastern Shore.

"It's a great honor," says Clayville. "Not only because I am from the Eastern Shore, but because I knew Del. Bozman and respected and admired him. I only hope that I can follow in his footsteps."

"Bennett was a true advocate for pharmacy, he was always ready to do anything for pharmacy," concurs John Balch, current president of the Maryland Board of Pharmacy and president and CEO of Pharmacare in Cumberland, Md. "He was instrumental in promoting a diabetes management program and recently sponsored legislation that provides for the registration and regulation of pharmacy technicians in the state of Maryland."

According to Balch, Bozman also had a special interest. **"**He fought for money, yes, and was always concerned about health care accessibility in rural areas."

Bozman stayed connected to the School through its alumni association. In 1998 he received the Honored Alumnus Award and again in 2006, posthumously.

"Bennett received the award because of his outstanding accomplishments and leadership in the profession of pharmacy, as well as his commitment of time and energy to the School," says Dean Knapp.

That Bozman maintained close ties with his pharmacy alumni is not surprising, according to Conway who cites Bozman's passion for keeping up with all his constituents.

"He was a people person," says Conway. "He found time to talk to everybody. He loved to use the telephone to keep in touch. People felt that they could go to him, that he would listen."

For Hixson, Bozman's life and legacy just might be embodied in that recollection. "He was a big teddy bear. I loved him."

— Randolph Fillmore

ALUMNI *news*

Do You Have Great News to Share?

Please send us information about your personal and professional life. Have you changed jobs, had a recent promotion, received an honor or appointment? Did you recently get married or celebrate the birth of a child? Do you have an interesting hobby or participate in community service projects?

Please let us know by completing the School of Pharmacy's new online class notes form at *www.pharmacy.umaryland.edu/alumni*.

All alumni who submit a class notes update by January 31, 2007, will be entered into a drawing for a chance to win a University of Maryland School of Pharmacy sweatshirt and an invitation to a private lunch with a faculty member! The winner will be notified by February 15, 2007.

Alumni & Friends | Cambridge, Md.

State legislators and faculty attended the Cambridge Alumni & Friends reception in June including (from left to right) Del. Adelaide C. Eckardt with her husband Dick, and Associate Professor Ashiwel Undie.

Marisa (Biava) Morris and her husband, J. Chad Morris, both PharmD '02 graduates, enjoy an evening out at the June reception in Cambridge before the birth of their daughter Ashley.

Assistant Professor Fred Abramson, BSP '56 (at far right), shares a moment with alumni (from left to right) Dennis Ferguson, BSP '79, and Kevin Chappel, PharmD '99.

John Gregory, DPS '02, BSP '76, and School of Pharmacy Dean David A. Knapp are all smiles at the reception held at the Cambridge Hyatt.

Maryland Pharmacists Association (MPhA) Crab Feast

Fred Abramson, BSP '56; Jeff Scheer; Clay Warrington, BSP '58; Angelo Voxakis, BSP '71; and George Voxakis, BSP '58, PharmD '96, take a photo break during the crab feast at the MPhA conference this summer.

It's a family moment as Gerry Herpel, BSP '82, and daughter, Grace Anne, pause from picking crabs at the MPhA Annual Conference Crab Feast to pose for the camera.

Alumni Events

Founders Week Gala

With the 2006 Founder's Gala theme of Illustrious Alumni, friends and alumni turned out in their finest formal wear to share in the campuswide celebration of excellence.

Regent Robert Mitchell (second from left) and his wife, Marlene (left), with Anita and Joe DeMino, BSP '84

Dean Knapp, Billie and Harold Chappelear, DSC '98; Michele Ewing; Jeanne Lim, PharmD 2010 candidate; Jim Bresette, PharmD '97; John Watts, PharmD 2007 candidate; Phyllis Lovito, academic coordinator; Celeste Bresette; and Mike Dobbs.

Jared and Melanie Belcher, PharmD 2008 candidate; Matt Shimoda, PharmD '84; Associate Professor Magaly Rodriguez de Bittner, PharmD '83; and Debra and Charles Downs, PharmD '73.

American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists (AAPS)

Many alumni and friends from industry enjoyed the San Antonio reception during the AAPS Conference to celebrate the launching of the national search for the Shangraw/Noxell Endowed Chair in Industrial Pharmacy and Pharmaceutics.

Pankaj Gala, PhD '90, and Larry Block, BSP '62, PhD '69

Left to right: Bipin Mistry, PhD '99; Umang Shah, PhD '96; and Al Brzeczko, PhD '90 are all business at the reception.

ALUMNI *news*

Gifts of Time Reception

As a special thank you for alumni, preceptors, and friends for their volunteer service and dedication, the School of Pharmacy celebrated its annual Gifts of Time Reception Oct. 24, as part of UMB's Founder Week. The evening provided an opportunity for the Alumni Association to posthumously recognize The Honorable K. Bennett Bozman, BSP '61, as the 2006 Honored Alumnus of the Year, and Leonard DeMino as the 2006 Honorary Alumnus of the Year. Preceptors of the Year are shown bottom left.

Alumni Association President Joe DeMino, BSP '84, with parents Delores and Leonard DeMino

Director of Experiential Learning Program and Assistant Professor Cynthia Boyle, PharmD '96, with Jeffrey Brewer, PharmD '98; Brian Grover, PharmD '03; and Scott Kuperman, BSP '88

Howard Schiff, BSP '56, with Yale Caplan, BS '63, PhD '68

Alumni Association Honorary President Anne Leavitt with Linda Craig Klein, BSP '72

Reunion Brunch

The School of Pharmacy held a Jazz Mimosa Reunion Brunch Oct. 21 at Baltimore's Rusty Scupper to celebrate the classes of 1956, 1966, 1976, 1981, 1996, and 2001. Attendees enjoyed jazz, great food, and the chance to reminisce and reconnect with classmates. For more information about the next reunion event, please call Peggy Funk at 410-706-8019.

Members of the Class of 2001, from left: Yalee Kim, Matthew Fedowitz, and (far right) Kan Ku with his wife Jing Ku

From left to right: former faculty member Gary Oderda, Lucille Turbandt, BSP '81; Professor Dave Roffman; and Linda Orderda, BSP '81

In Memoriam*

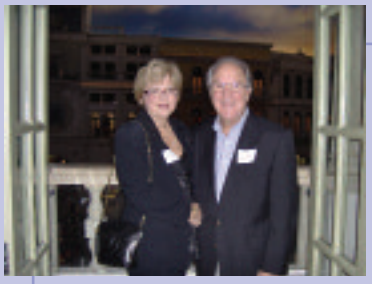
Martha L. Adams, MS '52
William F. Albrecht, PhG '27
Halcolm S. Bailey, BSP '51
Albert Binstock, BSP '39
The Honorable K. Bennett Bozman, BSP '61
William B. Jackson, BSP '50, PD
William F. Kearney, BSP '77
Oscar Klioze, PhD '48
Leo B. Lathroum, BSP '43, MS '48
R. T. Lathroum, PhG '30
Eileen F. Lieberman, BSP '54
Charles Mindell, BSP '37
Jackson M. Nave, BSP '49
Jack Oken, BSP '46
Jonathan C. Rowe, BSP '75
George M. Schmidt, PhG '24
Alfred H. Schwartzman, BSP '59
Norman Sober, BSP '43
James N. Trattner, PhG '28

* For the period 4/2/06 to 10/31/06

NCPA Alumni & Friends Dinner | Las Vegas

Special thanks to McKesson Pharmaceutical, sponsor for the National Community Pharmacists Association (NCPA) Alumni & Friends Dinner held at the Venetian Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas Oct. 8.

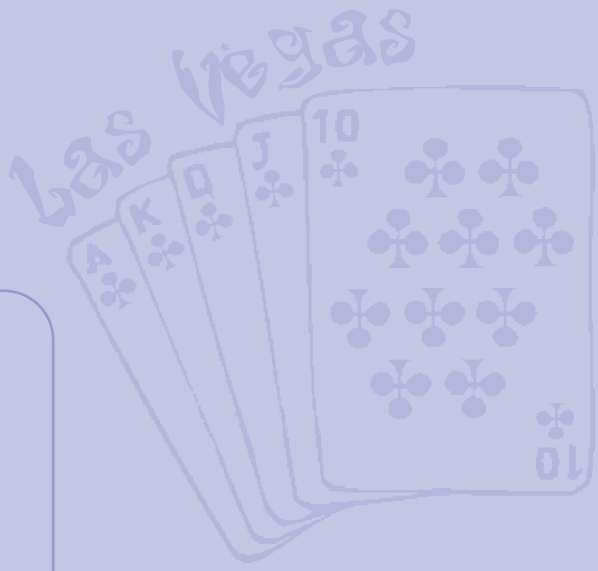
From left to right, Julie Fulton; Betsy Ann Herpel; Gerry Herpel, BSP '82; Dixie Leikach BSP '92; and Neil Leikach, RPh '92.



Bonnie and Steve Hospodavis

Alumni Events

Stacy and Brian Hose, PharmD '06; and Steve Weinner, BSP '91, owner of Mt. Vernon Pharmacy.



Hale Earns McArthur Genius Grant

Victoria Hale, PhD, BS '83, the founder and chief executive officer of the Institute for OneWorld Health, the first nonprofit pharmaceutical company, was a 2006 winner of a $500,000 John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation fellowship grant. The award is given to people with creative ideas to improve the world.

The Foundation called Hale a "pharmaceutical entrepreneur" and honors her work of building OneWorld Health from the ground up, as well as her vision to do something good for the world. Based in San Francisco, the institute takes compounds that other companies have put aside and develops them into new medicines to treat diseases that afflict some the most vulnerable and impoverished people in the world. Promising but neglected compounds are licensed or donated to OneWorld Health, which develops them further. Hale started the company after seeing that drugs that could be effective in treating millions were not pursued because they were not marketable.

This news was perfect timing for Hale, since OneWorld Health had just received its first drug approval. The drug was an off-patent injectable antibiotic that drug companies stopped using more than 30 years ago. Hale worked with an Indian drug manufacturer to reformulate and then conducted clinical trials to prove its effectiveness. Indian regulators approved the drug to treat visceral leishmaniasis, or black fever, a parasitic disease transmitted by the bite of sand flies. Next to malaria, leishmaniasis is the deadliest parasitic infection, affecting 500,000 people a year.

OneWorld Health has more than 50 employees, the contributions of at least a dozen partners, donors, and volunteers, as well as the support of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, which has given more than $100 million to its mission.

The University of Maryland, Baltimore honored Hale as the School of Pharmacy's "Illustrious Alumni" during the 2006 Founders Week black-tie gala held Oct. 26.

ALUMNI *news*

Class Notes

1981

David L. Booze, BSP, received his PharmD degree from Shenandoah University in 2002. He currently is working as a senior cardiovascular regional scientific manager with AstraZeneca. In May 2006, he was appointed by Maryland Gov. Robert L. Ehrlich Jr., to the State Advisory Council on Heart Disease and Stroke.

Douglas D. Wright, BSP '81, DDS '85, is a guest lecturer at James Madison University, focusing on chemical and biological war preparedness. He currently lives in Harrisonburg, Va., with his wife and three children.

1993

Wesley W. Day, PhD, has been appointed vice president of clinical development for VIVUS, Inc., a leader in sexual dysfunction clinical research and development. Day is an adjunct assistant professor at Temple University and the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy (since 1995).

1997

Liza Takiya, PharmD, is the assistant director of global medical communications for Wyeth Pharmaceuticals in Collegeville, Pa.

1998

Kimberly (Mecler) Wagner, PharmD, and her husband, Erich, welcomed their third child, a son, in April 2006. Their two other children are a 2-year-old boy and a 1-year-old girl.

1999

Paul D. Clark, PharmD, has recently joined Costco Pharmacy in Greensboro, N.C., as staff pharmacist.

2001

Cara (Specht) McDaniel, PharmD, accepted a position as an advanced practice pharmacist in neurology at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital in Philadelphia, Pa.

Ashley Grace Morris

2002

Marisa (Biava) Morris, PharmD, and her husband, **Chad Morris**, also PharmD, celebrated the birth of their daughter, Ashley Grace (shown above), June 22, 2006. Ashley arrived at 6:36 p.m. and weighed 7.86 pounds. Marisa works at Eastern Shore Hospital Center (ESHC) in Cambridge, Md., as director of pharmacy services, and Chad works as a clinical pharmacist at the VA outpatient clinic, also located in Cambridge.

Lina Musmar, PharmD, recently accepted a position as a clinical pharmacist at Option Care in Sterling, Va.

2002

Mohamed E.H. El-Sayed, PhD, a postdoctoral research fellow at the University of Washington, has accepted a position as an assistant professor in the Department of Biomedical Engineering at the University of Michigan starting in January 2007.

2003

Nathan H. Jones, PharmD, started a new position in Catonsville, Md., as a pharmacy manager for Walgreens.

2004

Queenie Liu, PharmD, was recently promoted to clinical program manager for MedImpact Health Systems in San Diego, Calif.

Adam Solola, PharmD, joined Rite Aid Pharmacy in Philadelphia, Pa., as a pharmacy district manager.

Mohamed Haider, PhD, is now an assistant professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences at Cairo University, Egypt, following a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy.

2005

Lisa (Moorehead) Brooks, PharmD, was married to John C. Brooks, III, Jan. 8, 2006. In April 2006, she accepted a position as pharmacy manager for CVS in Easton, Md.

Young J. Jun, PharmD, is now a clinical pharmacist with the Greater Baltimore Medical Center after working at Giant Foods for a year. She soon will be moving to Baltimore.

2006

Kathleen Shah, PharmD, is a staff pharmacist for CVS in Millersville, Md.

Gary and Sally Haas Share Continued Success with SOP

Gary Haas, RPh, and his wife, **Sally**, have provided a $5,000 scholarship annually for three years to a student active in the National Community Pharmacists Association. This summer, they celebrated the 30th anniversary of the opening of their pharmacy, Boonsboro Pharmacy, a 300-square-foot store they opened Aug. 26, 1976. In 1980, they moved to a new location in Boonsboro, Md., and expanded in 1985. In 1990, they opened a second location in Sharpsburg, Md. Congratulations Sally and Gary on your success!

Message from Development

Dear Alumni and Friends:
As the end of the calendar year approaches, I am excited to share information on a great new opportunity that will benefit those looking for a tax-wise way to support the School of Pharmacy.

If you are age 70 1/2 or older, recently approved legislation allows you to make an immediate charitable gift of up to $100,000 or less each year for the next two years from your IRA or Roth IRA distributions to qualifying organizations, including the University of Maryland Baltimore Foundation, Inc. The amount contributed will count toward your minimum distribution requirement, and you will not need to pay income tax on that portion.

On Aug. 17, President Bush signed into law The Pension Protection Act of 2006. Prior to the passage of this act, an individual was required to report any amount taken from their IRA as taxable income. They could claim a charitable income tax deduction if they made a gift to a nonprofit using the withdrawal—but only up to 50 percent of their adjusted gross income (AGI) and only if they itemized on their tax return. The net effect was that some donors paid more taxes than if they had made no charitable contribution at all.

The IRA Rollover Provision allows charitable gifts to be made simply and without the same adverse tax consequences.

For more information about ways of giving that can help further the mission of the School of Pharmacy or gifts which provide income for life, please contact your financial or tax adviser. No matter what your age, there are many tax-wise ways to make outright or deferred contributions. For additional information, please visit our Web site at ***www.umaryland.edu/plannedgiving*** or contact one of us directly:

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410-706-2069, 1-877-706-4406 toll free
clamb001@umaryland.edu

Making a Gift to the School of Pharmacy

Is it Right for You?

Making a gift to the School of Pharmacy from your distribution income may be right for you:

- **if you are age 70 $^1/_2$ or older with IRAs**
- **if you must take mandatory withdrawals and would also like to make charitable gifts**
- **if you would not otherwise be able to make a tax-free gift because of the amount or because of AGI reductions or limits**
- **if you do not ordinarily itemize your deductions**
- **if you are concerned about heavy taxation of IRA assets when received by heirs**

2006–2008 Alumni Association Executive Board

CALENDAR OF *events*

2006

december

Dec. 3-7 ASHP Mid-Year Meeting, Anaheim, Calif.

Dec. 4 Alumni and Friends Reception, Sheraton Anaheim*

2007

january

Jan. 16 Alumni Association Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
School of Pharmacy

Jan. 28 MPhA Mid-Year Convention, Columbia, Md.

february

Feb. 2 Board of Visitors Meeting, HSF II 600*

Feb. 15 Scholarship Reception

march

March 13 Alumni Association Meeting*

March 16-19 APhA Annual Meeting
Atlanta, Ga.

TBA Alumni and Friends Reception

april

April 7 Open House, Pharmacy Hall*

April 17 Alumni Association Annual Business Meeting
6:30 p.m., Pharmacy Hall

may

May 17 Graduation Banquet, BWI Marriott

* Please visit our Web site at *www.pharmacy.umaryland.edu.alumni* for more information on these and many more events.

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