

# Washington State University College of Pharmacy



## CALENDAR

### CougaRx Nation Alumni Event

February 2015  
Seattle Area  
*Event details coming soon!*

### APhA Conference

Alumni & Friends Reception  
March 27-30, 2015  
*Event details coming soon!*  
**RSVP**

### WSU Pharmacy Donor Appreciation and Awards Night

April 17, 2015  
5:30 - 8:00 p.m.  
Spokane, Wash.  
**RSVP**

### Cougar Football

Crimson & Gray Game  
CougaRx Nation Tailgate  
Apr. 25, 2015  
Albi Stadium  
Spokane, Wash.  
**RSVP**

### CougaRx Nation Alumni Event

May 2015  
Portland Area  
*Event details coming soon!*

College of Pharmacy

DECEMBER 2014



A Message from Linda Garrelts MacLean  
Associate Dean for Advancement

Dear Alums, Colleagues and Friends of Pharmacy,

One of my favorite things about this newsletter is the opportunity to share with you the accomplishments of our student pharmacists. Over and over again, their achievements make me proud to sing their praise, and how appropriate that now I get to share some actual singing from a very talented group of student pharmacists in their third professional year (PY3). As part of an APhA-ASP video contest, "The Taylors" posted this YouTube video to show how they "voice their value" as pharmacists:



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4t7iTZENqqY>

## WSU FACULTY AND ALUMNI RECEIVE AWARDS

Tis the season... for WSU Cougar pharmacists to win awards! It is with much Cougar pride that I report this very impressive list of WSU pharmacy faculty, students and alumni who received awards this fall from the Spokane Pharmacy Association (SPA) and the Washington State Pharmacy Association (WSPA).

### WSU SPA award winners

- Bert Porter, class of 1950- Lifetime Services Award
- Alyson Blum, class of 2014 - Resident of the Year
- Colleen Terriff, class of 1996 - Speaker of the Year

### Commencement

May 7, 2015  
2:00 - 4:30 p.m.  
Fox Theater  
Spokane, Wash.  
[RSVP](#)

### Northwest Pharmacy Convention

· Alumni & Friends Reception  
May 30, 2015  
Coeur d'Alene Resort  
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho  
[RSVP](#)  
  
· CougaRx Nation Regional Coordinators Board Meeting  
May 30, 2015  
Coeur d'Alene Resort  
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

Details on upcoming events will be posted as they become available on our [CougaRx Nation events web page](#) »

## NEWS FROM THE DEAN

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Membership is \$50 per year

Bill and Sharon Fassett – Special Services Award

- Catrina Schwartz and Shon Volk, class of 2007 – Pharmacists of the Year
- Mark Johnson, class of 1982 (Tick Klock Drugs in Colfax, Wash.) – Pharmacy of the Year

[Read more about these award winners](#) | [View event photos](#)

### WSU WSPA award winners

- “Save-A-Life” Naloxone Safety Net Project (Shannon Panther, class of 2005) – Generations Rx Champions Award
- Merrie Kay Alzola, class of 1993 – Pharmacist of the Year
- Amanda Norman – Pharmacy Student of the Year
- Sean Dobbin, class of 1993 – David Almquist Award
- John Oftebro, class of 1965 – Distinguished Leadership Service Award

[Read more about these award winners](#) | [View event photos](#)

I know there are many more WSU pharmacy alumni out there doing great things, and we would love to hear about it. So please let us know if you have been recognized for an award or professional achievement by emailing [gocougs@pharmacy.wsu.edu](mailto:gocougs@pharmacy.wsu.edu), and we will be sure to include you in an upcoming newsletter.

## ALUMNI NEWS

Our pharmacy alumni community, CougaRx Nation, had a very successful first annual holiday reception on Friday, Dec. 5, in downtown Spokane. The event coincided with one of our Doctor of Pharmacy program’s applicant interview days, and we were fortunate enough to have a few of our newly admitted student pharmacists of the class of 2019 who were able to attend. Student pharmacists from the class of 2018 (PY1) used the event to say thank you to Walgreens (represented by Nick Bruck, class of 2004, and Steve Webbenhurst) for the donations to the WSU pharmacy program that supplied each incoming student pharmacist with a white coat in August.

[View event photos](#)

A few days later, more than 90 students and alums attended the WSU College of Pharmacy ASHP reception on Dec. 7 in Anaheim, Calif. The reception gave our student pharmacists a chance to interact with alumni, and enjoyed making professional contacts with fellow Cougars and potential employers. Thanks to all who attended both events!

Stay tuned for more details on our College of Pharmacy and CougaRx Nation events being planned for 2015. We will post information to our website as it is available.

CougaRx Nation Event Calendar: [bit.ly/coug-rxnation-events](http://bit.ly/coug-rxnation-events)

## THE CAMPAIGN “Because the World Needs Big Ideas!”

(\$75 for joint membership)

## UPDATE YOUR INFO

Has your email address  
changed? Let us know!

[Update your info](#)

Pharmacy alumni  
are social,  
Join Us!



WSU Pharmacy



@WSUPharmacy



WSU Pharmacy



Go Cougs!

As we wrap up 2014 and plan for the new year, this is a good time to pause and take stock of all the great things that we have accomplished together. Because of your generosity, the WSU College of Pharmacy ranks one the highest units within WSU in terms of alumni participation. The College of Pharmacy's \$20 million goal for the Campaign was ambitious, but we hope with your support, we will not only meet, but exceed our goal.

We don't want to get to the end WSU's \$1 billion Campaign and hear from any of our alumni that they were not asked to support the "Campaign." If you would like more information about how you can get involved and make a donation of time or treasure, please [email Kelly Sylvester](#). I'd also like to give heartfelt thanks to a few of our alumni who have signed-on to represent the College as we work to close out our \$1 billion Campaign for WSU:

- John Oftebro, class of 1965.  
John serves as a member of the WSU Foundation Board of Trustees, has named the Dean's Conference Room in our new building, and will celebration his Golden Grads 50-year reunion in 2015. Thank you John for all you have done to promote the WSU College of Pharmacy!
- John Swenson, class of 1968, and Claudia Swenson.  
As loyal WSU supporters and Heritage donors, John and Claudia are outstanding representatives to the WSU Foundation Board. We are grateful for their willingness to serve the College of Pharmacy in this new role!

Looking forward to 2015, there are exciting things to come for the College of Pharmacy, and I am honored and proud to be counted among such an exemplary group of Cougar pharmacists!

Wishing you the best for this holiday season,

**Linda Garrelts MacLean, BPharm, RPh, CDE**

*Associate Dean for Advancement*

*Clinical Professor*

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## ALUMNI UPDATES

- **Michael Brandt**, class of , said hello to us in November. Brandt is the pharmacy clinical manager and pharmacy practice residency director at Kootenai Health in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. He also submitted this great photo: [link to FB photo]
- **Frank Cholaj**, class of 1982, is now the west area senior director for Corporate Account Solutions at Mallinckrodt Pharmaceuticals. Cholaj also serves as the chairman of the WSU College of Pharmacy Dean's Advisory Council.
- **Patrick Tabon**, class of 2012, has accepted a position as the director of clinical pharmacy services for Monarch HealthCare, a medical group headquartered in Irvine, Calif. Tabon and several other recent WSU pharmacy alumni in Southern California get together several times a year to network, share stories, and maintain their ties to WSU. If you would like more information about the group, please email [gocougs@pharmacy.wsu.edu](mailto:gocougs@pharmacy.wsu.edu).

Want to be listed in our alumni updates? Send us your career information or let us know what you've been up to!  
[gocougs@pharmacy.wsu.edu](mailto:gocougs@pharmacy.wsu.edu)



Have you included the College of Pharmacy in your estate plans?  
For more information, please [contact us](#) or visit the [WSU Foundation website](#).

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