Dear Alums, Colleagues and Friends of Pharmacy,

Happy New Year!

2016 marks an important milestone in the history of the College of Pharmacy because we are celebrating our 125th birthday. This anniversary year is a great time to reflect on the college’s accomplishments, to express gratitude for the role that our former deans and professors have played in our careers, and also to look forward to the future.

LOOKING BACK

Our history is important to us and we know our success is the result of our outstanding deans, current and former professors, hardworking staff, and of course, our alumni. In 2016 we will feature a monthly profile in this newsletter highlighting some of the trailblazers in pharmacy and the leaders who have made a difference at the WSU College of Pharmacy.

This month we are highlighting Jessie Senora Sims Walker, class of 1913, who was the first African-American graduate of Washington State College and majored in pharmacy. This section will appear at the bottom of the newsletter and I look forward to sharing these stories with you every month.

CELEBRATE WITH US

Plans are underway for a memorable weekend in honor of our 125th anniversary. Please mark your calendars now for November 4-5, 2016, in Spokane.

We will be hosting the official WSU College of Pharmacy 125th Anniversary Gala at the Spokane
Club on Friday, November 4. We have some special plans in store that are sure to make it a fun and memorable evening, including trivia, wine tasting, live and silent auctions, and lots of time to catch up with old friends, so you don't want to miss it! Watch your mailboxes for more information coming soon.

Then plan to stay Saturday, November 5, for more pharmacy events. Details are coming soon, including a bus down to Pullman to watch the WSU vs. Arizona football game.

Keep up on the latest details here: [www.pharmacy.wsu.edu/125](http://www.pharmacy.wsu.edu/125). We will be posting information as it becomes available.

If you would like to participate on the event host committee or donate an auction item, we would love to hear from you. Contact us at gocougs@pharmacy.wsu.edu.

**LOOKING FORWARD**

To commemorate the WSU College of Pharmacy’s 125th anniversary, a new endowed professorship has been established to honor the high standards of past, current and future deans. The College of Pharmacy Dean’s Endowed Professorship (DEP) will advance the practice of pharmacy and position the college for the future as a top-tier pharmacy school.

It is common for pharmacy schools to have specific DEP funds reserved for the dean to use as needed to propel the college toward its strategic goals. Examples of expenditures include: faculty recruitment, research, teaching innovation, and student achievement. All proceeds from our 125th Anniversary Gala will benefit the new DEP fund.

If you are interested in contributing to this cause, or want more information, please email gocougs@pharmacy.wsu.edu. We hope to see you all at the Gala weekend in November!

**MORE COLLEGE EVENTS**

More details will be available next month on our regular calendar of alumni events, but for now I invite you to mark your calendar for the [WSU Pharmacy Alumni and Friends Reception](http://www.pharmacy.wsu.edu/news/alumninewsletter/index.html) at APhA in Baltimore, Md., on Sunday, March 6 at 5:30 p.m.

On February 17, our NCPA student chapter will host their annual lasagna dinner fundraiser at Luigi’s restaurant in downtown Spokane (Thank you STCU for your support of our students and this event). If you would like to attend, please email Kim Paulson at kimberlynpaulson@wsu.edu.

**COLLEGE NEWS**

Our 2015 Annual Report is being mailed this week. Please keep an eye out for this publication. This is a great way to catch up on all the great things our college accomplished last year!
Lastly, next month is our annual pharmacy couples edition of the alumni newsletter. If you met your spouse or partner through WSU or the College of Pharmacy, we may want to feature your story in our newsletter. Please submit your story and a photo (or a few photos!) to Kelly Sylvester at gocougs@pharmacy.wsu.edu.

Wishing you and your family a wonderful 2016,

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WSU COLLEGE OF PHARMACY 125 - JANUARY

Jessie Senora Sims Walker
As Washington State University’s first African American graduate, Jessie Senora Sims Walker paved the way for minority students at WSU. A 1913 graduate of what was then the School of Pharmacy of Washington State College, Walker transferred from Spokane College to WSU. Born in Talladega, Alabama, she graduated from Tuskegee High School in Alabama before moving to Spokane and attending WSC.

Read more »

ALUMNI UPDATES

- Gerald Danquist and John Oftebro, both class of 1965, attended the Sun Bowl with fellow WSU alumni, to see the Cougs defeat Miami. Of course it wasn’t exactly sunny, but they still had a great time! View photo

IN MEMORIAM

- We recently learned that Spencer Rockett, class of 1979, passed away in November. Our deepest condolences to the Rockett family.
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