Dear Alums, Colleagues and Friends of Pharmacy,

Greetings! I am taking over the alumni newsletter this month to tell you about the recent updates of the WSU College of Pharmacy Alumni Community, what we call the CougaRx Nation.

Our mission is to provide meaningful ways that alumni and friends can engage with the student pharmacists and initiatives of the WSU College of Pharmacy. By doing this, we are helping WSU to develop the next generation of outstanding health care professionals.

COUGARx NATION UPDATES

Over the last year, we've seen great success for both the CougaRx Nation and also for the profession of pharmacy. We hosted alumni gatherings in places like Orange County, California; Portland, Oregon; Bellevue, Washington; and most recently in Honolulu, Hawaii.

In the state of Washington, we celebrated ESSB 5557, which requires health insurance companies to recognize pharmacists as providers and allows them to be included in the participating provider networks like all other health care providers.
JOIN US!

COUGARx NATION EVENTS

It was great to see everyone who made it to the WSU Pharmacy Homecoming Weekend activities last month. The open house at the Pharmaceutical and Biomedical Sciences Building at WSU Health Sciences Spokane was a huge success. The class of 2002 hosted a reunion with guests traveling as much as 500 miles to attend, tour the college's new building, and reconnect with classmates.

The next day in Pullman, it was the best turnout ever for the Homecoming tailgate party. There were over 200 guests throughout the afternoon and a great day was made even better with a Cougar win over Oregon State.

Let me share with you about our most recent CougaRx Nation event, it was...wait for it, in Hawaii!!! It was sunny, warm, and CougaRx Nation hosted two events in Honolulu. It was great to meet many Cougar pharmacists. Thanks to our alums on the Islands for their support. We had so much fun, we are planning another trip for next fall. Stay tuned for details and whether you live in Spokane, Seattle, Portland or Hawaii—or anywhere—I hope you will join us. Details will be posted here once they are available.

Go Cougs!
GETTING INVOLVED
Especially now in this evolving health care environment, we need to band together to advance our profession, help each other, and create a stronger network of Cougar pharmacists. I encourage you to get involved with the CougaRx Nation, and here are a few ways you can do it:

- Be a mentor:
  The Alumni and Student Mentor Program is flexible to fit your schedule, plus so you don’t have to live in Spokane to be a mentor. You can sign up online or email pharmacy.mentor@wsu.edu with any questions.

- Attend an event:
  For those of you who missed an event last year (and I know you are regretting it!), don't worry, we are working on the event schedule for next year. Full event details will be posted to our event calendar here: bit.ly/coug-rxnation-events

- Host an event:
  If you are interested in hosting a small CougaRx Nation event, or if you have an idea for a good CougaRx Nation gathering, please contact Kelly Sylvester at gocougs@pharmacy.wsu.edu.

COUGARx NATION HOLIDAY PARTY
Mark your calendars and join us and our friends at the Spokane Pharmacy Association on Friday, December 11, for what is sure to be the best holiday party of the season!

The WSU Connections Store in downtown Spokane will be hosting us again this year, and they are throwing in a 10 percent discount on all their great WSU gear as a special treat (sorry friends, this does not apply to wine or cheese).

View event details | RSVP online

Finally, I want to say thank you to all our alumni and friends who have made all the fun events this year possible. I look forward to seeing you at one of our upcoming events!

Best wishes, and Go Cougs!

Manpreet Chahal, Pharm.D., Ph.D.
Chair, CougaRx Nation Board
WSU College of Pharmacy Dean's Advisory Council
Oncology Pharmacist, Medical Oncology Associates

pharmacy.wsu.edu/alumnifriends/alumniassociation.html

WAVE THE FLAG FOR PHARMACY
Last but not least, it is my honor to announce the winner of the Wave the Flag for Pharmacy Photo Contest this year is...
Bob Lowry, class of 1955!

Bob did some extensive traveling with the Cougar flag and his friend—who he describes as the "other guy" in some of his pictures—Bill Lebold. Bill is also a WSU grad (1953) and was a sportscaster for KWSC, "Mr. Engineer" on KHQ TV in Spokane (a pioneering kids program), as well as a sportscaster and newsman at KHQ for several years.

Congratulations Bob, and thank you for sharing your adventures with us! You have won a can of Cougar Gold cheese.

See all the photos here

ALUMNI UPDATES

* We heard from **Stacy A. Crow**, class of 2010, who is settling into her role at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., as the solid organ transplant clinical pharmacist. She is responsible for transplant patients at all levels of care, from pre-transplant evaluations and end-stage-disease management, through the peri- and immediate post-transplant period complete with critical immunosuppression and return of function to other affected organs. She is also precepting student pharmacists, counseling patients, providing staff education, participating in clinical research, and providing quality assessment and performance improvement investigations. Did we also mention loving her job? Thank you for your note Stacy!

IN MEMORIAM

* We were recently notified of the passing of **Gary Barton Bailey**, class of 1958, on October 2, 2015. Our deepest condolences to the Bailey 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

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