A Message from Gary M. Pollack
Dean of the College of Pharmacy

Dear Alums, Colleagues and Friends of Pharmacy,

As I mentioned in the last edition of the Dean’s Newsletter, the end of the spring semester tends to be the busiest segment of the academic year. In addition to closing out the semester, with all that entails, we honor our alumni and friends, without whom the college would be lost; we celebrate the successes of our students, which is why faculty do what they do; and we engage in commencement activities, which for many of us is the most meaningful event of the year. In other environs, the end of a defined period represents a time for reflection; in the academy, the end of the year primarily represents a time for chaos, and is wonderful.

CELEBRATING GENEROSITY
Commencement season kicks off with our annual donor appreciation event, which we renamed “Celebrating Generosity” this year. The event celebrates the many and substantial contributions made to the college over the last year.

One very impressive number that I am proud of is $325,000. This is the amount of money awarded in scholarships for the 2015-16 academic year, and it was possible because of our outstanding alumni and community partners who consistently and continually give back. You are supporting the next generation of pharmacy leaders, and we are grateful for it.
We announced our Alumnus of the Year, Gerald Danquist, our Distinguished Service Award, Gerald Briggs, along with our teachers and students of the year awards, and more. See the complete list of awards and honors in the news story here.

2016 COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY
We returned to the picturesque Fox Theater in downtown Spokane this year for our commencement ceremony that celebrated the accomplishments of 121 graduates from the Doctor of Pharmacy and Ph.D. in Pharmaceutical Sciences programs.

Pharmacy Quality Alliance Executive Director Laura Cranston gave the keynote address. Her words on team-based care and shared decision making speaks to the pharmacist practicing at the top of his or her education to achieve better care for patients and healthier communities. This message was particularly relevant because this is how we have prepared our graduates to enter into the professional world.

We are grateful to Dr. Cranston for making the time to visit Spokane and share her unique perspective to our students in such an inspiring and meaningful commencement address.

Read the news story here. View the video of the keynote address here.
SUMMER EVENTS
I am hoping to catch up with many of you during one of the summer events we have planned:

Join us at the Northwest Pharmacy Convention in Coeur d’Alene, Idaho, on June 4 at 5:00 p.m. for a networking reception at the Coeur d’Alene Resort. You do not need to be registered for the convention to attend our event. RSVP online here.

Thank you again to our friends at Fred Meyer for sponsoring this event and our Alumni-Student Mentor Program. Our mentoring program is a critical component to our program’s success. I would like to thank our many alumni who participate; the relationships that each student pharmacist gets out of it makes such a profound difference. If you are interested in mentoring and would like more information, or to sign up, click here, or email gocougs@pharmacy.wsu.edu.

Join us for the CougaRx Nation event in Portland, Oregon, on July 21 at 5:30 p.m. for an alumni and friends reception at the Columbia Edgewater Country Club. RSVP online here.

Join us at the AACP Annual Meeting in Anaheim, California, on July 24 for an alumni and admitted students reception at the Marriott lobby bar. RSVP online here.

We will be joined at this event by some of the newly admitted students for the class of 2020. Our Southern California alums have been instrumental in recruiting 17 students who will become Cougars this August. Thank you for your efforts!

Finally, to our newest WSU College of Pharmacy alumni, we hope this newsletter will give you the inspiration, and provide the details on the opportunities, to interact and engage with your fellow Cougar pharmacists.
I hope to see you all at future College of Pharmacy events, and encourage you to stay in touch and stay involved. You have the potential to make this program better, even from a distance. I look forward to staying connected with you.

Best wishes from all of us,

Gary M. Pollack, Ph.D.
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125TH ANNIVERSARY

TRIVIA

Great job to all who answered our trivia question last month. Congratulations to our April winner, Jane Bugbee, class of 1968, who correctly guessed that professor emeritus Keith Campbell is nationally recognized as a top diabetes educator.

In case you missed it, each month we will post a college trivia question in this newsletter. Those who answer it correctly will be entered in a monthly drawing for two complimentary tickets to our 125th Anniversary Gala on November 4.

When did the College of Pharmacy move from Pullman to Spokane’s Pharmaceutical and Biomedical Sciences building?

A. November 2013
B. June 2000
C. January 2016
D. August 2005

Click here to submit your answer!
ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT – MAY

Geraldine ("Jeri") J. Kerr was born on April 16, 1916, and grew up in Ione, Washington. She attended Washington State Agricultural College and graduated with a degree in pharmacy in 1937. Her father, Towner S. Jayne, played baseball for the Cougars and was one of the earliest pharmacy graduates at WAC, receiving his degree in 1902. Read more

ALUMNI UPDATES

- Congratulations to Stephanie Lind and Chuck Baluca, both class of 2016, on their engagement! Chuck popped the question immediately following the Commencement Ceremony on May 5. View photo
- We recently heard from Robert Thompson and Bob Scheidtmann, both class of 1966, who are planning on coming up from California this September for the WSU Golden Grads reunion. Sam Deliganis, also class of 1966, is helping to organize this year’s Golden Grads reunion that will include a visit to WSU’s Health Sciences Campus on Thursday, September 15.
- Teri Ferreira, class of 1991, sent us a note to say hello in April. She mentioned that there are three Cougar pharmacists currently serving on the PQAC including her, Elizabeth Jensen, class of 2002, and Matthew Ronayne, class of 1997! Teri is the general manager at Consonus Pharmacy in Portland.
- Mylinh Nguyen, class of 2013, recently connected with us. She is working for the Vietnam Health Clinic and is fundraising for their next medical mission. Mylinh will be accompanying student pharmacists to participate in a two-week mobile health clinic to underprivileged communities in Vietnam. More details on this project here.

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