Dear Friends and Colleagues:

We often discuss with students the potential changes that might affect the way they practice or approach research during their working lifetimes (presumably several decades). In a recent essay, Thomas L. Friedman discusses the potential impact of quantum computing on a variety of industries. It is noteworthy that the time horizon for many of the changes that might be heralded by the ready availability of quantum computing is just approximately 10 years; it appears that quantum computing is developing so rapidly that current students will be impacted during the early launching phase of their careers.

What are some of the industries that might be impacted by quantum computing? In addition to self-driving delivery trucks (something that was accomplished nearly two years ago), some of the examples cited by Friedman include automated grocery stores (Amazon), full-service branch banking without bankers (Bank of America), and computational chemistry in the drug discovery process. It is easy to imagine teams of synthetic organic chemists (and computational chemists, for that matter) being replaced by quantum computing techniques that are five orders of magnitude faster than current processors can accomplish. It is also imaginable that services provided by pharmacy practitioners being “outsourced” to cloud-based quantum computers.

The near-term future state described by Friedman and others presents obvious challenges for students in pharmacy and the pharmaceutical sciences; by extension, those challenges are presented to those of us who educate them. What are the value-added elements that can be provided only by the health care practitioner or scientist, as opposed to a computational construct? What pedagogical and mentoring approaches can we take to assure that we are strengthening our students’ capabilities in the context of those elements? How do we prepare our students to “collaborate” with artificial intelligence when we do not yet understand what the AI component might look like? Are we prepared to move away from emphasizing mastery of 20th-century skills in what appears to be a rapidly-approaching 22nd-century world?

These are the types of topics that we wish to explore with colleagues from around the country at our annual TIPed Institute. Informal gatherings of educators from different institutions, with differing perspectives and experiences, are of enormous value in developing a vision for the future and devising strategies to implement that vision. We are looking forward to a continuing dialog focused on the opportunities and challenges facing contemporary pharmacy and pharmaceutical sciences education. (Although not mentioned by Friedman, it is not difficult to imagine “deep-learning” technologies allowing quantum-based computing to replace some of the services provided by the education sector.)

We invite our partners in academia to join us June 12–14 to foster the transformation and innovation of pharmacy education. Registration and further details can be found on our website.
Best wishes,

Gary M. Pollack
Dean, College of Pharmacy
Washington State University

UPCOMING EVENTS

WSUAA Skate Night
Riverfront Park
Spokane, Wash.
RSVP

Allen I. White Lecture
12:00 p.m.
Spokane, Wash.
RSVP

CougaRx Nation
Reception at APhA
Nashville, Tenn.
RSVP

R. Keith Campbell
Celebration of Life
Spokane, Wash.
RSVP

COLLEGE NEWS

Post-graduate fellowship in pharmacy focuses on teaching in higher education
The Washington State University College of Pharmacy is seeking applicants for its post-graduate teaching fellows program. The priority deadline is February 16, 2018. Read more »

WSU prof takes on national leadership role in diabetes
Washington State University's Joshua Neumiller was named chairperson of the Professional Practice Committee for the American Diabetes Association (ADA). Read more »

Pharmacy program fills three vacancies in experiential
education
The Washington State University College of Pharmacy has hired three new people to support and develop the experiential education portion of its Doctor of Pharmacy program. Read more »

Dear Alums, Colleagues and Friends of Pharmacy,

A new calendar year has begun, and this time of year is always an exciting time as we host aspiring future pharmacists on campus for admission interviews! It is refreshing to meet and interact with so many energetic prospective students.

I am very pleased to announce that Richard Okita, Ph.D., will be the Allen I. White Distinguished Lecturer for our spring event. Prior to Dick’s career as a program director in the NIH Division of Pharmacology, Physiology and Biological Chemistry, Dick was one of us! He was associate chair of the department of pharmaceutical sciences with our College of Pharmacy and a professor of pharmaceutical sciences for 11 years. I know many of you benefited from his skill in the classroom and mentorship in the lab!

The Allen I. White endowed fund was established in 1979 by family, friends and colleagues in memory of Dr. Allen I. White, who served as professor at the College of Pharmacy from 1940 to 1979, and as dean from 1960 to 1979. Dean White would have been proud to have Dick back on campus! The culture of mentorship that Dean White provided for so many of us continues as Dr. Okita will have the chance to meet with our Ph.D. and Pharm.D. candidates.

This year, the Allen I. White Lecture will be Tuesday, March 13, 2018, from 12-1 p.m. in the Walgreen’s Auditorium at the Pharmaceutical and Biomedical Sciences Building. A reception will follow.

Please join us for this event! And, should any of you want to share thoughts about how Dean White impacted your professional journey, please write to us at gocougs@pharmacy.wsu.edu.

I also wanted to give you a quick update on our plans to celebrate the life of WSU Professor Emeritus R. Keith Campbell. I hope you can join us Saturday, April 21, 2018, in Spokane as we honor, celebrate and remember the uncountable ways he impacted the profession of pharmacy and the lives of so many students, friends and colleagues.

Saturday, April 21, 2018
11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. – Open House, R. Keith Campbell Applied Patient Care Laboratory
2:00 p.m. – Memorial service
3:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. – “Celebration of Life” in the Grand Ballroom at the Doubletree Hotel, featuring live music, sharing of memories, and the type of comradery that Keith would have wanted!
Complete details are posted online.

CougaRx Nation strong,

Linda Garrelts MacLean, BPharm, RPh
Vice Dean of External Relations
Clinical Professor

ALUMNI NEWS

PHARM.D. SPOTLIGHT

Two student pharmacists placed fourth in the national skills competition at the ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting in December. Read more »

PH.D. SPOTLIGHT

Incoming Ph.D. student, Dana Walters, was recently highlighted in the Spokesman Review for his climbing trip in Mexico. View article »

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

The WSU College of Pharmacy will celebrate the life of late WSU Professor Emeritus R. Keith Campbell on Saturday, April 21, 2018. View article »

ALUMNI UPDATES

- Glen Schumock, class of 1987, has been named the new dean of the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Pharmacy. Congratulations Glen! Read more »

Since February marks the month that Cupid shoots his famous arrow, we wanted to spotlight a few pharmacy couples:

- Lindsey (Schaffer) Hippe, class of 2014, and her husband Scott Hippe checked in from their new home in Boise, Idaho. Lindsey is currently working as a critical care pharmacist at St. Luke’s Hospital in Boise while Scott completes his medical residency with Family Medicine Residency of Idaho. They both love their community and think Boise is “pretty incredible!” Scott and Lindsey met while they were students at WSU Spokane and were married last year. Congratulations! View photo »

- John, class of 1968, and Claudia Swenson were engaged between pharmacy classes in College Hall! They will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary as well as their Golden Grad reunion this year, which they are helping organize. John and Claudia remain busy and active in their careers and community. John is working part time as a pharmacist at Central Washington Hospital and also at independent pharmacies in Tonasket and Brewster. Claudia spent 20 years at Group Health Cooperative and eight years at Madigan Family Medicine Residency. She was recently named the new coordinator for the Tender Loving Care (TLC) for Seniors program in the Chelan/Manson area. In this position she meets with seniors to document their goals/needs and pairs them with a compatible volunteer. In addition, John and Claudia serve on the WSU Foundation Board of Trustees and are mentors to current pharmacy students. View photo »

- Andrew, class of 2010, and Ashley Harbison, class of 2011, have been married six years. They were married in June 2011 just after Ashley graduated from the WSU College of Pharmacy and Andrew was finishing up his PGY1 residency at Providence Sacred Heart. They are currently living in Gig Harbor, Washington, with their two daughters Emily, who is three years old, and Brynn, who is seven months old. Ashley is working at Kaiser Permanente in Silverdale and Andrew is working at CHI Franciscan Harrison Medical Center in Bremerton. View photo »

Want to be listed in our alumni updates? Send us your career information or let us know what you've
FACULTY SCHOLARSHIP

Publications

- Pharmaceutical Sciences Assistant Professor Shobhan Gaddameedhi and one co-author published, “UV-B induced erythema in human skin: the circadian clock is ticking,” in the Journal of Investigative Dermatology. [Read article »]
- Pharmacotherapy Clinical Assistant Professor (Yakima) Dana R. Bowers and four co-authors published, “Overtreatment of asymptomatic candiduria among hospitalized patients: a multi-institutional study,” in the November 6 issue of Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy. [Read article »]
- Pharmacotherapy Professor Tracy L. Skaer co-authored with five others, “Development of a multi-family group and mindfulness treatment for chronic pain: preliminary outcomes,” in the Journal of Musculoskeletal Disorders and Treatment [2017; 3(4)]. [Read article »]
- Pharmacotherapy Professor and Associate Dean for External Professional and Continuing Education Danial E. Baker published the formulary drug review, “Betrexaban,” in the independent, peer-reviewed journal Hospital Pharmacy in November 2017 (DOI: 10.1177/0018578717739397).
- Joshua Neumiller and Pharmacotherapy Clinical Professor Brian J. Gates co-authored with 14 others, “Medication therapy management after hospitalization in CKD: a randomized clinical trial,” in the Clinical Journal of the American Society of Nephrology, a peer-reviewed publication from the American Society of Nephrology, in January 2018 (DOI: 10.2215/CJN.06790617).
- R. Keith Campbell Distinguished Professor in Diabetes Care and Pharmacotherapy Chair John R. White, Jr., published, “Sugar,” in the American Diabetes Association journal Clinical Diabetes in January 2018. [Read article »]
- Pharmaceutical Sciences Associate Professor David X. Liu, Eugene Kim, Pharmaceutical Sciences Research Technologist Yidi Xu, and eight co-authors published, “SUMO2/3 modification of activating transcription factor 5 (ATFS) controls its dynamic translocation at the centrosome,” in the Journal of Biological Chemistry, a peer-reviewed publication from the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, on January 11, 2018. [Read article »]

Presentations

- John White presented, “Review of anti-hyperglycemic medications and dose adjustments in CKD,” at the American Society of Nephrology Kidney Week, October 31–November 5, 2017, in
New Orleans, La.

- Pharmacotherapy Clinical Assistant Professor Cheyenne Newsome and one co–presenter delivered, “TRANSitioning Pharmacy Practice to meet the needs of the gender revolution,” at the American Society of Health–System Pharmacists (ASHP) Midyear Clinical Meeting December 3–7, 2017, in Orlando, Fla.
- Cheyenne Newsome and three co–authors presented the poster, “National survey of pharmacy residencies’ statistical training practices,” at the ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting December 3–7, 2017, in Orlando, Fla.
- Joshua Neumiller and one co–presenter delivered the webinar, “2018 ADA Standards of Medical Care in Diabetes,” for the American Association of Diabetes Educators (AADE) on January 25, 2018.

Service

- Joshua Neumiller has been named the Allen I. White Distinguished Associate Professor at the WSU College of Pharmacy. The Allen I. White endowed professorship was established in memory of Dr. Allen I. White, professor of pharmaceutical chemistry from 1940 to 1979 and dean of the college from 1960 to 1979. White believed, taught and modeled that pharmacists are not just health care professionals but leaders with responsibilities to their profession and to society. Candidates for the professorship are expected to have an established area of research in which they have demonstrated expertise and productivity. Appointment to the professorship is consistent with guidelines established by the college and Washington State University.
- John White has been named the R. Keith Campbell Distinguished Professor in Diabetes Care at the WSU College of Pharmacy. The R. Keith Campbell Endowed Professorship was created by the college to honor Professor Emeritus R. Keith Campbell. Campbell was an international leader in the field of diabetes education. Among his numerous honors, he was named the Outstanding Health Care Educator in the Field of Diabetes in the U.S. by the American Diabetes Association in 1989, and the Outstanding Pharmacy Administration Professor in the U.S. by the National Association of Retail Druggist in 1990. Additionally in 1990, he was given the Distinguished Service Award by the American Association of Diabetes Educators.
- Joshua Neumiller served on the American Diabetes Association (ADA) Professional Practice Committee (PPC) during 2017. The primary responsibility of the PPC is to update the ADA’s Standards of Medical Care and Diabetes each year. The 2018 Standards of Medical Care in Diabetes were published on December 8, 2017.
- Tracy Skaer was appointed to the editorial board of the journal Clinical Drug Investigation published by Adis, Springer International.
- Cheyenne Newsome was appointed to the editorial advisory board of the journal Diabetes Spectrum, a peer-reviewed publication from the American Diabetes Association.
- Pharmacotherapy Assistant Clinical Professor Julie Akers was interviewed by KREM2 News on the process of opioid addiction dangers and how to dispose of prescriptions properly.
- Pharmacotherapy Assistant Clinical Professor Kimberly McKeirnan was selected to be part of the 2018–19 Institute of Translational Health Science (ITHS) Translational Research Scholars Program.

Grants

- Pharmaceutical Sciences Associate Professor Mary F. Paine received an administrative supplement in the amount of $151,564 over one year for the NIH U54 project, “Natural product–drug interaction research: the roadmap to best practices.”
- Kimberly McKeirnan, Julie Akers and Pharmacotherapy Research Resident in Medication Optimization Kyle Frazier received $82,016 over 15 months from Cardinal Health for the project, “Cardinal in power home visit pilot project.”
- Pharmaceutical Sciences Assistant Professor Boyang (Jason) Wu received $226,719 over two years from the Department of Defense under the Prostate Cancer Research Program for the project, “Targeting neuromimicry in prostate cancer metastasis.”

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) students

- Soumyadeep Sarkar, pharmaceutical sciences (Gaddameedhi lab) with faculty co–author Shobhan Gaddameedhi published, “UV–B induced erythema in human skin: the circadian clock is ticking,” in the Journal of Investigative Dermatology.


Shannon Kozlovich, pharmaceutical sciences (Lazarus lab) presented, “The impact of genotype and tobacco additives on the detoxification pathway of NNAL, a potent tobacco carcinogen,” for the research group of Dr. Neal Benowitz at the University of California San Francisco on January 18, 2018.

Kari Gaither, pharmaceutical sciences (Liu lab), with co–authors David X. Liu, Eugene Kim, Yidi Xu, and eight co–authors published, “SUMO2/3 modification of activating transcription factor 5 (ATF5) controls its dynamic translocation at the centrosome,” in the Journal of Biological Chemistry January 11, 2018. Read article »

Shannon Kozlovich in her role as director of legislative affairs for the Associated Students of Washington State University Spokane, represented the WSU Health Sciences campus with five other Spokane–based students at the Coug Day at the Capitol event in Olympia, Wash. on January 22, 2018. The event connected students with 103 legislators from around the state to discuss student–related issues and lobby for bills that seek to make college more affordable and accessible for students all over our state.

Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.) students

- The Washington State Pharmacy Association Patient Advocacy team at WSU put on a toy drive over the holiday season. They were able to donate almost 200 items to the Shriners Hospital of Children. view photo »

JOBS

- Clinical Assistant Professor: Pharmacotherapy, Providence Sacred Heart Medical Center
- Clinical Assistant Professor: Pharmacotherapy, Providence St. Peter Hospital Olympia
- Clinical Assistant Professor: Pharmacotherapy, Virginia Mason Memorial Hospital
- Clinical Assistant Professor: Pharmacotherapy, WSU Spokane
- Clinical Assistant Professor: Pharmacotherapy, WSU Spokane

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