Dear Friends and Colleagues:

This is my final contribution to our college’s newsletter (unless I am invited as a guest commentator). On August 15 I will be taking up my new position as dean of the College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences at the University of Toledo.

My first, and most important, task in this piece is simply to say, “thank you” to many people (too many, of course, to name individually):

• To Washington State University, for giving me the chance to lead this college at a time of enormous change. It has been a challenging but extremely rewarding and satisfying nine years.

• To the CPPS faculty, for embracing the concept of change and turning it into reality. The college has made tremendous progress due to your individual and collective efforts. I hope that it is, and will continue to be, a source of pride for you.

• To the CPPS staff, for doing the hard work of keeping the college functioning, ensuring that the faculty can devote their effort to academic and scholarly activities, and simply for keeping us on track. Please know that your efforts are recognized and greatly appreciated.

• To our students, for being enthusiastic partners in changing how we approach professional and graduate education. What we have accomplished as a college would not have been achievable without your contributions.

• To the college’s leadership, both faculty and staff, for being the best team with which I have been associated. You made my job, in a relative sense, extraordinarily easy.

• To the college’s advisory committee, I can only say, “thank you, thank you, thank you” (maybe times a billion).

• To the alumni, for being so engaged with and supportive of the college. You have been integral to our success, and it would not be possible to thank you enough.
• To the city of Spokane, for being so welcoming of the college as it consolidated on the Health Sciences, Spokane campus. This is a wonderful environment in which to build strong academic health professions programming, and I am looking forward to seeing (albeit from afar) how the university-city partnership develops over the next several years.

Finally, I want to express my unqualified optimism for the future of this college and its programs. Linda Garrelts MacLean will provide exemplary leadership during this period of transition, and I have no doubt that the college’s extremely positive trajectory will continue with her stewardship. I also expect that the college will attract an outstanding next dean to lead it through its next phase of development and growth. The journey is never completely smooth, but it is always interesting, rewarding, and worthwhile. In the case of the Washington State University College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, I have no doubt that it will be successful as well.

I wish you all the best for the future.

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

AUG. 15-16
White Coat Ceremonies
Yakima, Wash. & Spokane, Wash.

SEPT. 6
Dean’s Welcome Back BBQ
PBS Patio and Lobby
11:30 - 1:30 p.m.

OCT. 18
Crimson Gala
DoubleTree Hotel
Spokane, Wash.

OCT. 19
Homecoming Tailgate
Wegner Hall parking lot
Pullman, Wash.

More college events >>
Danial Baker announced J. Roberts and Marcia Fosberg Distinguished Professor in Pharmacy

After 36 years as a faculty member and 17 years as associate dean Danial E. Baker has been named the J. Roberts and Marcia Fosberg Distinguished Professor in Pharmacy.

“We could not have chosen a more appropriate professor for this honor,” said Pharmacotherapy Chair and R. Keith Campbell Distinguished Professor John White. “Dr. Baker has a long and storied history in the college and his contributions have been invaluable. He is an internationally recognized and much sought-after expert in the world of pharmaceuticals. He is a very respected teacher and his publication record is unparalleled. We are fortunate to have him on our faculty and this accolade is much deserved.”

The J. Roberts and Marcia Fosberg Distinguished Professorship in Pharmacy was established by the Fosbergs to allow support of a senior-level professor in the college. J. Roberts Fosberg is a 1959 pharmacy graduate and was co-founder and CEO of Flex-Foot, Inc., a developer of advanced prosthetic components for lower limb amputees. J. Roberts and Marcia worked together for many years to build Flex-Foot into one of the premier world-class firms in the prosthetic industry.

The previous recipient of this honor was Professor Emeritus R. Keith Campbell (1941-2017), who acted as a mentor to Danial Baker. “To me this is an even greater honor because one of my mentors had the position first,” said Baker.

Baker received the professorship in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the Department of Pharmacotherapy, the Drug Information Center, and the College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences (CPPS). He has been the director of WSU’s Drug Information Center since 1983 and is a professor of pharmacotherapy. His teaching activities include gastrointestinal disorders, drug information, and evidence-based medicine.

The Drug Information Center is a drug information service and teaching laboratory established by the college in Pullman in 1973 and transferred to the Spokane campus in 1988. The center serves as a reference resource on drug related questions to health care providers and is the primary support unit for Wolters Kluwer Health’s The Formulary Monograph Service (FMS). Through the request line, the center responds to inquiries from pharmacists, physicians, nurses, and other allied health care professionals regarding drug interactions, side effects and other drug-related topics.

As the director of the center, Baker supervises post-graduate Doctor of Pharmacy residents specializing in drug information and pharmacy education.

Previously, Baker served the college as the associate dean for clinical programs from 2002-11 and the associate dean for external professional and continuing education from 2011-19. He stepped down from the continuing education roll recently, when the programming was transferred to the Washington State Pharmacists Association.

Baker has also received numerous awards and honors including the Smith, Kline & French Laboratories Award for Superior Achievement in Clinical Pharmacy, WSPA Pharmacist of the Year, WSU Faculty Excellence Award, Who’s Who in American Education, Who’s Who in the World, and numerous awards and recognition from the National Ski Patrol.
WSU pharmacy professors present new editions of books for the management of diabetes

By Addy Hatch, WSU News

The American Diabetes Association (ADA) recently relied heavily on Washington State University researchers for updates to two publications designed to help in the management and treatment of diabetes.

In the fifth edition of *Practical Insulin: A Handbook for Prescribing Providers*, the American Diabetes Association (ADA) relied on Allen I. White Distinguished Associate Professor Josh Neumiller, Pharm.D, to completely revise the popular physician pocket reference. Through his contributions, Neumiller, WSU College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences vice chair and associate professor of pharmacotherapy, was able to provide clinicians with fresh insights on choosing an insulin regimen for effectively managing blood glucose and addressing patient and provider resistance to use of insulin. Cheyenne Newsome, Pharm.D., WSU College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences assistant clinical professor, served as clinical reviewer for the updated content.

The new edition was released earlier this month in San Francisco at ADA's 79th Scientific Sessions, where more than 15,000 people (including more than 12,000 professional attendees) from 115 countries participated. Physicians, scientists and health care professionals convene at the Scientific Sessions to unveil cutting-edge research, treatment recommendations and advances toward a cure for diabetes.

Also at the conference, Neumiller was recognized with a distinguished service award for his past role as editor-in-chief of the ADA journal, *Diabetes Spectrum*. The award acknowledges Neumiller’s excellence in providing reliable information to clinicians and helping them overcome common treatment challenges in the management of diabetes.

A new edition of the ADA book, *Medications for the Treatment of Diabetes*, was also released at this year’s Scientific Sessions. R. Keith Campbell Distinguished Professor in Diabetes Care John White, Pharm.D, College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences chair and professor of pharmacotherapy, served as editor and author of the edition. The book is part of ADA’s Medical Management Series for health care professionals. ADA calls the book “the most authoritative guide to diabetes therapeutics available.”

Ten additional College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences faculty also served as chapter authors, including pharmacists Damianne Brand-Eubanks, Christina Buchman, Megan Giruzzi, Nicholas Giruzzi, Anne Kim, Kim McKeirnan, Josh Neumiller, Cheyenne Newsome, Nicole Perea, and Megan Willson. Faculty from University of California San Francisco, University of Washington, University of Colorado and University of South Carolina also served as chapter authors.

*Medications for the Treatment of Diabetes* is currently available in print to purchase online and will soon be available electronically. *Practical Insulin: A Handbook for Prescribing Providers, 5th Edition* will soon be available for purchase online in print and electronic formats.

“Diabetes is a chronic health condition that requires collaborative management from all members of the care team, including people living with diabetes. Having the opportunity to partner with an organization such as ADA to contribute to the development of educational resources that may improve patient care and outcomes is a true honor,” Neumiller said.

“Effectively addressing diabetes will not just happen, it will be the result of collective work by scores of dedicated professionals using the best available science. Although there are no simple solutions, there
are coordinated efforts that are making a significant difference in the lives of those living with diabetes. We are proud to be part of those efforts,” White said.

According to ADA, diabetes affects more than 30 million children and adults in the U.S. and contributes to the deaths of more than 230,000 Americans each year. The ADA estimates that the total cost of diagnosed diabetes in the U.S. is more than $327 billion, and people with diabetes have health care costs that are more than double the costs incurred by people who do not have the disease.

Neumiller has been on faculty with the College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences for 11 years. He is also a member of the WSU Geriatrics Team and currently serves as chairman of ADA's Professional Practice Committee, which annually updates the Association’s *Standards of Medical Care in Diabetes*. His research interests focus on issues involving the management of chronic diseases such as diabetes and chronic kidney disease. He is additionally active in research surrounding medication safety during transitions of care. Neumiller has published research, commentaries, and clinical reviews in numerous journals and frequently speaks nationally on diabetes-related topics. Neumiller was also one of the members of the planning committee for this year’s ADA Scientific Sessions.

White has more than 30 years of experience and work in the diabetes arena. He has been a College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences faculty member since 1989. He has published three additional books, 29 book chapters and more than 150 manuscripts on the topic of diabetes. His manuscripts have been published in numerous journals. He has received more than 25 diabetes-related research grants and contracts and given more than 330 lectures on the topic of diabetes.

### Scholarship helps student pharmacist work toward her dream

Student pharmacist Megan Baker is interested in owning her own pharmacy someday, and she just received a scholarship designed to help her get there. Baker was one of just 20 students nationwide selected to receive a $2,500 Pharmacists Mutual Scholarship for the upcoming 2019-20 school year.

The scholarship acknowledges students interested in serving in an independent or small chain, community pharmacy, or in an underserved geographic area. Baker currently works at Sixth Avenue Medical Pharmacy, an independent pharmacy located in Spokane, Wash.

“I am interested in independent pharmacy and ownership, specifically compounding,” Baker said, “I have always loved being able to help patients personally and making compounds is such a special experience in the world of pharmacy, you work closely with patient and provider to create the perfect product for each patient.”

Baker’s interest in compounding is nothing new. In 2017, she teamed up with two of her classmates to compete in the national Student Pharmacist Compounding Competition (SPCC) where her team placed fourth in the USA and won a separate research project proposal. In 2018 she returned to the competition, and WSU took first place. During the competition the teams developed formulations and compounded preparations for unique clinical situations in a timed event, presented proposals for an innovative compounding idea, and were tested on their knowledge of compounding skills and regulations.

“Megan was an incredible asset to the SPCC team,” said the club’s faculty advisor, Connie Remsberg, a clinical assistant professor at the college. “She was successfully able to apply her previous compounding experiences while working diligently with her teammates to complete the required tasks during the competition. I am very proud of her hard work and dedication.”
Baker chose the WSU College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences (CPPS) in part because of its compounding coursework and interprofessional programs. Now she is in the class of 2020, and is just moving on to her fourth year in the Doctor of Pharmacy program. The fourth, and final, year of the program is comprised of professional rotations where students have the opportunity to be in real practice settings and be involved with the care of patients under the supervision of a WSU preceptor.

“I am looking forward to implementing the knowledge that we have acquired over the past several years and working with patients to solve critical health issues,” said Baker.

In addition to her coursework, Baker recently participated in the National Community Pharmacists Association’s Steering Committee Forum, an annual two-day event dedicated to wide-ranging, in-depth discussions of the role independent community pharmacies play in health care and how to best position them for the future. Baker, as a member of the Student Leadership Council, was a member of the compounding committee. She also just completed a term as NCPA (National Community Pharmacists Association) President. Outside of the college she is a part of Phi Lambda Sigma, an American college honor society for pharmacy students.

“I just want to thank Pharmacists Mutual for the generous scholarship and allowing me to focus more intimately on my personal goals as a future pharmacist,” said Baker about the scholarship.

Two Pharm.D. teams take top honors in annual business plan competition

By Addy Hatch, WSU News

Two teams from the WSU College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences placed in the top 10 in a national business plan competition for community pharmacies.

It’s the first time WSU entered two teams in the annual Good Neighbor Pharmacy NCPA Pruitt-Schutte Student Business Plan Competition. One team was from the College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences program in Spokane and the other from Yakima.

“I don’t believe any other school has ever done this,” said Vice Dean for External Relations Linda Garrelts MacLean. “Placing two teams from WSU in the top 10 is phenomenal.”

Leaders of the two WSU teams were Megan Baker in Spokane and Minwoo Park in Yakima. Their teams were: Candice Boyd, Janet Murphy, and Lauren Powell in Spokane, and Santos Rivera and Zachary Rozinek in Yakima. Dr. Damianne Brand-Eubanks, director of student success in Yakima, coached the Yakima team, while Garrelts MacLean worked with both teams.

The competition is designed to motivate pharmacy students to create a feasible business model to either buy an independent community pharmacy or open a new one.

Said Brand-Eubanks, “In coming years community pharmacies will play an increasingly important role in primary care, especially in rural communities. So it’s just as important for students who are interested in that practice to know how to successfully operate a business as it is for them to learn about medicines and pharmacist-provided patient care.”

WSU teams have had previous success in the business plan competition, placing in the top 10 in multiple years and winning the top prize in 2006, 2010, 2011, and 2018.

“We consider our college’s success in the business plan competition a significant achievement, given that WSU’s land-grant mission is to serve all residents of the state,” Garrelts MacLean said. “It’s devastating for a community when an independent pharmacy closes. The skills our teams learn through this experience could help keep those services available.”
The Student Business Plan Competition is supported by Good Neighbor Pharmacy, Pharmacists Mutual Companies, and the NCPA (National Community Pharmacists Association) Foundation. It’s named after two champions of the independent community pharmacy, Neil Pruitt Sr. and H. Joseph Schutte.

Dear Alums, Colleagues and Friends of Pharmacy,

Progress is impossible without change...

The words of George Bernard Shaw seem very appropriate right now as we recognize and thank Dean Gary Pollack for his leadership the past nine years and wish him well in his new endeavor. Dean Pollack was a change agent, as evidenced by so many of his accomplishments. Thank you, Gary, for your bold leadership. You will always be a Coug!

Change is inevitable and important. As I transition into my new role as interim dean, I would like to hear from you--our alumni, friends, and supporters. What do you need from me? How can I best be of service as we continue the momentum of the college over the next year? What issues are driving change in pharmacy and how can we work together? I would greatly appreciate your advice and perspective moving forward. Please reach out to me with input, ideas, or questions.

In higher education, deans everywhere are being asked to play a greater role in fundraising. Private philanthropy is often what helps propel a good academic program into an exceptional academic program. WSU is no different, and I would be remiss if I didn’t take a moment to thank the hundreds of members of our Pharmacy Donor Family, who helped us raise over $1.2 million for the college this fiscal year. Your contributions provided funding for student scholarships, travel to professional conferences, helped us hire top faculty, purchased equipment for our laboratories and, overall, made a tremendous difference for our students and our program. Thank you for investing in us and with us. Your continued support is very much appreciated.

It’s an honor to serve as interim dean. I look forward to continuing to build on our success as WSU pharmacists, health care providers, scientists, researchers and leaders.

With much Cougar pride,

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

• **Jayne (Bocanegra) Stumph**, reached out to the College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences earlier this year. Jayne, and her twin sister, **Ottlie (Bocanegra) Zehnder**, both graduated in 1953 from the WSU College of Pharmacy and both were pioneers in pharmacy since few women were pharmacists in the early 1950s. Jayne lives in Tacoma with her husband, Dan, and retired 25 years ago after working in community and independent pharmacies in Tacoma. Ottlie, who is also retired, spent her career in retail and hospital pharmacy. Since August is National Twins Month, and pharmacy twins are rare, we wanted to share their story with you.

• **Marsh Roberts**, class of 1958 recently celebrated his 87th birthday. Marsh, his wife Joyce, who is also 87, and their extended family, are enjoying their home on Lake Pend Oreille this summer. Happy Birthday Marsh and Joyce!

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.

ALUMNI NEWS

PHILANTHROPY FOCUS
Thank you to Dr. Chander Mehta (class of 1969) and Mrs. Deepi Mehta for their recent donation to student scholarships.
Learn more about giving »

THIRD IN THE NATION FOR COMPOUNDING
The WSU CPPS Yakima compounding club placed third in the annual Student Pharmacist Compounding Competition among 18 teams from pharmacy programs across the U.S. competing for the national prize.
Full story on page 9 »

SHARE YOUR MEMORIES
During our Crimson Gala Oct. 18 we will celebrate the career and achievements of William Gaskins ’69 with the R. Keith Campbell Lifetime Achievement Award. During the ceremony, we would love to share stories and photos from his friends, students and colleagues.
Submit stories & photos here »

WAVE THE FLAG FOR PHARMACY!
Send your favorite summer photos with the cougar flag to gocougs@pharmacy.wsu.edu for us to share and you could win a can of Cougar Gold cheese and two bottles of Cougar Crest wine!
WSU student pharmacists place third in the nation for compounding

YAKIMA, WASH. – Student pharmacists from the Washington State University (WSU) College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences (CPPS) placed third in the annual Student Pharmacist Compounding Competition (SPCC) held March 16-17 in Adventura, Florida.

The WSU CPPS Yakima compounding club was one 18 teams from pharmacy programs across the U.S. competing for the national prize. Each team was comprised of three students who worked together over the course of two days to apply theoretical and practical techniques to trivia, innovation and compounding challenges. The WSU team was made up of class of 2021 Doctor of Pharmacy candidates Minwoo Park, Zhanhuang (Anthony) Huang and Albert Ngugi.

The student pharmacists worked as a team for the innovation poster presentation, compounding of 3 products and Jeopardy portions of the competition.

“We all had our unique strengths,” said Park. “Zhanhuang (Anthony) is excellent in calculations, therefore completed the calculations portion. Albert is very detail oriented and has excellent hand writing, he completed the remaining majority of the compounding record.”

Huang also competed independently during the Compounding Challenge, the “lightning round” of the competition, which was hosted in a reality-TV-style and aired online via Facebook Live. During the event Huang was tasked to create an appropriate non-sterile dosage form, based on a non-descript physician’s request. This is a fairly common occurrence in compounding pharmacy, especially when an alternate form may make dosage easier. For example, a compounding pharmacist may create a medicinal lollipop for a child who is unable or unwilling to swallow pills.

According to Park, one of things that interests him most about compounding is this mixing of ingredients into new forms. “It’s like working in a kitchen, except we can’t taste our food,” he explained.

To prepare for the competition, the WSU student pharmacists shadowed weekly at Medicine Mart in Yakima, an experience which Park said aided in their competition preparation and allowed them to gain hands on experience in compounding medications.

They also routinely met with Pharmacotherapy Teaching Fellow Emily Darst to review everything from laboratory technique to United State Pharmacopeia (USP) guidelines regulating compounding. Darst shares the role of faculty advisor for the compounding club with Pharmacotherapy Clinical Assistant Professor Damianne Brand-Eubanks, who accompanied the students for the trip to Adventura for SPCC.

The competition is co-sponsored by MEDISCA, MEDISCA Network and LP3 Network, to promote the compounding pharmacy community and expose student pharmacists to high-quality compounding practices.

Taking part in SPCC allowed the students to learn more about compounding and practice their skills while obtaining national recognition. Reflecting on the experience, Park said, “I think creating a medication from scratch and understanding why certain components are used is important in being a well-rounded pharmacist.”

DO YOU HAVE COUGAR SPIRIT? Sign up to be a class captain! We are looking for volunteers from each reunion year to bring together their class by spreading the Cougar pharmacy spirit and sharing details about Pharmacy Homecoming Weekend. Email us at gocougs@pharmacy.wsu.edu to sign up!
Publications

• R. Keith Campbell Distinguished Professor John R. White Jr. and one co-author published, “Nasal glucagon: a promising new way to treat severe hypoglycemia,” in the peer-review journal Clinical Diabetes, a publication by the American Diabetes Association, in July 2019. View abstract »

Presentations


• Mary Paine presented, “Untangling mechanisms underlying natural product-drug interactions,” at the International Conference on Cytochrome P450 on June 27, 2019, in Brisbane, Australia.

• Mary Paine chaired the symposium, “Translational approaches to untangle xenobiotic-drug interaction mechanisms and improve pharmacotherapy,” at the Gordon Research Conference on Drug Metabolism on July 9, 2019, in Holderness, N.H.


Service

• Pharmacotherapy Professor Danial Baker was awarded the J. Roberts and Marcia Fosberg Distinguished Professorship in Pharmacy.

• Allen I. White Distinguished Associate Professor Joshua Neumiller participated in the two-day scientific workshop, “The role of the kidney and SGLT2 in glucose homeostasis and kidney disease,” hosted by the National Kidney Foundation (NKF) in Chicago, Ill.

• Josh Neumiller served as a content advisor for the online APhA resource, “Focus on diabetes: measures beyond hemoglobin A1C.”

Awards

• Pharmacotherapy Clinical Associate Professor Julie M. Akers received a Grand Council Deputy Certificate of Excellence at the biennial Kappa Psi Grand Council Convention in Washington, D.C. View photo »

• Pharmacotherapy Clinical Associate Professor Megan N. Willson, Pharmacotherapy Clinical Associate Professor Kimberly C. McKeirnan, Pharmacotherapy Clinical Associate Professor Jennifer D. Robinson, Pharmacotherapy Clinical Assistant Professor Christina R. Buchman and Julie Akers received a Laboratory Innovation and Teaching Excellence (LITE) Award from the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy’s (AACP) Lab SIG for the implementation of suicide prevention and awareness training in a skills laboratory. They were recognized for the award at the AACP Annual Meeting in July.
Grants

• Pharmaceutical Sciences Assistant Professor Boyang (Jason) Wu received a grant in the amount of $573,750 over three years from the Department of Defense for the project, “The SEMA3E-Plexin D1-NRP2 triad in enzalutamide resistance and neuroendocrine prostate cancer.”

• Pharmaceutical Sciences Associate Professor Zhenjia Wang received a grant in the amount of $1,360,305 over four years from the National Institutes of Health for the project, “Active Drug Loading to Nanovesicles for Targeted Drug Delivery.”

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D) students

• Rakshit Tanna (pharmaceutical sciences, Paine lab) was one of six trainees selected to present a 15-minute talk, “Assessing transporter-mediated goldenseal-drug interactions in healthy volunteers using a transporter cocktail,” at the Gordon Research Conference on Drug Metabolism on July 10, 2019.


Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.) students

• Lynn Nguyen with faculty co-author John R. White Jr. published, “Nasal glucagon: a promising new way to treat severe hypoglycemia,” in the peer-review journal Clinical Diabetes, a publication by the American Diabetes Association, in July 2019. View abstract »

• The WSU chapter of the Kappa Psi Pharmaceutical Fraternity received a Top Performing Chapter award at the biennial Kappa Psi Grand Council Convention in Washington, D.C. View photo »