First Annual Orientation and White Coat Ceremony

The School of Pharmacy began two new traditions this year, an orientation and a white coat ceremony. The two events were coordinated by Maria Bennett, Credentials Analyst and Academic Advisor for the School of Pharmacy.

First professional year students received a full day of orientation into pharmacy school. The orientation was planned to give the students the tools they need to thrive in pharmacy school. The incoming students received talks on professionalism, stress, university life and the technologies available to use while in school. Additionally, they attended a panel discussion with current pharmacy students to give them real-life ideas on how to succeed from students that are currently enrolled in the program. The day also included one of Dr. Robert Scalley’s famous Therapeutics lectures on antibiotics, to help them understand how their education all comes together in a very practical way.

Orientation Day was capped off by a white coat ceremony for all incoming students. Family and friends were invited to this formal ceremony. Each incoming student received an embroidered white coat to welcome them into the school and the profession of pharmacy. The formal ceremony was followed by a reception for family and friends.

Both orientation and the white coat ceremony will be yearly events to help our incoming first professional year students transition successfully into the School of Pharmacy. Alumni, family and friends are welcome to attend the white coat ceremony.

Homecoming Continuing Education Seminar

The fall continuing education seminar was moved to Homecoming weekend this year to accommodate demand. This year’s topic was Tobacco Cessation. Attending pharmacists received up to 6 hours CE credit. The CE was followed by a School of Pharmacy reception, which gave everyone time to catch up with old friends.
Welcome to the second issue of a newsletter devoted to you, the alumni of the University of Wyoming School of Pharmacy. This past year has been busy and exciting as we conducted six faculty searches. I am pleased to report that Drs. Cori Shaffer, Kerri Kilgore, Jun Ren, Sreejayan, Allyn Ontko, and Carol Kobulnicky joined us since August. Cori and Kerri, both in pharmacy practice, are based at United Medical Center, Cheyenne, and Regional West Medical Center, Scottsbluff, Nebraska, respectively. Jun and Sreejayan are pharmacologists. Allyn is in medicinal chemistry, and Carol’s specialty is social and administrative pharmacy. We are very pleased to have them join our teaching and research missions.

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your financial support of the School of Pharmacy. And, don’t stop with your generosity…encourage your colleagues to give, as well! Your investment enables faculty and students to transfer their research expertise and educational experiences in ways that directly impact the campus community and beyond. However you choose to give, you can be assured that your philanthropy will help secure the future of our great School and institution.

Again this year, the School will sponsor receptions for “alumni and friends” at the ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting in Atlanta in December and at the APhA Meeting and Exposition in New Orleans in March. If you attend either of these meetings, please come to the reception to renew acquaintances and make new ones. As you may know, Debra Devereaux, the project director of the state’s drug-utilization review program that is administered through the School, is president of ASHP. She will be at the Wyoming reception in Atlanta…come on by to say hello!

The annual School of Pharmacy Tailgate was held on September 14th this year. It was a beautiful fall day in Laramie and we were pleased to see some new faces along with so many familiar ones. The event was successfully catered and featured BBQ beef sandwiches. The site of the tailgate was moved to Tailgate Park (right next to the Steamboat statue) at the request of the Athletics Department. The addition of a tent to keep the sun off our alumni was appreciated by many. Look for our tent and banners next year and plan to join us for a free lunch and some great company.

The annual tailgate is held during one of the earlier home football games of the season. It begins two hours before kickoff. All pharmacy alumni and friends are invited to attend. The School of Pharmacy also blocks a section of football seats so our alumni and friends can sit together and watch the game. To reserve any of these seats for your family, just call the UW ticket office at least two weeks before the game and ask for the “pharmacy section.” Pharmacy seats are blocked for the tailgate game and the Homecoming weekend game. We hope to see you next year!
ASHP Clinical Skill Competition
Winners Announced

The ASHP Clinical Skills Local Competition for 2002 was held at the UW School of Pharmacy on October 24th. Students, who competed in teams of two, assessed a case to determine the patient’s acute and chronic medical and drug therapy problems. They completed forms detailing the problems and their recommended interventions. The teams had five minutes to present their case to the judges, followed by a five-minute question and answer session with the judges. The winners go on to compete at the national level at the ASHP Mid-Year Meeting December 8-12 in Atlanta, GA. This year’s winning team was Kristen Anderson, Wheatland, WY, and Jaime Hornecker, Elk Mountain, WY, both fourth professional year students. Congratulations and good luck at nationals!

New Clinical Site Developed

The UW School of Pharmacy is pleased to announce the development of a new acute care rotation site at the Regional West Medical Center in Scottsbluff, NE. Regional West is an acute care hospital that serves western Nebraska and the neighboring states of Colorado, South Dakota and Wyoming. This site will offer opportunities for our fourth professional year students to take elective rotations in oncology and ambulatory care, in addition to providing additional sites for acute care, institutional and community rotations.

The faculty member overseeing the rotations at this site is Dr. Kerri Kilgore. Dr. Kilgore was born and raised in Torrington and is a 4th generation Wyomingite and a second generation UW pharmacist. She is the daughter of John H. Vandel, R.Ph., class of 1957. Dr. Kilgore is a 1981 graduate of the UW School of Pharmacy. After graduating, she worked as the Director of Pharmacy at Community Hospital in Torrington, WY. She received her Pharm.D. from the University of Minnesota in 1995 and completed a residency at Rush-Presbyterian St. Luke’s as the residency coordinator and a pediatric staff pharmacist before returning to Casper to be a part of the UW pharmacy faculty at the Wyoming Medical Center. Most recently Dr. Kilgore was on the faculty of the University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Pharmacy where she developed a rural health rotation site that specialized in drug information and geriatric/pediatric patient care. We are excited to have Dr. Kilgore back on our faculty and are pleased at the opportunities that this new site opens up for our students.

Alumni Update

Name_____________________Class Year/Degree__________
Address__________________________________________
City________________________State___________Zip____
Phone____________________E-mail address_____________

Fax or Mail this card to: Alumni Update, School of Pharmacy, P.O. Box 3375, University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY 82071, Fax (307)766-2953, or visit our website at www.uwyo.edu/pharmacyalumni
New Continuing Education Director Appointed

UW School of Pharmacy is pleased to introduce Dr. Cory Moss, the new Continuing Education Director. Dr. Moss’s appointment fills the position on the Wyoming Tripartite Committee on Continuing Education for Pharmacists in Wyoming, vacated by Dr. John Baldwin’s move to Nova Southeastern University.

Dr. Cory Moss graduated from our first Pharm.D. class in 2000. She moved to Grand Junction where she worked in retail pharmacy. She was able to return to Laramie in 2001 when her husband took a position with the UW Athletic Department. In addition to being our CE director, Dr. Moss teaches Pharmacy Practice laboratories for the school and works with the Drug Utilization Review Board. She and her husband Terry have a daughter, Hailey, and just welcomed a son, Isaac, on November 15th. Please take a few minutes to welcome Dr. Moss at the next CE or WPhA meeting.

The Alumni Newsletter
is coordinated by
Kendra Grande, RPh, Director,
UW Drug Information Center