Alumni and Friends of the School of Pharmacy:

The School of Pharmacy is starting a memorable and exciting academic year, which happens to be an important anniversary year as well. Some of our early graduates were in attendance and the rest of us have heard about the founding of the school in fall 1946. This is the 60th anniversary of the founding of our school under the leadership of Dean David W. O’Day.

From a small school located in part of Merica Hall, we have grown to become an important part of the College of Health Sciences. We now occupy a six-story building connected to the newly remodeled Health Sciences Center, and we have 28 faculty, nine research assistants, six staff, and 200 students.

In 2004 we formed the Center for Cardiovascular Research and Alternative Medicine (C-CRAM). It was established to further interdisciplinary research among faculty in the College of Health Sciences and members of the UW departments of molecular biology, animal sciences, and chemical and petroleum engineering. The C-CRAM has made remarkable achievements in its brief two-year history. The center has received $1.7 million in federal and national research support with $2.5 million pending, one patent, multiple invited international presentations, and more than 80 original research publications on vital topics. The center is directed by Jun Ren, Ph.D., professor of pharmacology, and Bruce W. Culver, Ph.D., professor and director of the Division of Pharmaceutical Sciences.

We have also joined the formation of the Interdisciplinary Health Economic Policy Research and Education Center. The center will involve partnerships among faculty from across campus, including those from the College of Business and College of Health Sciences as well as other interested colleges and schools. The center focuses on research and education in the area of health policy development.

The pharmacy class of 2006 consisted of 44 graduates who had a graduating GPA of 3.218. There were 20 women and 24 men who accepted employment in the following areas of practice: 23 in community chain pharmacies, five in independent pharmacies, and eight in hospital pharmacies. In addition, six went into residencies, and two accepted positions in other areas.

The class of 2005 had a first-time NAPLEX pass rate of 97.8 percent, with only one student failing to pass on the first take.

This past year we processed 587 applications for 52 positions in the incoming class this fall. The faculty interviewed 144 applicants. Fifty-two applicants were accepted, and 25 were placed on the wait list. Nine applicants were selected from the wait list to fill the class. The selection of accepted applicants was based on grades, PCAT scores, letters of recommendation, and an interview. The class is made up of 30 percent out-of-state (16) and 70 percent in-state (36) students. This is a larger percentage of in-state students than we have experienced in past years. Sixteen had a previous degree, and eight had associate’s degrees. The average PCAT was 75, cumulative GPA was 3.445, and science and math GPA was 3.6. This is the second year that the faculty interviewed the applicants, and, though it is exhausting, the faculty believe it is worth the effort.

This past year we had three faculty resign: Michael DeBisschop, Pharm.D.; Harold Bruyere, Ph.D.; and Kendra Grande, B.S. We also have had eight faculty join us: Kyle Mills, Pharm.D.; Jaime Hornecker, Pharm.D.; Amy Stump, Pharm.D.; Kem Krueger, Pharm.D., Ph.D.; Janelle Krueger, M.S.; Suzanne Clark, Ph.D.; Melissa Hunter, Pharm.D.; and Joan Anderson, M.S.

Beverly Sullivan has decided to step down from her positions as chair of the Division of Pharmacy Practice and associate dean so as to return to her teaching and research. Robert Scalley has accepted the position of chair of the Division of Pharmacy Practice. The associate dean position has not been filled.

The school is redesigning its Web site in conjunction with central UW Web developers and will soon have it up and running. This will be managed by Chloe Jones, office associate, and will allow each of you to keep up with what is happening at the school in a timely manner.

I will discuss the exciting fundraising news in another part of this newsletter.

—from the desk of

Dean Vandel
Kevin Tripp, a Cody native and 1978 University of Wyoming School of Pharmacy graduate, recently was named executive vice president and president, Retail Midwest, for SUPERVALU.

Tripp oversees the retail operations of Cub Foods, Hornbacher’s, Jewel-Osco, and Shop ’n Save. He also oversees companywide SUPERVALU pharmacy operations. He joined SUPERVALU through the 2006 acquisition of Albertsons, where he served as executive vice president, drug operations, and president of the drugstore division. He was also a member of Albertsons executive council that directed food and drug operations in 37 states.

Tripp, who is the School of Pharmacy’s 2006 Alumnus of the Year, began his pharmacy career in 1978 after signing up for an on-campus interview with a representative for Osco Drug.

“I went to put my name on the sign-up sheet, but it was full. So I drew a line at 5:30 p.m. and put my name in the space. I didn’t know if I would get an interview but showed up anyway—the interviewer was just interested enough to meet the person who extended his day,” Tripp says.

He was hired and spent nine years in Casper and Cheyenne and “ran a pretty significant food and drug store operation. Osco hired half of its management trainees as pharmacists so we could work double duty. We learned aspects of the business as well as being introduced to both food and retail operations.”

As his career grew, he held positions in grocery and drugstore operations, pharmacy operations, managed care, marketing, and regional management. He served as vice president of advertising and sales, vice president of pharmacy operations and marketing, and senior vice president of pharmacy sales and operations of the American Stores Company. He was executive vice president and general manager of the American Stores drugstore division when it merged with Albertsons in 1999.

From 1999 through the 2006 SUPERVALU acquisition, Tripp served as executive vice president, drug operations, and president of the drugstore division, where he was responsible for 701 drugstores under the Osco and Sav-on brand names.
In its vibrant location within the new Health Sciences Center, the University of Wyoming School of Pharmacy is celebrating a momentous anniversary—60 years of providing professional pharmacy education in Wyoming.

Founded in fall 1946, the school started with a student body of 23 students. Several transfer students were added along the way, making the first graduating class of 1950 close to 30 students strong, including at least three women. During those early days, the pharmacy program was housed in Merica Hall, the former women’s dormitory just east of Old Main.

The school’s beginnings were tied to a deliberate expansion of university offerings by UW President George Duke Humphrey, who led the university from 1945 to 1964. According to the book *Wyoming University: The First 100 Years, 1886–1986*, “Programmatic expansion began immediately after the war. As early as September 1945, Duke Humphrey called on deans and department heads to present to him in writing summaries of their immediate needs and future plans.”

In addition to proposing a new College of Pharmacy (now the School of Pharmacy), the UW president spearheaded creation of a College of Commerce (now the College of Business), School of Fine Arts (now part of the College of Arts and Sciences), a School of Home Economics (part of the College of Agriculture), and programs in forestry and veterinary science.

Both UW’s history and the pharmacy school’s history were dramatically affected by the termination of World War II and subsequent return of soldiers to civilian life. In the mid-1940s, UW’s expansion efforts were bolstered by the influx of many former GIs who enrolled as students under the new GI Bill, designed to assist veterans with education and training upon their return from service.

Those returning veterans contributed to a sea change in overall enrollment on campus, which mushroomed from a high of about 1,000 students during WWII to nearly three times that just 10 years later, in the mid-1950s. All in all, about 750 former GIs enrolled on campus in September 1946, sending university administrators scrambling...
to find new housing for them. A so-called Veterans' Village sprang up on campus, comprising Quonset huts, Butler huts, prefabricated houses, row apartments, and trailer houses for accommodating the GIs and their families. Veterans' Village was located along Grand Avenue in the general area of the current White Hall and McIntyre Hall dormitories.

Casper native Oscar Ray, who entered the pharmacy program in its inaugural year, confirmed that many of his classmates were World War II veterans. A veteran himself, Ray served as a Navy medical corpsman attached to the Marine Corps in the South Pacific before coming to UW.

At a gathering to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the first pharmacy graduating class, in 2000, Ray provided a glimpse into the school’s history: “Dr. D.W. O’Day, who had been [at] the pharmacy school at the University of Colorado for many years, became the first dean of pharmacy at Wyoming. Under his guidance, our school developed an excellent reputation and attracted students worldwide.” Ray went on to do an internship at Sprecher’s Drugstore in Casper and eventually established his own drugstore there.

Like their classmate Ray, Ted Hoy of Cheyenne and Richard Wilder of Cody also served in the war, were members of the pharmacy’s first class of graduates, and went on to establish pharmacies in Wyoming. Before studying pharmacy, Hoy served in the Navy and Wilder in the Air Force. Hoy’s brother, Ken, was also in that first pharmacy class, graduating alongside him in 1950. Another brother, Richard, graduated from the program a few years later.

Hoy and Wilder, both members of the School of Pharmacy Advisory Committee, returned to their alma mater for Pharmacy Weekend this fall (Sept. 15–16) to help celebrate the school’s 60th anniversary. It was a special treat for both alumni, who, among other things, attended the Otis L. Hoy Memorial Seminar, named after Hoy’s father and presented by Brent Sherard from the Wyoming Department of Health. Huge supporters of UW, the Otis and Edna Hoy family was named Family of the Year in 2003 by the Associated Parents of the University of Wyoming, and their support continues through funding of the seminar series.

Hoy says it’s an honor to have the seminar series named after his father, who put five of his children through college at UW.

GOOD OLD DAYS The first pharmacy classes at UW were held in the basement and on the first floor of Merica Hall, which originally served as a women’s dormitory.

FIRST CLASS Ted Hoy of Cheyenne (L) and Richard Wilder of Cody, members of the School of Pharmacy’s first graduating class, returned to UW recently for Pharmacy Weekend.
UW without ever getting a college degree himself. “He was a person of great wisdom,” Hoy says, “whose formal education terminated in the eighth grade because he needed to get a job and help support the family.”

He also notes a striking contrast between the pharmacy facilities of the 1940s and the new Health Sciences Center. “There’s no comparison in the facilities—or the profession,” Hoy says. The new Health Sciences Center “is so much different from the basement of Merica Hall, where all the pharmacy courses were taught,” he says. “It was already an old building in the 1940s!”

It has been a fruitful 60 years for the School of Pharmacy, which in 1969 moved into the current Pharmacy Building and just a year ago became integrated into the new Health Sciences Center. The state-of-the-art center is an interdisciplinary environment featuring well-appointed classrooms, offices, and laboratories shared by students of wide-ranging health disciplines—from pharmacy, to medicine, to social work.

As of May 2006, the school had matriculated a total of 1,804 graduates over its 60-year history. And enrollment is on the rise, reflecting an increasing demand for the school’s offerings. Annual applications number in the hundreds, and the school admits 52 students per year, up from 48 just two years ago.

In 1996, the School of Pharmacy upgraded its sole degree program from a bachelor of science degree (B.S.) to a doctor of pharmacy degree (Pharm.D.), with the first Pharm.D. class graduating in 2000.

The current dean, John Vandel, has seen many changes over the years, having graduated in 1957 as a member of the school’s seventh pharmacy class and returning in 2003 to become interim dean (retained as permanent dean in 2004). “I came here as a freshman in 1953,” he reflects with a chuckle, “and came back 50 years later as dean.”

Dean Vandel recalls those early days and how Korean War veterans added to the population of GIs on campus. Having picked up habits from Korean culture, “They came back from the war using abacuses in our pharmacy classes,” he says with amazement.

Since its beginning, the school has played a key role in supporting the profession in Wyoming. “The school has always stayed close to the pharmacists in the state and has been the center for pharmacy continuing education,” Dean Vandel says. The school works closely with the state board of pharmacy and Wyoming Pharmacists Association to maintain the highest quality of pharmaceutical services for residents of Wyoming.

The dean also notes that alumni are beginning to play a bigger role in the school’s development—through central involvement on the school’s advisory committee, participation in alumni events, and contributions for scholarships, new programming, and facility enhancements.

“We have appreciated the generous support of our alumni and look forward to seeing where their involvement can take us in the future,” Dean Vandel says.

CARRYING ON TRADITION This year’s incoming class of pharmacy students gathered for their White Coat Ceremony in August.
The 2006 End-of-the-Year Honors and Awards Banquet, which celebrates graduating students and honors award and scholarship winners, was a great success. Many thanks to Cubist Pharmaceutical Company, RxPlus, and Walgreens, whose sponsorship made the evening possible.

PRECEPTOR OF THE YEAR AWARDS

The Roche Pharmacy Preceptor of the Year Awards were presented during the Honors and Awards Banquet on April 28, 2006. The awards were presented with appreciation to Nikki Yost, R.Ph. (presented by Erica Horinek), and Jim Rogers, R.Ph. (presented by Amy Stockton), for outstanding contributions to the educational development of future pharmacists by demonstrating high standards of professionalism, ethics, and clinical practice.

TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Glauca Teixeira, Ph.D., was named Teacher of the Year for 2006. Phi Lambda Sigma, the School of Pharmacy leadership honorary, surveys the graduating doctor of pharmacy students each year to select the best teacher they had during their four professional years. Associate Professor Teixeira was presented with the award during the April 28 banquet.
STUDENT AWARDS

Awards were presented to the following students to recognize leadership, academic achievement, and professionalism.

**TEVA Pharmaceuticals USA Outstanding Student Award**
- Jason Deboodt

**APhA-ASP Mortar and Pestle Professionalism Award**
- Lauren Halter

**Mylan Pharmaceuticals Annual Excellence in Pharmacy Award**
- Sabrina Heine

**Merck Award for Pharmacology**
- Sara Howe

**Roche Pharmacy Communications Award**
- Zach Jordan

**Facts and Comparisons Award of Excellence in Clinical Communication**
- Troy Lessman

**School of Pharmacy Award of Academic Excellence**
- Brian Menkhaus

**GlaxoSmithKline Patient Care Award**
- Nathen Parker

**McKesson Leadership Award**
- Lindsay Sheaffer

**Perrigo Award of Excellence in Non-Prescription Medication Studies**
- Douglas Wenke

**Merck Award for Medicinal Chemistry**
- Jeanann Wenke

**U.S. Public Health Service Excellence in Public Health Pharmacy Practice Award**
- Eric Willcox

**The Dean’s Service Award**
- Rebecca Wilson

**NaPlex certificates**

NAPLEX certificates were presented to Cory Butler, Ben Ferree, and Thomas Morrell.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Thanks to the generosity and support from the following donors, 32 scholarships totaling $25,500 were presented to School of Pharmacy students during the banquet.

**Albertsons/Osco/Sav-on**
- Alyssa Barbour
- Jessica Jennings
- Sarah Morrissey

**Dean H. John Baldwin Scholarship Fund**
- Julie Azcarraga
- Anne Hillman

**Marilyn Jeanne Baldwin Memorial Scholarship**
- Kylah Bowers

**Earl T. and Charlotte I. Carrico Pharmacy Scholarship**
- Arthur Cann
- Chris Perkins
- Nick Schofield

**Dr. Kenneth R. and Nancy D. Henderson Pharmacy Scholarship**
- Angela Fornstrom
- Chris Peryam
- Kyla Zanto

**Edward A. Julian Memorial Scholarship**
- Marcie Woodbury

**Jyoti Kapil Memorial Scholarship**
- Svetlana Wells

**K-Mart Scholarship**
- Jared Overman

**B.T. & M. McManus Pharmacy Scholarship**
- Melissa Mann

Professor Bruce Culver congratulates Anne Hillman for receiving the Dean H. John Baldwin Scholarship. Julie Azcarraga (not pictured) was also a recipient.
ASHP president Chris Peryam and adviser Linda Martin presented the ASHP Outstanding Graduating Member award to Eric Willcox.

Zach Jordan received the Phi Delta Chi Outstanding Graduating Member award from president Kristi Kelly and adviser Bruce Culver. Cord presentations were made to the following graduating members: Kristen Gorski, Jeremy Hondl, Zach Jordan, Garrod Lamberty, Dustin Leitzel, Jeremiah Oltmanns, Hoa Pham, Christopher Schlaman, and Rebecca Wilson.

Phi Lambda Sigma president Kyle Kelly and adviser Linda Martin presented Rebecca Wilson with the Phi Lambda Sigma Outstanding Graduating Member award. Graduating members receiving cords were: Lauren Halter, Zach Jordan, Hoa Pham, and Rebecca Wilson.

Rho Chi president Zak Stratton and adviser Glaucia Teixeira presented cords to the following graduating members: Cory Butler, Jason Deboodt, Sabrina Heine, Sara Howe, Garrod Lamberty, Troy Lessman, Thomas Morrell, Doug Wenke, and Eric Willcox.

Class of 2009 members receiving recognition for high scholastic achievement were Mitchell Daley, Paul Geu, Jessica Latourelle, Royce Philpott, Kristine Pippitt, Dax Rice, Mark Russell, Heather Struempf, Kristin Ukele, and Sara Yennie.

Lindsay Sheaffer, president of American Pharmacists Association-Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP), and adviser Carol Kobulnicky presented the APhA-ASP Senior Recognition Award to Rebecca Wilson. The UW chapter of ASP Service Achievement Award for 2005–06 was presented to Kate Bradley. ASP graduating members were Donna Artery, Matthew Borcher, Cody Brown, Amanda Christman, Travis Cork, Chandra Crouch, Jason Deboodt, Bobbie Edwards, Lauren Halter, Christie Heaphy, Sabrina Heine, Jeremy Hondl, Erica Horinek, Sara Howe, Zach Jordan, Peter Koch, Troy Lessman, Tiffany Moore, Thomas Morrell, Jeremiah Oltmanns, Travis Park, Nathon Parker, Hoa Pham, Kevin Richardson, Gareth Robertson, Chris Schlaman, Scot Schmidt, Kimberly Stinson, Brandon Tolman, Jill Van Cleave, Eric Willcox, and Rebecca Wilson.

NCPA president Nancy Madden-Taylor and adviser John Vandel presented the NCPA Foundation Outstanding NCPA Student Member of the Year Award to Tarah Parsons.
This year the School of Pharmacy celebrates its 60th anniversary. It was founded in 1946 under the leadership of Dean David W. O’Day and was located in Merica Hall until the School of Pharmacy building was completed in 1969. To observe this milestone, a range of events took place during “Pharmacy Weekend” on Sept. 15 and 16. These events included a series of presentations regarding pandemic influenza and preparedness for the possible arrival of such an event in Wyoming. The keynote address was a free public lecture that was part of the annual Otis L. Hoy Memorial Seminar on Friday, Sept. 15. The address was given by Brent Sherard, M.D., M.P.H., who is director of the Wyoming Department of Health and the State Health Officer. He is also a UW graduate.

The presentation was held in the College of Agriculture Auditorium with a near-capacity crowd of approximately 230, including several members of the Hoy family of Cheyenne, Wyoming, and Windsor, Colorado.

Dr. Sherard spoke on “Pandemic Influenza: Past and Present.” His presentation included historical newspaper articles that documented the 1918 “Spanish influenza” as it moved across Wyoming from 1918 to early 1919. The articles noted that the state made prudent moves to establish quarantines to check the spread of the virus. This included prohibiting meetings at churches and public places (with the exception of pool halls and saloons, of course). Sheridan County was hardest hit, but in general Wyoming was spared some of the viciousness of the influenza that had ravaged the East and South. He closed with a discussion of the current measures Wyoming is taking to prepare for such an event, and called on pharmacists and other health-care providers to consider what they may need to do, especially if the state has limited resources from the outside—a possible scenario if influenza becomes rapidly widespread.

Following the seminar, a reception honoring the Hoy family and Dr. Sherard was held on the fourth floor of the Health Sciences Center. Attendees included members of the School
of Pharmacy Advisory Committee and Dean’s Advisory Council, who had met in the morning and then attended the Hoy seminar.

During the advisory meetings, Dean John Vandel announced that Kevin Tripp had been chosen as the 2006 Alumnus of the Year for the School of Pharmacy.

The weekend also included seven hours of continuing education (CE) on the pharmacists’ role in pandemic flu. The ACPE-accredited continuing education presentations were organized under the auspices of the Tripartite Committee for Continuing Education of Pharmacists in Wyoming, a collaborative effort of the School of Pharmacy, the Wyoming Pharmacy Association, and the Wyoming Board of Pharmacy. Joan Anderson (B.S. ’59), CE coordinator, oversaw the program. A total of 42 pharmacists obtained CE from the presentations.

In addition to Dr. Sherard’s talk, the CE program included presentations on pandemic preparedness given by members of the Wyoming State Department of Health, School of Pharmacy faculty, and Jim Carder, R.Ph., executive director, Wyoming State Board of Pharmacy. The state’s surveillance plans were outlined by Lori L. Baker, B.S., state surveillance epidemiologist. The state’s preparedness plan and the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) were discussed by Ken Galbraith, state SNS coordinator. Wyoming Drug Utilization Review Board Manager Amiee Lewis, Pharm.D., outlined the legal changes in IND protocols and FDA regulations that may be instated during an emergency (e.g., an emergency use authorization, or EUA). The other presentations covered the history and pathology of the 1918 Spanish influenza and the current “bird flu” (Suzanne Clark, R.Ph., Ph.D.) and current treatment strategies for seasonal influenza and specific issues related to bird flu (A. Christine Graham, Pharm.D.). It was clear that the state’s preparedness plans that are being established for a possible influenza pandemic will greatly help for such an emergency in Wyoming, and many of these measures may be transferable to other types of emergencies.

The weekend finale featured the annual School of Pharmacy tailgate party and football game Saturday afternoon, where the UW Cowboys took on Boise State University.

Dean John Vandel welcomes keynote speaker Brent Sherard before the Hoy Seminar.

Brent Sherard presents “Pandemic Influenza: Past and Present” during the Otis L. Hoy Memorial Seminar to a near-capacity crowd in the College of Agriculture Auditorium.

Theodore and Richard Hoy, members of the Otis L. Hoy family, are pictured with keynote speaker Brent Sherard (l) and Dean Vandel (r) following the seminar.
ASUW SENATOR

Jamie Hexem, class of 2010, was elected to the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming (ASUW) Senate representing health sciences.

COMMUNITY ROTATION

Recent graduates Lauren Halter and Eric Willcox participated in Heart Health Day, an Asthma Clinic, and Medicare Part D presentations to senior citizens while on their fourth-year rotation with School of Pharmacy alumnus and preceptor Heather Kappeler, Pharm.D. The students tested blood pressures and gave total cholesterol readings as part of the cardiovascular disease risk assessment.

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Honorable Mention was awarded to the UW Chapter of the Academy of Student Pharmacists (ASP) for the 2005–06 academic year in the UW Recognized Student Organization Community Service Award category.

DIABETES AWARENESS DAY

ASP screened approximately 75 people for high blood pressure and high blood glucose at the 3rd Operation Diabetes Screening. This year’s event was held at the Laramie Recreation Center. The screening was a huge success, with special credit given to Kate Bradley for her hard work in organizing the event. School of Pharmacy faculty Michelle Hilaire and Beverly Sullivan helped counsel patients and assist the students. Jennifer Petrie and Beverly Sullivan trained the students. UW ASP chapter adviser Carol Kobulnickly supervised the process.

MEDICARE STUDENT OUTREACH COMPETITION

Students in the National Community Pharmacists Association (NCPA) chapter at the University of Wyoming were congratulated by Timothy S. Musselman, executive resident with the National Council of State Pharmacy Association Executives for qualifying for the $500 award for the Medicare Student Outreach competition. The students assisted people in the local communities to determine the top three plans for each individual for enrollment in Medicare Part D plans.

OSTEOPOROSIS SCREENING

Since fall 2004, faculty and students have screened over 120 individuals with the Achilles Express bone ultrasoundometer. Data collected show approximately 47 percent of individuals screened are at moderate to high risk for osteopenia-osteoporosis. Appropriate referrals were made to the individuals, and students have been involved with follow-up. The students have gained important experience in counseling patients on the risk and prevention of osteoporosis.

SIXTH ANNUAL PHARMACY FROLIC

American Society of Health-Systems Pharmacists (ASHP) students and others joined together for a day of fun at the sixth annual Pharmacy Frolic (5K run or walk) at the Optimist Park in West Laramie. Proceeds benefited Big Brothers, Big Sisters, and ASHP.

HEART HEALTH Recent graduate Lauren Halter assists with “Heart Health Day,” testing blood pressures and giving total cholesterol readings as part of cardiovascular disease risk assessment during a fourth-year community rotation at Pamida Pharmacy in Rawlins, Wyoming.
SPONSOR CONTRIBUTIONS HELP STUDENTS ATTEND MEETINGS IN 2005–06

Students Melanie Parks and Jessica Jennings were able to attend the Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy (AMCP) annual meeting thanks to the sponsorship of alumnus Linda Wells.

Julia Steyer and Jessica McMahan were among the ASP students attending the American Pharmacists Association (APhA) Annual Meeting in San Francisco in March with the help of contributions from alumni and supporters of the School of Pharmacy and College of Health Sciences. McMahan competed in the patient-counseling competition at the meeting.

NCPA chapter students Nancy Madden, Tarah (Nighswonger) Parsons, John Walter, David Walker, Shanna Geslin, Sara Yennie, Kelly Dunn, Heidie Hanzlik, and Karla Pivik attended the annual NCPA Convention in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, with the sponsorship provided in part by alumni Floyd and Iris Harnagel.

Shelley House and Kelly Dunn, members of the student chapter of NCPA, attended the National Community Pharmacists Association Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C., in May 2006. The students learned about the governmental and legislative aspects of pharmacy, and the conference sparked their interest in legislative pharmacy. The students were joined by Mark Kinney, executive director of RxPlus, and Mindy Rasmussen, Wyoming Pharmacy Association executive director. While there, the group met with Wyoming Senator Craig Thomas and Representative Barbara Cubin. Their trip was sponsored in part by John and Joyce Vandel.

CHRISTMAS PARTY SPONSORED BY RXPLUS

RxPlus executive director Mark Kinney provided the UW School of Pharmacy students with a donation to help fund the annual Christmas party.

VANDEL FAMILY HOSTS EVENTS

Dean John Vandel and his wife, Joyce, hosted several school events at their home in Laramie this past year, including the following: the annual faculty and staff Christmas party; NCPA Student Chapter Executive Committee dinner and year-end exchange of officers; the Presidents’ Council and faculty advisers’ appreciation dinner; and a reception for the advisory committees during Pharmacy Weekend.

WELL PREPARED Students in the P1 class make pharmaceutical preparations during Associate Professor Delwar Hussain’s Dosage Form Lab.
DEAN NAMED APHA HONORARY PRESIDENT

Dean John Vandel was elected the 2007–08 Honorary President of the American Pharmacists Association (APhA), recognizing his lifetime of distinguished public service and contributions to the profession and the organization. He will be installed at the APhA 155th Annual Meeting & Exposition in Atlanta, Georgia, March 16–19, 2007.

TENURE AND PROMOTION

Linda Martin, Pharm.D., M.B.A., B.C.P.S., associate professor of social and administrative pharmacy, and Tracy Baher, Pharm.D., associate professor of pharmacy practice, were granted tenure and promoted to associate professor effective July 1, 2006.

CHS AWARDS

Faculty members receiving College of Health Sciences Awards for 2006 were:

- Christie Graham, Pharm.D., Outstanding Teacher
- Linda Martin, Pharm.D., M.B.A., B.C.P.S., Outstanding Researcher
- Jennifer Petrie, Pharm.D., Innovations in Teaching
- Nair Sreejayan, Ph.D., New Investigator Award

NEW FACULTY AND STAFF

Joan Anderson, M.S., Continuing Education coordinator
Suzanne Clark, Ph.D., visiting assistant professor
Tia Farmer, administrative assistant for the Professional Experience/CE Program
Jaime Hornecker, Pharm.D., clinical assistant professor of pharmacy practice, UW Casper Family Medicine Residency Program
Melissa Hunter, Pharm.D., R.Ph., Drug Information Center director
Janelle Krueger, M.S., R.Ph., clinical assistant professor of pharmacy practice
Kem Krueger, Pharm.D., Ph.D., associate professor of social and administrative pharmacy

Linda Lacey, receptionist
Aimee Lewis, Pharm.D., DUR manager
Kyle Mills, Pharm.D., clinical assistant professor of pharmacy practice
Bryan Stevens, animal care manager (currently working on an M.S. in animal and veterinary sciences)
Amy Stump, Pharm.D., clinical assistant professor of pharmacy practice, UW Cheyenne Family Medicine Residency Program

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

WYOMING DRUG UTILIZATION REVIEW PROGRAM

The UW School of Pharmacy is pleased to announce that Aimee Lewis, Pharm.D., was selected to be the new manager of the Drug Utilization Review program, effective Aug. 14, 2006. Lewis graduated from the School of Pharmacy in 2000. She worked for the state of Wyoming in the Department of Health, Pharmacy Division, for many years. We look forward to associating with her and benefiting from her experience with the Department of Health.

Debra Devereaux, R.Ph., M.B.A., announced her resignation earlier this spring, effective July 1, 2006. We thank her for her many years of service to the School of Pharmacy, the Drug Utilization Review program, and the state of Wyoming. She had been manager of the Wyoming Drug Utilization Review program since its inception in 1992.

DRUG INFORMATION CENTER A VALUABLE RESOURCE

The University of Wyoming’s Drug Information Center, directed by Melissa Hunter, Pharm.D., R.Ph., is a valuable resource for all residents in the state of Wyoming as well as UW alumni who have questions or concerns about
Melissa Hunter

FAMILY MEDICINE RESIDENCY PROGRAM IN CHEYENNE

An ambulatory care rotation will be offered again at the UW Family Medicine Residency Program in Cheyenne, due to recruitment of new faculty.

At this practice site, Pharm.D. students will have the opportunity to work in a pharmacotherapy clinic offering a variety of medication therapy management services that will serve as an example of how to invoke the state of Wyoming collaborative practice laws that pertain to pharmacy practice. In addition, students will see patients in the Family Medicine Clinic with medical residents, and may have an opportunity to view various medical procedures. A wide variety of patients will be seen by the students as the clinic provides pediatric, geriatric, prenatal, and adult medicine services.

Amy Stump, Pharm.D., will be offering the rotation. Stump is a clinical assistant professor of pharmacy practice with the School of Pharmacy and the Family Medicine Residency Program in Cheyenne. She provides teaching to medical residents and medical and pharmacy students regarding appropriate usage of pharmacotherapy on a day-to-day basis as well as in an ongoing noon conference lecture series. Stump graduated from the University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Pharmacy and completed a primary-care specialty residency with Mission Hospitals/MAHEC in Asheville, North Carolina. She is a board-certified pharmacotherapy specialist. Prior to joining the UW faculty in 2006, Stump was a faculty member at the Auburn University School of Pharmacy and the University of Alabama–Tuscaloosa School of Medicine. Her professional interests include chronic disease management and medication access in elderly and indigent populations.

NEW ELECTIVE ROTATION FOR FOURTH-YEAR STUDENTS

Kyle Mills, Pharm.D., has instituted a new elective rotation for the program’s clinical year. This rotation, titled “Pre-Residency Rotation,” is designed to improve the competitiveness of UW students for PGY-1 residency programs at large tertiary-care institutions, such as Swedish Hospital in Englewood, Colorado.

The rotation has a primary goal to develop the student’s skills as (a) an educator, (b) a communicator, and (c) a patient care-giver in the tertiary hospital setting. During the four-week rotation, students give presentations to pharmacists and physicians, care for patients from the very young to elderly, and work on developing communication techniques and styles with numerous health-care providers (in addition to their patients). This intensive rotation also helps prepare students for the ASHP Clinical Midyear Meeting by discussing interview techniques, CV writing, and how to find a residency that fits their needs.

Mills, in his second year, is a clinical assistant professor of pharmacy practice with the School of Pharmacy and the
Swedish Family Medicine Residency Program at the Swedish Medical Center in Englewood.

**PATHOPHYSIOLOGY: CHANGING OF THE GUARD**

The spring of 2005 marked the retirement of Hal Bruyere, Ph.D., after 18 years of teaching and cardiovascular research at the School of Pharmacy. Bruyere was frequently chosen for teaching awards in the College of Health Sciences. He was author of scores of publications based on his research funded by organizations including the NIH and American Heart Association. He also coordinated the WWAMI course Molecular and Cellular Basis of Disease for medical students. He is currently working on a textbook on pathophysiology case studies, scheduled for publication next year.

Bruyere’s interim replacement is Suzanne Clark, Ph.D., visiting assistant professor at the School of Pharmacy. Clark took over the two-semester Pathophysiology course for the College of Health Sciences in fall 2005. This includes the first semester of the course in the spring, which integrates disciplines from across the university, including students from nursing, kinesiology, agriculture, pre-professional programs, as well as pharmacy students. A new segment of the course includes formal case-study presentations using PowerPoint presentations, followed by questions from the class. Most students for the first time give a formal medical presentation at this level, which makes it a gateway experience, preparing them for future presentations in both the academic and professional settings.

Clark graduated from the School of Pharmacy in 1981. She then worked at Poudre Valley Hospital and Conrad Pharmacy in Fort Collins, Colorado, before attending graduate school at Duke University, where she was awarded a Ph.D. in pharmacology. While in graduate school, she continued to use her pharmacy degree to work at the Duke Poison Control Center as a poison information specialist. Clark’s research interests lie in models of temporal lobe epilepsy and brain injury, with a focus on treatments to prevent the permanent damage that occurs due to prolonged seizure activity or exposure to war gases, as well as *in vitro* models of seizures and their use in drug development.

**KEM KRUERGER NAMED ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF UW HEALTH ECONOMIC POLICY CENTER**

Kem Krueger, Pharm.D., Ph.D., has spent eight years conducting pharmaco-economic and outcomes research, specifically measuring the clinical and economic impact of pharmacy services, modeling disease interventions, and validating disease state models. He received his doctor of pharmacy degree from the University of Missouri–Kansas City in 1993. He then completed a general pharmacy practice residency at the Kansas City Veterans Administration Medical Center. Following the residency, he completed his Ph.D. at the University of Arizona. He has experience in hospital pharmacy, independent pharmacy, and chain-pharmacy settings. He also worked for the U.S. Public Health Service and for Marion Merrell Dow Inc. in the departments of Health Economic and Global Scientific Competitive Intelligence. At UW since August 2005, he is associate director of the UW Health Economic Policy Center and a research affiliate of the HCMS/Group in Cheyenne. He was on faculty at Auburn University for seven years prior to joining the School of Pharmacy.

**JANELLE KRUERGER NAMED EARLY PRACTICE EXPERIENCE COORDINATOR**

Since 1996 all schools of pharmacy are required to have introductory practice experiences as well as traditional advanced practice experiences, such as clinical rotations or clerkships. These introductory practice experiences are targeted for first-, second-, and third-year students and help transition and better prepare them for their fourth year.
In August 2005, Janelle Krueger, M.S., R.Ph., clinical assistant professor of pharmacy practice, was hired to coordinate and oversee the introductory practice experience portion of the Pharm.D. curriculum. Krueger comes to the UW program with seven years’ experience in managing the experiential learning process for pharmacy students. Prior to coming to UW, she was on faculty at Auburn University Harrison School of Pharmacy in Auburn, Alabama. At Auburn, Krueger helped develop and coordinate an innovative experiential program in which all pharmacy students provided basic pharmaceutical care for community-based patients throughout the first three years of their pharmacy education. She also was involved in the fourth-year rotation process and ongoing quality assurance of all rotation activities.

A native of Wyoming, Krueger obtained her pharmacy degree from the University of Wyoming. She then completed a two-year pharmacy practice residency at the University of Kansas Medical Center in Kansas City, Kansas, and a master’s degree in hospital pharmacy at the University of Kansas. She served in a pharmacy management position for four years at Kino Community Hospital in Tucson, Arizona, prior to entering academia. She is interested in issues relating to experiential education service-learning, student leadership and professionalism, rural health, and women’s health.

CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAM NEWS

A recent survey of pharmacists who were contacted by e-mail or at the Pharmacy Weekend continuing education event on campus Sept. 15–16, identified an extensive list of topics from which programs can be developed over the next year.

The Pharmacy Weekend focus on pandemic flu, which featured Wyoming’s director of health, Dr. Brent Sherard, as well as School of Pharmacy faculty and other Wyoming Department of Health staff, stimulated strong interest in the role of pharmacists and other health professionals in case of an influenza crisis. Other subject areas important to respondents are diabetes and new diabetic therapies, antibiotics, pediatric medications, cancer therapies, antihyperlipidemics, controlled-substance laws, and off-label prescribing.

The Tripartite Committee on Continuing Education for Pharmacists in Wyoming, which includes the school, the Wyoming Pharmacy Association, and the Wyoming Board of Pharmacy, will develop programs for the coming year and plans to bring programs to other Wyoming locations through live or DVD presentations.

Your suggestions for topics and/or locations can be forwarded to Joan Anderson (BS ’59), CE coordinator, at janderson@netcommander.com.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE AND CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAM STAFF NEWS

Tia Farmer is the administrative assistant for the Professional Experience/CE Program. Farmer started with the Professional Experience Program on Nov. 7, 2005. Currently she provides administrative assistance for Jeffrey Bernard in the final year of the Professional Experience Program, for Janelle Krueger in the Early Experience Program, and for Joan Anderson in Continuing Education. She was a familiar face to some in the School of Pharmacy as she had taken pharmacology as a nursing student several years ago. Her nursing degree has been of service to her in working with students and preceptors in our program, and she knows the trials that students face while completing the professional experience portion of their education. Farmer takes full advantage of the benefit provided by the university to receive free classes and enjoys being one of the students. Anytime you are at the School of Pharmacy, drop by her desk and say “hello,” as she will be happy to meet you!
NEWS FROM THE CENTER FOR CARDIOVASCULAR RESEARCH AND ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE (C-CRAM)

C-CRAM was founded in April 2004 with the purpose of fostering greater interdisciplinary activities in the fields of alternative and cardiovascular medical research and increasing the overall research endeavors in the areas of cardiovascular and alternative medicine at UW. Since its beginning, C-CRAM, with the College of Health Sciences as its home, and Bruce Culver, professor of pharmacology, and Jun Ren, professor of pharmacology and physiology, as its directors, has established solid relationships with the School of Pharmacy, the Division of Kinesiology and Health, and UW’s departments of animal science, zoology and physiology, and molecular biology. The team approach has truly paid off, with C-CRAM recruiting research funding for breakthrough studies of hypertension, cancer treatment, and diabetes control.

PUBLICATIONS ANNOUNCED

Personnel in the Center for Cardiovascular Research and Alternative Medicine (C-CRAM) have more publications to add to their growing list of credits.

“Cardiac Overexpression of Alcohol Dehydrogenase Alleviates Aging-associated Cardiomyocyte Contractile Dysfunction: Role of Intracellular Ca2+ Cycling Proteins” is included in the current issue of Aging Cell, and “Cardiac Health and Diabetes Mellitus in Women—Problems and Prospects” appeared recently in Minerva Cardioangiologica.

The Journal of Applied Physiology will soon publish “Intermedin (Adrenomedullin-2) Enhances Cardiac Contractile Function via a Protein Kinase C and Protein Kinase A-dependent Pathway in Murine Ventricular Myocytes,” and Experimental Neurology has accepted “Acetaldehyde Promotes Rapamycin-dependent Activation of p70S6K and Glucose Uptake Despite Inhibition of Akt and mTOR in Dopaminergic SH-SY5Y Human Neuroblastoma Cells.”

“Cardiac Specific Overexpression of Catalase Prolongs Lifespan, Attenuates Aging-induced Cardiomyocyte Contractile Dysfunction and Protein Damage” is in press at Clinical Experimental Pharmacological Physiology.

“Biodegradable Cationic Polyester as an Efficient Carrier for Gene Delivery to Neonatal Cardiomyocytes” is pending publication in Biotechnology and Bioengineering.

RESEARCH AWARD

In recognition of his many research and publication successes, Nair Sreejayan, assistant professor of pharmacology, received the inaugural Center for Cardiovascular Research and Alternative Medicine (C-CRAM) Award. Sreejayan has many credits to his name, including an American Diabetes Association Junior Faculty Grant Award and major research funding from the National Institutes of Health and NASA. He has also filed two patents resulting from his scientific investigations and has published three manuscripts during 2005, to be added to his impressive amount of written and presented work.

AWARD WINNER

Nair Sreejayan, assistant professor of pharmacology, received an American Diabetes Association Junior Faculty Grant Award for his diabetes research. Sreejayan also has major research funding from the National Institutes of Health and NASA.
Sreejayan has one patent licensed to a pharmaceutical company. He credits co-worker Xiaoping Yang, Ph.D., for contributing to his research. Sreejayan greatly appreciates the support he has received from his mentors, Bruce Culver, Ph.D., and Jun Ren, Ph.D., directors of C-CRAM.

Recently a profile of Sreejayan was featured on the American Diabetes Association Web site highlighting his Junior Faculty Award and his research.

Sreejayan was also invited to give a presentation on his research at the 4th Annual Congress of International Drug Discovery Science and Technology in Dalian, People’s Republic of China.

He received a $2,000 international travel grant from the UW International Programs Advisory Board to establish collaboration between UW and the Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Manipal, India.

Sreejayan and postdoctoral student Feng Dong will mentor Jessica Capps and Katharine Bierman, participants in the Student Research Apprenticeship Program, while they work on projects related to diabetes and hypothermia.

SCHOOL OF PHARMACY RESEARCH PROJECTS

ALCOHOL-INDUCED CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASES

Jun Ren, Ph.D., professor of pharmacology and physiology, working from the fact that drinking too much alcohol leads to cardiovascular problems, seeks to discover which toxin is responsible for alcohol-induced cardiovascular diseases such as hypertension and heart failure. He and his team of researchers are investigating whether a special drug may help lessen alcohol-induced complications in multiple organs, including the heart, liver, and brain.

ALTERNATIVE AND HERBAL MEDICINE

Jun Ren, Ph.D., professor of pharmacology and physiology, is an expert on natural medicines and alternative and traditional therapies, topics of expanding worldwide interest.

GLOBETROTTER Jun Ren, director of the Center for Cardiovascular Research and Alternative Medicine, visited the Great Wall while attending the World Congress of Pharmacology this year in Beijing, China.

TEAM LEADER Bruce Culver, professor of pharmacology, explains a research poster on methamphetamine-induced neurotoxicity. Culver is also chair of the pharmaceutical sciences division and one of the directors of C-CRAM.
and use. Because of the adverse and toxic effects of some synthetic drugs, Professor Ren and his team of researchers have collaborated with herbal medicine institutes in Asia and have examined the pharmacological and therapeutic effects of herbal products for the treatment of cardiovascular diseases in diabetes, obesity, aging, and alcoholism.

COMPROMISED CARDIAC FUNCTIONS IN THE AGED

Jun Ren, Ph.D., professor of pharmacology and physiology, is concerned about the major health problems caused by reduced cardiac functions in the aged. Professor Ren and his team of researchers are studying the deficiency of certain defense and growth hormones in an attempt to understand and reduce cardiovascular aging.

TREATMENT OF DIABETES AND VASCULAR DISORDERS

Nair Sreejayan, Ph.D., assistant professor of pharmacology, is interested in the molecular mechanisms involved in diabetes and vascular disorders. He and his team of researchers also seek to identify and characterize natural products and synthetic molecules that can treat these conditions. Their research has the potential to lead to novel therapeutic possibilities for treating diabetes and vascular disorders.

RELATIONSHIP OF DIABETES, HYPERTENSION, AND OBESITY TO CARDIAC DYSFUNCTION

Jun Ren, Ph.D., professor of pharmacology and physiology, seeks to discover why patients with diabetes, hypertension, and obesity often develop heart problems. Professor Ren and his team of researchers are working to determine if diabetes/hypertension/obesity–related heart dysfunction is related to reduced levels of certain hormones and insulinlike growth factors and whether supplementation of the substances can prevent the progression of the targeted abnormalities. The team will then work to develop treatments to improve cardiac function in diabetic and obese individuals.

TARGETED AND CONTROLLED DELIVERY OF CANCER TREATMENT DRUGS

M. Delwar Hussain, Ph.D., associate professor of pharmaceutics, is investigating the possibility and value of administering time-released drugs for the treatment of various forms of cancer (prostate, ovarian, breast) and liver cirrhosis and for the delivery of cardiovascular, anesthetic, and contraceptive drugs. Hussain and his team of researchers have completed the formulation of various preparations for drug delivery and are now investigating other diseases that can be treated and controlled by their targeting techniques.

FUNDING FROM COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Suzanne Clark, $5,000, “Do AMPAkines Prevent Pilocarpine-Induced Damage and Epileptogenesis?”
Kem Krueger, $5,000, “Investigating the Relationship Between Health Literacy and Adherence to Medication Regimens.”

Nair Sreejayan, $500, travel grant to help fund presentation at the 4th Annual Congress of International Drug Discovery Science & Technology 2006, Dalian, China.

Qun Li, $500, travel grant to help fund presentation at the 15th World Congress of Pharmacology in Beijing, China.

Xiaochun Zhang, $1,000, “Role of COX-associated Neuroinflammation in Chronic Methamphetamine Abuse.”

REFEREED PUBLICATIONS


SCIENTIFIC AND PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS


I am very pleased to report to you that the School of Pharmacy Foundation has experienced a successful year largely due to your outstanding support. We began the year (July 1, 2005) with a balance of $87,277. After receiving gifts of approximately $60,000, expending funds for faculty and student development and events, we ended the year (June 30, 2006) with a balance of approximately $115,000. An additional $25,500 was donated and given out in scholarships to students.

The Wyoming Legislature treats the School of Pharmacy very well, though over 90 percent of our budget is expended for faculty and staff salaries, maintenance, and administrative costs. The gifts from you support the rest of the activities that make us a quality school.

Over the years, several endowments and memorials have been established by alumni and friends of the school. The earnings from these are used to meet the intentions of the donor, while the original gift is never spent. These are very useful for the school in that they provide for faculty positions, scholarships, seminars, student and faculty development, and important events.

During the 2005–06 year, we have used some of your gifts to send students to several national pharmacy associations’ annual meetings. The students return from these events excited about the pharmacy profession and with a more global vision. Your gifts have provided support for and allowed our faculty to attend national and international meetings, where they have given presentations on their research.

This year we are celebrating the 60th anniversary of the founding of the School of Pharmacy under Dean David W. O’Day. We would like to take this opportunity to develop the David W. O’Day Alumni and Friends of the UW School of Pharmacy Endowed Professor Chair in honor of past and current faculty members of the school in the amount $1.5 million ($750 gift from at least 2,000 donors). The names of the donors will be placed on an “Honor Board” and hung in the main school hallway. You will soon be hearing more about this.

In last year’s “Foundation Letter,” I stated that we wanted to recognize donors to the foundation, and I listed several levels of giving. More than 150 of you responded and are listed in the donor section of this newsletter.

On behalf of the School of Pharmacy, I thank each of you for your generous support.

IN MEMORIAM
In honor of the good friends, alumni, and colleagues we’ve lost over the past two years, we are saddened by their passing and grateful for the contributions they made to our lives.

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*Qualifies for UW President’s Society (annual gift of $1,000 or more).
FUNDING FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

The Wyoming Pharmacy Association recently approved a $50,000 pledge for much-needed scholarships for UW pharmacy students in their final two years. These funds will be matched on a dollar-for-dollar basis by the state of Wyoming. The Wyoming Pharmacy Association will need the assistance of pharmacy alumni to reach this goal. Please contact either Kate Tiernan of the Pharmacy Association at (307) 577-6446 or Scott Sutherland of the UW College of Health Sciences at (307) 766-2113 for more information.

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COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

We are always interested in your story ideas and updates. Please e-mail comments to Chloe Jones:
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We are making exciting changes and updates to our Web site. Check our Web site for upcoming events. Please visit us on the Web:
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