



Volume 2, Issue 24, November 27, 2002, From [The University of Oklahoma College of Pharmacy](#)

From the college

Dear Friends:



As many of you are aware, this year marks the first time that our college has enrolled first year professional students in the Doctor of Pharmacy program at both the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center in Oklahoma City and at the University of Oklahoma Schusterman Center in Tulsa. It is both an exciting and challenging time for our students, faculty, alumni, and staff. A tremendous amount of time and energy has been invested over the past year in preparation for this expansion. We have developed state of the art classrooms in Oklahoma City and Tulsa for the delivery of education in a "distant environment" such that instruction may originate from either campus and be received in real time at the non-originating campus. The technology in these rooms has also been used for student organization meetings, class meetings, faculty meetings, and presentations and seminars from invited lecturers. For the past year, we have also been assisting faculty in re-developing their lecture and classroom materials and providing suggestions on teaching strategies that might be most effective for students in our new classroom environment. I believe that this aspect of our program expansion may be one of the more exciting developments. The opportunity for faculty members to reconsider not only what materials they choose to present but also to consider how best to present their information to enhance student learning is exciting and energizing. Success with our teaching effort in this new classroom environment will require a great deal of time, attention to detail, and creative thought from our faculty. Fortunately, our college is blessed to have a great faculty committed to excellence in instruction for the advancement of our profession.

One of the greatest challenges with our program expansion is the further development of our experiential program. In our current program, first and second year students are required to complete 120 hours of observation and participation in a variety of pharmacy practice sites to gain an understanding of the scope and depth of contemporary pharmacy practice. Fourth year students are required to complete nine months of experiential education in a variety of practice settings. The identification of these practice sites continues in Oklahoma City and surrounding areas and is well under way in Tulsa and northeast Oklahoma. We need the help of all of our alumni and friends in this aspect of our college's development. Early exposure in a practice site is often the event that excites a student to a certain type of pharmacy practice; this excitement ultimately results in a student entering into that type of practice upon graduation. I believe that the strength of any experiential program is a result of the contributions of faculty and many committed preceptors from the community. We cannot and should not conduct an experiential program without significant contributions from the professional pharmacists throughout the state; the effective professionalization of our students requires your active participation. I encourage you all to help us with your recommendations and thoughts on experiential program opportunities and development.

Finally, I thank all of those who have helped launch the college on this exciting expansion in an area of the state where we have not had as much involvement in the past. I feel very good about our start and have even greater expectations for our college and its developing relationships with the pharmacy community.

Sincerely,

[Mark Britton](#), Pharm.D., C.D.E.
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Associate Professor



Alumni News

▪ Randy Brammer ('00) Update

Randy reports that he is staying in Oklahoma City. Classmates and friends can contact him via email at randyb300@yahoo.com

▪ Alumni Gallery

The [Alumni Gallery](#) is intended to showcase the alumni activities in the college. It will be a collection of both video and images.

▪ Reunion - Class of 1993

The 10 year reunion for the Class of 1993 will be in OKC during the weekend (April 26-27, 2003) of Pharmacy Day Banquet. If you are in the class of '93, you should have received a letter about this. If you have not received a letter or are in another class and would like to attend, please contact Paul Cockrum (phone: (817)297-4942 or e-mail: cockrums@netzero.net) ASAP for additional information.

▪ Suzanne E. Merrill ('99, '00) Update

Suzanne reports that she is living in Norman, Oklahoma. Her email address is ourx@hotmail.com.

Pharmacy News

▪ Voluntary Pharmacists Needed

Pharmacists are needed to volunteer their time at the Open Arms Free Clinic, which is operated out of the Free Methodist Church, 6000 N. Rockwell in Oklahoma City each Thursday evening beginning at 5:00 p.m.

The clinic stays open until they have seen a maximum of 25 patients, which is usually about 8:00 p.m. The pharmacy operates as a state board licensed charitable pharmacy. This is a great opportunity to serve the community. If you are interested, please call Doris Clark at 834-5619.

Continuing Education News

▪ Walter P. Scheffe Continuing Pharmaceutical Education Series

This year's program will be held on December 14-15, 2002 and is intended for pharmacists, regardless of their practice setting, who wish to enhance their clinical skills associated with treating the elderly. See [program brochure](#) (File size: 104 kbytes in PDF format).

This is the fourth program in the Walter P. Scheffe Continuing Pharmaceutical Education Series to be provided annually by The University of Oklahoma College Of Pharmacy. Initiation and development of this continuing pharmaceutical education series was made possible through the kind and generous establishment by Mr. Scheffe of the [Walter P. Scheffe Endowment for Pharmaceutical Education](#).

Oklahoma Poison Control Center News

▪ Drug Identification

Since 1998, limited resources and increased demands for information concerning prevention and management of potentially toxic exposures have resulted in the need for Oklahoma Poison Control Center to curtail its drug identification services.

For drug identification, please contact your pharmacist or check the Internet at sites such as www.rxlist.com . For toxic exposures please call 1-800-222-1222 immediately.

▪ **The Great American Smokeout**

The Oklahoma Poison Control Center would like to help promote the American Cancer Society's Great American Smoke Out. The Great American Smokeout has helped to spotlight the dangers of tobacco use and the challenges of quitting, but more importantly, it has set the stage for the cultural revolution in tobacco that has occurred over this period.

For more information about the American Cancer Society's Great American Smokeout, call 1-800-ACS-2345 or visit [their web site](#).

▪ **Keep Children Away from Secondhand Smoke and Nicotine**

The Oklahoma Poison Control Center cautions parents about the negative health effects from secondhand smoke and warns parents to keep products containing nicotine away from young children.

According to the American Cancer Society, an estimated 47 million adults in the United States currently smoke and about half will die prematurely from smoking. Second-hand smoke from a burning cigarette, cigar or pipe is also hazardous to your health. "Arsenic, carbon monoxide, cyanide, benzene, formaldehyde, methanol (wood alcohol), acetylene (the fuel used in welding torches) and ammonia are just a few of the toxic gases found in cigarette smoke. Cigarette smoke contains over 4000 chemical compounds, many which cause cancer." explains Lee McGoodwin, Managing Director of the poison center.

"Children are especially at risk because their lungs are still developing and they breathe more per pound of body weight than adults do," McGoodwin said. The Environmental Protection Agency estimates that every year between 150,000 and 300,000 children less than 18 months old get bronchitis or pneumonia from breathing secondhand smoke.

Cigarettes aren't just bad to smoke; the nicotine in cigarettes, chewing tobacco and smoking cessation products may be extremely toxic if ingested. "Symptoms have been seen in children who have chewed as little as a piece of nicotine gum or sucked on a used nicotine patch found in the trash." describes McGoodwin. "Eating one cigarette, a few cigarette butts, or more than a mouthful of spit from chewing tobacco is considered potentially dangerous to young children. Symptoms can range from simple vomiting to seizures in a matter of just one hour. Infants are especially sensitive to nicotine." McGoodwin cautions parents to make sure nicotine products are placed up out of reach and sight of young children.

If you suspect a nicotine poisoning, do not wait for symptoms to appear, do not make the person throw up or vomit and do not give the person anything to eat or drink. Call the Oklahoma Poison Control Center right away at 1-800-222-1222.

For more information about secondhand smoke call the Office of Tobacco Use Prevention at the Oklahoma State Department of Health at 405-271-3619 or 1-866-665-9247 (1-866-ONLY-AIR) or visit their web site at www.health.state.ok.us.

Job Openings

OU MEDICAL CENTER, Children's Hospital

- Clinical Assistant Professor

The University of Oklahoma College of Pharmacy, Schusterman Center, Tulsa

- Clinical Assistant Professor
- Clinical Assistant Professor

The University of Oklahoma College of Pharmacy, Oklahoma City

- Assistant or Associate Professor of Pharmaceutics

Eckerd Drug Company

- Pharmacist

Wal-Mart Stores, Inc

- Staff Pharmacist and/or Assistant Pharmacy Manager
- Staff Pharmacist

USPHS/Indian Health Service

- Staff Pharmacist