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From the Dean

Dear Friends:

You may remember that Governor Keating last year signed into law House Bill 1297 providing for pharmacists in Oklahoma to be licensed with the designation "Doctor of Pharmacy" and to use "D.Ph." as the abbreviation rather than "R.Ph." Consequently, the Oklahoma State Board of Pharmacy (<http://www.pharmacy.state.ok.us/>) began issuing new licenses to registered pharmacists making the request after the law became effective on November 1, 2001. Information about obtaining the new license can be found on the Board's web site. It is important to note that this does not change the academic degree, such as B.S. or Pharm.D., that pharmacists would have received from a particular college or school of pharmacy.

The new D.Ph. designation has been very popular among pharmacists in Oklahoma and the legislation has stimulated considerable discussion as well as the distribution by students at Southwestern Oklahoma State University School of Pharmacy of a survey instrument intended to gauge opinions about the change. My own response to the survey was returned in the form of a letter expressing my favorable view of the D.Ph. and the main remarks in my letter are quoted below to let you know how I feel about this important topic.

"First, I am fully supportive of the use of this designation and have already received my new license as afforded through Oklahoma legislation. I believe that the legislation provides an extremely important advance to the profession as it is fully consistent with the efforts of the colleges and schools of pharmacy in this nation to help with the development of the practice of pharmacy and with the realization as well as with the perception of the pharmacist as an important part of the healthcare team. The designation will serve as a foundation to support many new and exciting avenues for pharmacy practice that may not even be contemplated today and that will likely accelerate the pace of the development of innovative practices. Students graduating with the Doctor of Pharmacy degree may now feel more freedom to develop their practices in full accord with the goals of their academic curricula. I see nothing but highly positive outcomes associated with the existence and use of the D.Ph. designation."

"The colleges must continue to work in concert with all components of the pharmacy community to develop relationships that will be mutually supportive and beneficial and lead to a better understanding by the public and other healthcare practitioners of the full range of capabilities of the pharmacist. This goal is fully compatible with the Standards and Guidelines for the Professional Program in Pharmacy Leading to the Doctor of Pharmacy Degree adopted by the American Council on Pharmaceutical Education (ACPE). The ACPE Standards themselves call for attentiveness to current and future pharmacy practice as well as the inclusion of broad-based and diverse input in developing and implementing the professional program in colleges and schools of pharmacy. Therefore, we must work diligently to bring the community of interests closer together. I believe that the D.Ph. designation can aid the achievement of that goal."

"Finally, my personal decision to obtain education beyond my B.S. degree in Pharmacy was based upon a desire to acquire the educational value brought by an advanced degree program. Someone with an advanced or professional doctorate degree should not feel threatened by it, but should be willing to accept the D.Ph. designation for what it is and for what it may make possible for our profession. Individuals distinguish themselves on the basis of what they can do and not on the basis of their degree or designation. Consequently, it is important that we encourage, recognize, and applaud outstanding performance based on objective assessment of individual accomplishment."

You may have your own opinion about the designation and I trust that you will freely express that whenever the opportunity arises.

I hope that you will continue to visit our web site often to learn about our varied activities and to tell us about your activities. As you may know by now, there are multiple places throughout www.oupharmacy.com that allow you to



communicate with us. Please use these to the fullest extent possible and let us know if there are other avenues and approaches that you would like see on our site.

Sincerely,

College News

▪ Kappa Psi Province VII Annual Meeting in Oklahoma City

Gamma Omicron Chapter of Kappa Psi will host the 2002 Province VII Annual Meeting. The meeting will be held April 5-7 at the Westin Hotel in downtown Oklahoma City. A variety of special events may be scheduled, including a tour of the Myriad Garden and the Oklahoma City Bombing Memorial. Of course, Bricktown is just a stroll away. For additional information, please go to <http://www.oupharmacy.com/studentsrv/organizations/kappapsi/brochure.pdf>

Important Healthcare Information

▪ Free Access to Annual Reviews Articles

Annual Reviews has made available the full text of 10 review articles from their online database on key topics such as anthrax, bioterrorism, explosives detection, treatments for posttraumatic stress disorder, public health aspects of complex emergencies, military nutrition research, psychology and international relations theory, ending revolutions and building new governments. The articles may be viewed by going to: <http://www.annualreviews.org/biohazards/>.

▪ Free Access to Recent Reviews of Biological and Chemical Agents

The February 9, 2002, issue of the British Medical Journal contains two clinical reviews that describe chemical and biological agents -- how they can be used as weapons, their effects, and the treatment required. To view the articles, go to: http://bmj.com/content/vol324/issue7333/#CLINICAL_REVIEW.

Alumni News

▪ Jack Coffey ('57) Featured Pharmacist at OPhA

Jack is the Featured Pharmacist on the newly designed website of the [Oklahoma Pharmacists Association](http://www.opha.com/featured/index.asp?InterestID=29) (OPhA). Jack's biographical profile can be found on the OPhA site at <http://www.opha.com/featured/index.asp?InterestID=29>. Jack is currently serving the college as Assistant Dean for External and Professional Affairs and as Clinical Associate Professor in Oklahoma City.

▪ 2002 College of Pharmacy Alumni Award Recipients Announced

The University of Oklahoma College of Pharmacy Alumni Association has recently announced the list of alumni selected to receive alumni awards at the upcoming Pharmacy Day Awards Banquet on April 12th at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum. Congratulations are extended to the following recipients:

Outstanding Young Alumni Award:

Lee Ann Lavender ('97) – Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Yvette Y. Morrison ('93) – Oklahoma City, Oklahoma



E. Blanche Sommers Alumni Award:

Kristin Klein ('99) – Kansas City, Missouri

Ralph D. Bienfang Outstanding Practitioner Award:

G. Kimmel Stanton ('64) – Norman, Oklahoma

Distinguished Alumni Award:

Carl D. Lyons ('60) – Tulsa, Oklahoma

Tom J. Noles ('64) – Edmond, Oklahoma

Criteria for selection and previous award recipients can be found at <http://www.oupharmacy.com/alumni/awards/>.

▪ **Charles "Chuck" Jones ('91) Award Recipient**

Chuck was recently named Regional Manager of the Year for 2001 by the [Wal-Mart](#). He was a recipient last year of the [Outstanding Young Alumni Award](#) given by The University of Oklahoma College of Pharmacy Alumni Association. Congratulations Chuck!

▪ **Verna Covington ('86) Address**

Verna, who currently lives in Naperville, Illinois, sent along an address update. Classmates and friends can contact her at theodora35@earthlink.net.

▪ **Travis Watson ('92) Activities**

Travis Watson ('92), who is serving in the US Army on active duty, was promoted to the rank of MAJOR on February 1, 2001. Travis will be presenting a poster at the annual meeting of the Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy (AMCP, <http://www.amcp.org/>) in Salt Lake City this April. He and his family are still in Georgia but will be relocating to Washington, DC this summer where Travis will be the lead agent for the Army's pharmacy benefit program in that region. Classmates and friends can contact Travis at tjbttw@earthlink.net. Congratulations Major Watson! Keep up the good work.

▪ **Parke Largent ('61), Alumni Consultant**

Parke, who recently retired from The University of Oklahoma, is now serving part-time as Alumni Consultant for the College of Pharmacy. The focus of his efforts is to provide advice and guidance and to aid efforts to enhance communications with alumni and friends. Parke can be contacted at rx6882@aol.com or at parke-largent@ouhsc.edu with suggestions, comments, or news items to share with others. Welcome back Parke!

▪ **Lori Conrady-Stevens ('92) Address**

Lori has sent along her e-mail address. Classmates and friends can contact Lori at H-MAN23@prodigy.net.

▪ **Ralph Crowder ('82) Update**

Ralph reports that he has worked at Northbay Healthcare in Fairfield, California, for almost ten years. He started as a supervisor and has been Director of Pharmacy Services there for the past two years. Northbay is a two hospital system with outpatient services in Primary Care, Pain, Wound, Cancer, Maternal Child Health, and Anticoagulation (pharmacy staffed). Classmates and friends can contact Ralph at rcrowder@northbay.org. Thanks to Ralph for sending along an update of his activities. Keep up the good work Ralph.

Pharmacy News

▪ **HB 2715 Passed by Oklahoma Representatives**

Phil Woodward, Executive Director of the [Oklahoma Pharmacists Association](#) (OPhA), recently notified pharmacist members of the organization that HB 2715 (the immunization bill) passed its first challenge by being approved by the Oklahoma House of Representatives by a vote of 98 to 0. The bill can be viewed by going to <http://www.oupharmacy.com/news/pdf/hb2715.pdf>

▪ **Congressional Briefing on Pharmacy Education Scheduled**

Congressmen Michael Bilirakis and Sherrod Brown, and Senators Jack Reed, Mike Enzi, and Tim Johnson will sponsor a congressional staff briefing on March 22 at 12 noon in Room S115 of the US Capitol. The briefing is being held to help members and staff understand how the education of a pharmacist provides them with the knowledge and clinical skills to improve the health status of the patients to whom they provide services.

The briefing is scheduled to begin with a statement from Congressman Greg Ganske, a physician, about his relationship with pharmacists in his clinical practice. This will be followed by a presentation of pharmacy education, history, and trends as well as a panel presentation from pharmacists in variety of practice settings. Each panelist will describe how their education provides them with the knowledge and ability to improve their patient's health status and/or quality of life.

▪ **Supreme Court Hears Arguments In Compounding Case**

The U.S. Supreme Court recently heard oral arguments in the case Tommy G. Thompson, Secretary of Health and Human Services et al v. Western States Medical Center et al. A decision in the case is expected by June. The justices will decide if pharmacists can promote their compounded products without the need to get federal approval of the preparation. In January, the National Community Pharmacists Association (NCPA, <http://www.ncpanet.org/>) filed a brief with the court in support of the community pharmacists who are respondents in the case. The 30-page brief requests that the Court affirm the decision of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, which found limits on pharmacist speech in the Food and Drug Administration Modernization Act of 1997 (FDAMA) to be unconstitutional and determined such limits were the linchpin of the FDAMA provisions on pharmacist compounding and consequently overturned the compounding provisions in their entirety.

Job Openings

The University of Oklahoma Medical Center, Family Medicine Clinic

- Assistant Professor

The University of Oklahoma Medical Center, Everett Tower

- Assistant or Associate Professor
- Assistant Professor

The University of Oklahoma Medical Center, Children's Hospital

- Clinical Assistant Professor

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

- Clinical Assistant Professor
- Clinical Assistant Professor
- Clinical Assistant Professor
- Clinical Pharmacist

The University of Oklahoma College of Pharmacy, Oklahoma City

- Senior Account Clerk
- Pharmacy Technician
- Assistant or Associate Professor
- Research Assistant II
- Assistant/Associate Professor

Eckerd Drug Company

- Pharmacist
- Pharmacy Technician

Wal-Mart Stores, Inc

- Staff Pharmacist