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From the Dean

Dear Friends:

The annual meeting of the [National Association of Chain Drug Stores](#) (NACDS) was recently held at the Breakers Hotel in Palm Beach, Florida. Naturally, many of the topics discussed at the meeting revolved around issues related to the retail chain industry. It is important to note, however, that the NACDS and the NACDS Education Foundation have provided and continue to provide strong support for the U.S. Colleges and Schools of Pharmacy. Accordingly, the organization sponsors several events at the annual meeting designed to enhance communication with those in pharmacy education. The meeting presented great opportunities for pharmacy deans to meet and interact with senior-level executives and to discuss topics of mutual benefit.

The agenda for the "NACDS Pharmacy Deans Forum" at the meeting this year included a discussion of impending legislation affecting pharmacy as well as future changes such as the electronic transmission of prescriptions that will help advance the profession. There was also ample evidence of the increasing need for pharmacists in all sectors. In addition to a larger prescription volume brought on by the expanding elderly population, direct-to-consumer advertising on the part of pharmaceutical manufacturers and the creation of new and innovative practice opportunities are contributing to the enormous demand for more pharmacists.

The "[Pharmacists of the Future](#)" program of the NACDS will sponsor "mini-internships" with a goal of introducing talented high school students to all facets of pharmacy. This promises to be a very effective means of stimulating interest in pharmacy and one that will certainly synergize with our current recruiting activities.

Finally, the NACDS Education Foundation, with the help of corporate partners, has reached the \$1,000,000 mark in providing scholarship money for students in pharmacy. Each college with a representative at the annual meeting this year was given \$1500 in scholarship support. The OU College of Pharmacy was successful in drawing for an additional \$1000 of scholarship money that will be awarded at the Pharmacy Day Awards Banquet in 2003. Ryann Downard and Gretchen Williams were recipients of NACDS Scholarships at the awards banquet held this year.

We are always interested in increasing our scholarship support base for pharmacy students and welcome contributions that will enable continued growth of annual scholarship distribution. Scholarships available in the college can be found by visiting <http://oupharmacy.com/partner/>.

Sincerely,

College News

▪ Emily Nguyen (P-2) – Merck Research Scholar Program Award Recipient

Emily was recently selected by an evaluation committee of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACCP) as a Merck Research Scholar to work with Dr. Rae Matsumoto on the project entitled "Effectiveness of a Novel Sigma Receptor Antagonist in Attenuating the Neurotoxic Effects of Methamphetamine in Mice." She is one of twelve award recipients selected in a nationwide competition. Congratulations Emily!



▪ **Brian West ('02) – Outstanding Student Leadership Award**

In a recent campus-wide ceremony honoring student leaders at the Health Sciences Center, Brian was recently honored as recipient of the Outstanding Leadership Award for the College of Pharmacy. Congratulations Brian!

▪ **Dr. Wanda Kilzer – OSHP Award Recipient**

Dr. Kilzer, Assistant Professor in the OU College of Pharmacy, was recently selected by the Oklahoma Society of Health-System Pharmacists (OSHP) to receive the organization's Continuing Excellence Award. The purpose of OSHP's Continuing Excellence Program is to recognize hospital pharmacy practitioners for their continuing excellence in advancing the profession of pharmacy in Oklahoma. Candidates are evaluated based on attainment of a required level of activity in three categories of service. Congratulations Dr. Kilzer!

Alumni News

▪ **Quentin Phung ('99) – AFPE Pre-Doctoral Fellow**

The Board of Grants of the American Foundation for Pharmaceutical Education (AFPE) has awarded Quentin a 2002-2003 Pre-Doctoral Fellowship. The receipt of an AFPE Fellowship is a great honor as Quentin was selected from a very competitive pool of nation-wide candidates. He is currently a graduate student in the OU College of Pharmacy. Congratulations Quentin!

▪ **Luke Nigliazzo ('68, '71) – OSHP Award Recipient**

At the annual awards ceremony of the Oklahoma Society of Health-Systems Pharmacists (OSHP), Luke was the honored recipient of the OSHP Health-System Pharmacist of the Year Award. This is the organization's highest and most prestigious award and is given for service to the profession, contributions to pharmacy programs, cooperation with the entire health care team, and service to the community. Congratulations Luke!

Pharmacy News

▪ **Supreme Court Backs Pharmacist Compounding**

The U.S. Supreme Court recently upheld the states' exclusive jurisdiction over the pharmacist's right to compound prescription drugs. The [National Community Pharmacists Association](#) (NCPA) had filed an amicus curiae brief in support of the independent pharmacists involved in the landmark case. By a 5-4 vote, the high court affirmed the decision of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, which ruled the limits on pharmacist speech in the Food and Drug Administration Modernization Act (FDAMA) of 1997 were unconstitutional. The appeals court also found that such limits were the linchpin of the FDAMA provisions on pharmacist compounding and consequently overturned the compounding provisions in their entirety.

▪ **Oklahoma HB2715 Passed in Senate**

The Oklahoma State Senate recently passed HB2715 by a 37-0 vote. HB2715 enables pharmacists in Oklahoma to administer immunizations. The bill will next be considered in the [Oklahoma House of Representatives](#).

Oklahoma Poison Control Center News

▪ **Lack of Snake Antivenin Creates Concern**

The new antivenin, Polyvalent Crotalidae Immune Fab (Crofab), is an effective snake antivenin but may be in short supply this year as one of the major manufacturers, Savage Laboratories, has temporarily closed one of their manufacturing facilities. To compound the problem the makers of the old antivenin, Wyeth-Ayerst Laboratories, recently discontinued the old antivenin, Antivenin Crotalidae Polyvalent, after being the only manufacturer since the 1950's.



The [Oklahoma Poison Control Center](#) is in the midst of a statewide survey to help determine who has the antivenin in stock and where it can be located quickly if needed. "There is a potential problem with access to Crofab antivenin this year but we are optimistic that with good cooperation and communication with all health care providers we can manage this year's snakebite patients. I think the best thing we can do is practice prevention to decrease the potential for snakebite exposures", explains Dr. William Banner, Medical Director of the poison center.

The poison center advises that if you see a snake, keep at a very safe distance and don't attempt to pick it up. If you enjoy hiking or are a backpacker wear protective clothing such as long pants and high-topped boots. If you suspect or know a snake has bitten you seek immediate medical attention at the closest medical facility. Do not try to suck out the poison from the wound site or pack the area in large amounts of ice.

▪ 2002 Poster and Poetry Winners

March 8, 2002, Governor Frank Keating recognized winners of the poster and poetry contest for National Poison Prevention Week and National Inhalant Prevention Week, which was March 17-23. The contest, sponsored by the Oklahoma Poison Control Center and the Oklahoma Safe Kids Coalition, helped to raise awareness for poison prevention.

The poster contest was open to fourth graders and focused on poison prevention. With the message "Poison is a Whale of a Problem," the first-place winner is David Means, of Maryetta Elementary School in Stilwell. Second place went to Dakota Gonzales from Washington Elementary School in Ada. Third place went to Chelsea Brannon from Maryetta Elementary School in Stilwell.

Open to fifth graders, the poetry contest focused on preventing the use of drugs or inhalants to get high. Reece Hoover wrote the first-place poem, "A Drug Free Life." Second place went to Melissa Morin with her poem titled, "Don't Do Drugs." Third place went to Kelsey Manning with a poem titled, "The Mistake of a Lifetime." All the winners for the poetry contest are from Larkin Bailey Elementary School in Owasso.

Visit our web site at <http://www.oklahomapoison.org/preventionweek/2002/> to view the winning posters or read the winning poetry. The Oklahoma Poison Control Center would like to thank Toys-R-Us for providing the winners with gift certificates and would also like to thank three Putnam City art teachers who judged the poster contest this year Barbara Gabel, Bob Curtis, and Karen Kilpatrick.

Job Openings

The University of Oklahoma Medical Center, Family Medicine Clinic

- Assistant Professor

The University of Oklahoma Medical Center, Children's Hospital

- Clinical Assistant Professor

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

- Pharmacy Learning Facilitator
- Instructional Design Specialist
- Clinical Assistant Professor
- Clinical Assistant Professor
- Clinical Pharmacist

The University of Oklahoma College of Pharmacy, Oklahoma City

- Instructional Design Specialist
- Assistant or Associate Professor
- Assistant/Associate Professor

Eckerd Drug Company

- Pharmacist
- Pharmacy Technician

Wal-Mart Stores, Inc

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

USPHS/Indian Health Service

- Staff Pharmacist
- Staff Pharmacist