

Lobo Pharmacy Central



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

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University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center

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Our mission is to develop innovative leaders in pharmaceutical care and research who enhance the quality of life for the people of New Mexico.

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A Message from Our Dean



John A. Pieper, Pharm.D.

Happy New Year to your family and our College of Pharmacy family! The College is on an exciting trajectory into the future and I have many of you to thank for our recent and future successes. January began with our Winter Retreat on January 11. Our agenda included presentations and discussion about the Health Sciences Center's plans for submitting a Clinical Translational Science Award to the National Institutes of Health, which is critical to the clinical research enterprise at the Health Sciences Center. We followed this discussion with small group discussions focused on integrating concepts in our new curriculum. The college faculty approved our bold, new curriculum in October and the UNM Faculty Senate curriculum committee unanimously approved it this month. The new curriculum will feature 6 semesters of small group Pharmaceutical Care labs (an increase from our current two semesters), increase pharmacotherapy instruction from 12 to 18 semesters credit hours, provide for more professional electives and revamp our early experiential education program. We are also proposing a tuition increase to fund this state-of-the art curriculum. Assessing the effectiveness of our new curriculum was the focus of a two day visit to the College of Pharmacy this month by a national expert on assessment, Dr. Eric Boyce, Assistant Dean for Assessment & Professor of Pharmacy, School of Pharmacy, Wingate University, Charlotte, NC. Dr. Boyce met with our curriculum committee, assessment task force and presented to our faculty staff. He will continue to work with us as we refine our assessment processes in the College and our continued move to a "culture of assessment". Dr. Karen Dominguez is effectively leading our efforts in this area and we are indebted to her for her leadership. Our student pharmacists again demonstrated their many talents at the UNM Health Sciences Center Legislative Day on January 25 (see article). January has concluded with the New Mexico Pharmacists Association Mid-Winter Meeting. Approximately 60 students attended the First Annual Student/Recent Graduate Celebration on Saturday evening, January 28. This wonderful event was the idea of President Debra Herman ('78,'03) who is providing exceptional leadership to NMPHA and our students. Lastly, the College of Pharmacy is proposing two bills in the state legislature this year. The UNM/NMSU Cooperative Pharmacy program (HB39/SB165), sponsored by Rep. John Heaton ('61)(D-Eddy) and Sen. Mary Kay Papen (D-Dona Ana) would fund an a collaborative whereby the College and NMSU would recruit the best high school students in southern New Mexico, conduct interviews and admit them to the college after attaining acceptable grades in prerequisite coursework at NMSU. This bill has received wonderful support from Joni Gutierrez (D-Dona Ana), who is the daughter of our distinguished alumnus, Ralph Gutierrez ('51). The second initiative is the New Mexico Center for Isotopes in Medicine, which is requesting \$7 million to support our collaboration among the College, Los Alamos National Laboratory and the Cancer Research and Treatment Center in the School Medicine. Rep. Jeanette Wallace (R-Los Alamos) is the sponsor for this legislation. I hope to report great new on both of these initiatives to you next month. Thanks for your continued support of the College and our faculty and students!

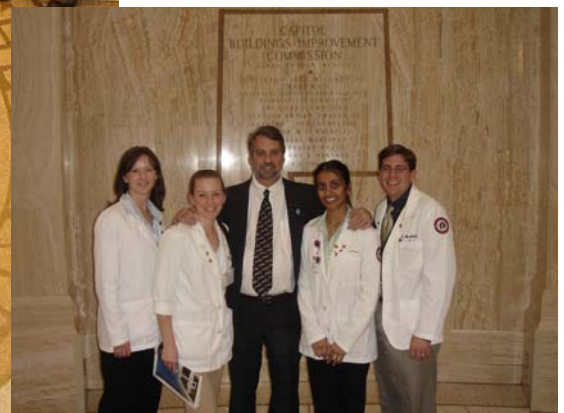
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UNM Day at the New Mexico State Legislature

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On Wednesday January 25, 2006, Doctor of Pharmacy students participated in what has become a much anticipated event for the New Mexico State Legislature at the Roundhouse in Santa Fe, New Mexico. UNM Day is the day when students of the University of New Mexico demonstrate to our state legislators their many talents and breadth of activities. College of Pharmacy students Tammy Johnstone (PS-3), Melissa Skelton (PS-2) Thaddus Wilkerson (PS-3), Jen Short (PS-4), Matt Utrup (PS-3), Bert Gomez (PS-2), Habib Majid (PS-1), Jalpa Patel (PS-2), Bernadette Johnson (PS-3), Jeannie Duong (PS-2), Kyle Milberger (PS-3), Ian Melville (PS-4), Samantha Feldner (PS-2), Tiffany Montoya (PS-1), and Kim Neff (PS-1) represented the College and their fellow students with a booth that offered health screenings and information to our legislatures and their staff in conjunction with several programs including "Operation Diabetes" - Cardiovascular Risk Assessment, "Heartburn Awareness Challenge", and "Vial of Life". Also in attendance from the College of Pharmacy were Dean John A. Pieper, Dr. Megan Thompson, Dr. Donald Godwin, and Assistant Dean Michel Disco. Our students also received the honor of being photographed for the New Mexico Daily Lobo. The photograph of our booth was the only one present in the Lobo's article about UNM Day. As always, our students represented not only the College, but the entire University and pharmacy professionally and with excellence.





2006 Winter Retreat Recap

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UNM College of Pharmacy Faculty, Students, Staff, and Community Members gathered on Thursday, January 12, 2006 at the Embassy Suites in Albuquerque, New Mexico for the College's Annual Winter Retreat. The retreat got off to a celebratory start with a surprise presentation of congratulations by Assistant Dean Michel Disco to Dean John A. Pieper. Dean Disco announced that Dean Pieper had recently been voted APhA-ASP Outstanding Dean for 2006. After the congratulations for, and the welcome message from Dean Pieper, retreat participants listened to presentations on opportunities for clinical research, with specific attention to UNM's Clinical and Translational Science Award endeavor currently being undertaken here at UNM. Dr. Craig Marcus started the presentations and introduced guest speakers, Dr Mark Burge of the School of Medicine, Dr. Sally Davis, Director of the UNM Community Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Center, and Dr. Marianne Berwick, Chair of Epidemiology for the UNM School of Medicine and Cancer Research and Treatment Center. The presenters gave participants an overview of the work that has been accomplished thus far, and the work that still needs to be done in UNM's bid for CTSA designation. If funded, the CTSA will replace and expand the collaborative capabilities of the University's General Clinical Research Center, whose 30+ years of federal funding will end in 2010. CTSA funding is meant in part to replace GCRC funding by the feds. College of Pharmacy faculty were encouraged to give the presenters feedback and ideas of ways in which Pharmacy can participate more fully in this research center. The next item on the retreat agenda was curriculum integration, this included breakout sessions in which participants were placed in smaller workgroups to identify how the new Pharm.D. curriculum integrates or needs to be integrated into our courses. Dr. Marcus and Dr. Holdsworth explained that the goal of this session was to develop a package of key concepts that could be utilized throughout the curriculum. These key concepts would be agreed upon between Pharmaceutical Sciences and Pharmacy Practice and could be built upon throughout the curriculum. These concepts should be introduced early in the curriculum, then reinforced during the middle to late portion of the curriculum and applied during the late part of the curriculum. After lunch, where Dean Pieper presented College of Pharmacy Senior Research Scientist Fredine Lauer with her ten-year service pin, Dr. William Troutman and Dr. Donald Godwin began a session in which opportunities for application for Center of Excellence award were explored. Again, smaller work groups were employed in order to identify resources and brainstorm for ways in which this might be accomplished at UNM. The purposes of the COE are to be a catalyst for institutionalizing a commitment to under-represented minorities (URMs) and to serve as a national resource and educational center for diversity and minority health issues. The final presentations were professional program updates, which were given by Dr. Donald Godwin. Updates covered admissions statistics, the Pathways to Pharmacy program, and student progression. Dr. Godwin also introduced a new pharmacy course which will be added to our curriculum. The course will be Pharm 706—Foundations of Drug Action. This course will replace Biochemistry 423 and will be required of all first year Doctor of Pharmacy students. Dr. Debra MacKenzie will be teaching the course. It is hoped that, by providing this course "in-house," we will be able to design a biochemistry-related course that pertains more directly to the topics and needs of pharmacy students. Faculty Senate approval will be needed and is hope to be obtained by March 2006. Dean Pieper closed the retreat by thanking everyone for their participation and continued support of the College of Pharmacy. Full minutes of the retreat are being reviewed by Dean Pieper and will soon be distributed via email once approved.

- This article made possible by the excellent note taking skills of Linda Jurey, COP Supervisor, Admin. Support





NEW FACES AT THE COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

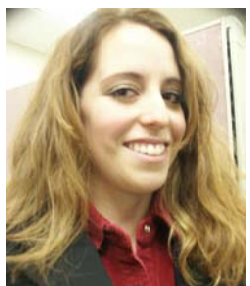


Penny Ammerman has joined the College of Pharmacy as an Administrative Assistant II. She will be supporting the toxicology faculty at the RIB and will also be assisting in other duties for the Pharmaceutical Sciences Division. Her desk is located on the second floor in Suite 220 at the Research Incubator Building (RIB). Penny came to UNM from the Albuquerque Job Corps Center where she worked in the Student Conduct Office. She's originally from Denver. She and her husband moved here in 1999 where he started his own business and Penny went into the coffee business with her brother. In 2003, she decided she couldn't take getting up at 3:30 am every day any longer, and returned to the business world. Penny and her husband are into animal rescue. Currently, they have 8 dogs, 3 cats, 10 chickens and a fish tank. All of the animals except the fish are rescue. They live in the east mountains on 1 1/2 acres, so they are able to manage this large brood quite nicely. She is thrilled to be working at UNM. Please stop by and give Penny a warm welcome when you are up at the RIB.

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Erin Kells has joined the College of Pharmacy Student Services Team as a Student Advisor. We asked Erin to tell us about herself, this is what she had to say: "I grew up in Aurora, Colorado - where I was an avid skier. I attended Colorado State University where I received a B.A. in Spanish. I studied for one year at La Universidad de Sevilla (a university in Seville, Spain) where I enjoyed marvelous Paella, Flamenco, and Vino. I then lived in San Antonio, Texas for 5 years, where I received a M.A. from the University of Texas at San Antonio in Bicultural-Bilingual Studies. I enjoy hiking, mountain biking, rafting, and basically anything outside in the fresh air. I have worked in community education, community college, and university settings and I greatly enjoy assisting students achieve their own personal, educational and professional goals. I am excited to join the College of Pharmacy and I look forward to getting to know the Faculty, Staff and Students!"



Melanie Garcia is a Professional Intern who will be giving support to the College for Dean Pieper and some of the College's larger special events. Melanie Garcia has been employed at the University of New Mexico for 5 years, working on main campus. Melanie received her B.A. degree in Spanish and Advertising in May of 2005. Melanie is a native of New Mexico and Albuquerque. Her primary interests (other than her husband) include playing volleyball, singing, watching football and playing with her two dogs, Joey & Tsu-ka. She is also a huge fan of any team from Tennessee! Go Elvis!



The College is thrilled to have **Vanessa Garcia** filling one of the busiest seats around. Vanessa was recently hired as an Administrative Assistant III for the front reception desk at the College. We asked Vanessa to let us know something about herself and this is what she had to say: "Prior to UNM I was in the Dental field for 12 years, I worked as a dental assistant for 10 of those years and the last two years I have been a receptionist. I was with the UNM Dental clinic for the last year. I am originally from Grants, NM but have lived in Albuquerque for the last 14 years. In the Fall of 2005 I started taking classes. I am not sure what I want to major in, but I do want to minor in Music that way I am able to teach piano."



CALENDAR OF EVENTS SPRING, 2006

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February, 2006

- **AACP Interim Meeting**
San Antonio, TX
February 26-March 1, 2006

March, 2006

- **SOT National Meeting**
San Diego, CA
March 5-9, 2006
- **Annual Awards & Scholarships Ceremony**
5:30pm
COP Room 135 & Lounge
Thursday, March 23, 2006

April, 2006

- **ACCP Meeting**
April 9-12, 2006
- **4th Annual Pinning Ceremony**
Thursday, April 20, 2006
6:00 pm - Embassy Suites Hotel & Conference Center
- **NACDS Meeting**
April 29-30, 2006

CONGRATULATIONS IRMIN!

Irmin Wehmeier received his B.A. at UNM's

Winter Commencement. His degree is in Computer Animation. Irmin has continued to support all the faculty and staff at the College while completing the requirements on his degree. Congratulations to Irmin for his success!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

STAFF COUNCIL NEWS

The **Hip-Hip Hooray Quarterly Staff Award** will be presented by Dean Pieper on Wednesday, February 8, 2006 in the College of Pharmacy Lounge from 12PM to 1PM. Birthday's for the months of October, November, and December of 2005, will also be celebrated with a Pot Luck. Please come join us with a dish and let's celebrate!

Staff Council Bake Sale

February 14, 2006, Staff Council will have a bake sale to raise money for projects. The bake sale will be in the lobby from 11AM to 1PM. Staff: Please stop by Vanessa Garcia's desk (front receptionist), to sign up for an item (s) to bring for the bake sale. A sign up sheet for volunteering a half hour shift to work at the table will also be at Vanessa's desk. Thanks for all your support!

Staff Council Elections

Staff: Tuesday, February 21, 2006, a election for Staff Council Officers will be held. Staff can sign in and vote from 8AM to 5PM at Vanessa Garcia's desk, College of Pharmacy, Room 188.