



AUBURN UNIVERSITY

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HARRISON SCHOOL  
OF PHARMACY

February 15, 2010

Dear Alumni, Friends and Family of the Harrison School of Pharmacy (HSOP):

War Eagle, and greetings from the loveliest village on the plains. The academic year is half over and it has been nothing short of amazing! We are proud to share our many accomplishments, especially our ranking among the top 25 schools of pharmacy according to the *U. S. News and World Report*.

HSOP has become a national innovator in pharmacy education, and our faculty demonstrate expertise in their teaching, practice and research, and exude a passion for the pharmacy profession. They have high expectations for our student pharmacists but confidently prepare and mentor them to become tomorrow's leaders in the pharmacy profession.

We are proud of our faculty, staff, student pharmacists, graduates and friends. Below is an outline of what has been going on at our school.

**Student Pharmacists and Driven Projects in the News**

- At the Student National Pharmaceutical Association (SNPhA) National Conference this past summer, Marquita Bradshaw (P4) was appointed SNPhA National Power to End Stroke Initiative Chair. She now has the responsibility of overseeing and assisting 64 SNPhA Chapters nationwide in conducting community service activities that will increase stroke awareness and also promote lifestyle modifications such as smoking cessation which are associated with stroke risk factors.
- In 2009, Somer Smith (P3) received the prestigious RESPy Award. RESPy stands for "Respect, Excellence, and Service in Pharmacy." Pharmacy Times, in conjunction with Wal-Mart, announced the establishment of the national award to honor outstanding pharmacy students who display exemplary behavior and great potential as community pharmacist candidates. Students selected will receive a cash award and will be offered a summer internship with Wal-Mart.
- Former Student Council, President Jessica Gresham (P4), was appointed to the National StuNet Advisory Committee of the American College of Clinical Pharmacy (ACCP). The committee serves in an advisory capacity to the Board of Regents and the College's membership staff to develop and update student programs and initiatives consistent with ACCP's vision for the future of clinical pharmacy practice. The committee will meet at the Annual Meeting in Anaheim next week and at the 2010 Spring Practice and Research Forum in Charlotte next April.

- The Student National Pharmaceutical Association (SNPhA) participated in the following events:
  - H1N1 Clinics
  - Attended Relay for Life Kickoff
- SNPhA plans to complete *Remember the Ribbon Initiative* - HIV/AIDS awareness (Dates TBA)
- HSOP student body, faculty and staff participated in the *Beat Bama Food Drive* in the fall. According to the Food Bank, HSOP donated 592 pounds of food and collected \$1,382.82 toward this effort.
- Committee of 19 – Hunger Summit on February 26-28; Hunger March on March 27-29
- Total contributions raised for Haiti relief - \$650
- Mobile students are collecting toiletry items to be included in care packages for victims of the earthquake in Haiti
- Chili Cook-off Fundraiser:
  - Raised over \$400 for the student travel fund!
  - Winners:
    - 1<sup>st</sup>: Margaret Atkins (P2, Auburn) and Lisa Black (Office Manager, Mobile)
    - 2<sup>nd</sup>: Dr. Laura Cain (Auburn) and Christina McDonough (P3, Mobile)
    - 3<sup>rd</sup>: Dr. Murali (Auburn) and Kaylee St. John (P3, Mobile)
- Participating in Mended Heart Health Fair “Control Your Shuga” Diabetes awareness Feb 12, in the New Student Union 9am-1pm
- Open House is on A-Day, Saturday, April 17 and each student organization plays an important role in organizing tours and activities for potential students and their families and providing screening and brown bag services the Auburn faithful and this year to members of the greater Auburn community.
- Pharmacy Legislative Day is scheduled for March 25, 2010 at the Alabama State House in Montgomery. Student pharmacists will participate in health screenings and education.
- Hargreaves Day is scheduled for Wednesday, April 7, 2010 at Kiesel Park in Auburn, beginning at 11:00 AM.

### **News from the Mobile Campus**

There will be 100 student pharmacist located on our Mobile campus in the fall of 2010. All student pharmacy organizations are now represented in Mobile. The American Council for Pharmacy Education has affirmed our accreditation until 2012.

### **News from the Department of Pharmacy Care Systems**

- Dr. Bruce Berger retired in October 2009, and at this time, a search is underway for his replacement.
- Dr. Brent Fox, the newest addition to the department, has successfully completed a project funded by Apotex (a Canadian generic drug manufacturer) to study the use of

handheld technology by Canadian pharmacists. Dr. Fox continues to publish two columns in national pharmacy journals with Bill Felkey, who retired in February 2009.

- Drs. Jan Kavookjian and William Villaume, in collaboration with Dr. Berger, continue to expand their Auburn University Motivational Interviewing Training Institute. Thus far, 10 Institutes have been held and several hundred participants have been trained since the institute was created in 2007. More pharmacists need to attend these workshops, as the vast majority of participants are case managers.
- Dr. Salisa Westrick continues to work on research projects and publications to facilitate pharmacists and pharmacies to offer comprehensive immunization services.

### **News from the Department of Pharmacal Sciences**

- Dr. Weili Yan began working at HSOP on January 1, 2010.
  - Research interests: Vaccine formulation and delivery
  - Based on signal transduction of antigen presentation cells, ie, dendritic cells (DC), design and development of novel molecular adjuvant or delivery system for DNA or subunit vaccine for treatment of cancer and infectious diseases.
- Dr. Murali Dhanasekaran, Assistant Professor, received the 2009 Hargreaves Faculty mentor Award and the SGA Teacher of the Year Award.
- Dr. Angela Calderon, Assistant Professor, received a \$5,000 Discovery Grant from the Harrison School of Pharmacy. She also received a \$5,000 Grant from the American Society of Pharmacognosy.
- Dr. Mulabagal Vanisree, a Post-Doctoral Fellow in the laboratory of Dr. Angela Calderon, received a \$25,000 United States Pharmacopeia Fellowship Grant.
- Thiruchelvan Kariharan, Graduate Student, received a travel award to chair a session for the Society of Toxicology annual meeting in Baltimore, Maryland. He also was invited and received a travel award to present an abstract at the International International Neurotoxicology Conference in Jerusalem, Israel. Dr. Raj Amin is Kari's faculty advisor.
- Manuj Ahuja, Graduate Student, has been selected to present a poster presentation of his current research entitled "Investigation of the Neurotoxic Mechanisms Involved in Beta-amyloid deposition in PSAPP mice" at the Society of Toxicology annual meeting March 7-11, 2010 in Salt Lake City, Utah. Dr. Murali Dhanasekaran is the student's faculty advisor.
- Sateesh Sathigari received a travel award from Amegen to attend the annual meeting of the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists in Los Angeles, California. Dr. Jay Ramapuram is the faculty advisor.

### **News from the Department of Pharmacy Practice**

We are pleased to announce that several new faculty members have been hired during this past year:

1. Leslie A. Hamilton, Pharm.D., BCPS, practice area: critical care/nutrition support
2. Emily McCoy, Pharm.D., practice area: ambulatory care
3. Marilyn Novell, Pharm.D., practice area: internal medicine
4. Nathan Pinner, Pharm.D., practice area: inpatient family medicine
5. Joseph Ybarra, Pharm.D., practice area: critical care/nutrition support

### **News from the AUPCC**

The AUPCC along with faculty, staff and students recently volunteered to coordinate one of the largest service projects ever undertaken, providing H1N1 vaccinations for the entire Auburn University campus population. Their involvement has allowed Auburn to provide the vaccine absolutely free of charge. All administration fees for the AU family have been waived.

As of February 11, 2010, 5,292 doses have been administered. Vaccinations were provided FREE to students, employees and dependents ages 10 and older.

### **News from Admissions**

This professional degree program is a four-year course of study that requires the completion of the pre-pharmacy curriculum prior to admission. The Pharm.D. curriculum is designed to facilitate the development of those abilities necessary for graduates to optimize medication use to improve patient care outcomes.

#### Current enrollment for Spring Semester 2010:

- Total students, including PharmD and Graduate - 584 students
- PharmD - 562
- Graduate - 22

#### Fall 2010 projected enrollment of incoming class:

- As of February 3 - 519 completed applications have been received for 150 positions
- 125 new student pharmacists, AU campus
- 24 new student pharmacists on the Mobile campus

### **Noteworthy Upcoming Events**

- Mid-Winter Conference, Auburn University Hotel and Dixon Conference Center
  - February 19-21, 2010
- Pharmacy Legislative Day, Alabama State House, Montgomery
  - March 25, 2010
- Continuing Education
  - March 28, 2010
- Hargreaves' Day – Kiesel park, beginning at 11:00 AM
  - April 7, 2010

- HSOP Open House – A-Day weekend
  - April 17, 2010
- Alabama Pharmacists Association (APA) 2010 Annual Convention & Trade Show, The Grand Hotel, Point Clear
  - June 27-30, 2010
- 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament at Auburn Links at Mill Creek
  - September 24, 2010

We always welcome guests to our school and hope you can take time out of your schedule to come to campus for a visit. We would love to show you around and thank you in person for all you do for us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R. Lee Evans".

R. Lee Evans, Pharm.D.  
Dean and Professor