Welcome from the Director

As 2017 winds down and the holidays draw near, I have been reflecting on our accomplishments over the past year. I am filled with gratitude for my colleagues who have spent countless hours contributing to the mission of the Plein Center for Geriatric Pharmacy. I am fortunate to be surrounded by so many individuals who are passionate and dedicated to making a difference in the lives of older adults. We have finalized our Plein Center Strategic Plan, which will guide our work over the next five years. I invite you to review the plan on our website.

We are already busy planning for 2018. We will hold our 2nd annual Plein Center Research Symposium—please mark your calendar for March 8, 2018. We will also rollout a new large community-based event later in the Spring. This event will focus on bringing important information regarding current medication-related issues directly to older adults. Finally, we have made it a priority to provide more travel support for students who want to attend geriatrics-related professional conferences to present their work and network with health professionals caring for older adults.

Thank you for your continued support as we work collaboratively to foster healthy aging in our communities. Best wishes for happy holidays and peaceful new year.

—Shelly Gray, Shirley & Herb Bridge Endowed Professor and Plein Center Director
Get to know us: Plein Center for Geriatric Pharmacy

Meet our geriatric pharmacy preceptors:
Karan Dawson
Learn more about Karan Dawson's career as a clinical professor and consulting pharmacist specializing in geriatric pharmacy. MORE

Meet geriatric certificate alumni:
Annie Lam
Learn more about UWSOP alumna and preceptor, Annie Lam, '95, and why she loves working with older adult patients. MORE

Plein Center faculty spotlight:
Joanne Wang, PhD
Learn the latest about the research of Plein Center for Geriatric Pharmacy faculty member, Professor Joanne Wang. MORE

Life-Changing Research: Plein Center Faculty

Jenny Bacci and colleagues recently presented, "Value-Based Collaborations to Increase Community-Based Adult Vaccinations and Emergency Preparedness: Project VACCINATE," at the 2017 American Public Health Association Annual Meeting and Exposition, Atlanta, GA.

Shelly Gray and colleagues published a paper in the Journal of the American Geriatrics Society that examined whether proton pump inhibitor use was associated with dementia risk. A few studies had found a link, which caused health care providers and older adults to be concerned about use of these common medications. However, Dr. Gray’s research examined this issue and found that there was no association between proton pump inhibitors and dementia risk. Her work pulled from a larger pool of data provided by Kaiser Permanente Washington Health Research Institute and looked over a longer period of time than the other studies published. This paper was presented at the International Society of Pharmacoepidemiology meeting in Montreal, in August.

Laura Hart and colleagues (including Shelly Gray and Zach Marcum) presented a poster titled, “Evaluating the Association between Central Nervous System-Active Medication Use and Fall-Related Injuries in Older Adults with Dementia” at the Alzheimer’s Association International Conference in London, England, in July.
Zach Marcum and colleagues published a commentary and a review article on improving medication adherence in older adults in the Journal of General Internal Medicine and Drugs & Aging. Dr. Marcum was also a co-author on a cohort study describing healthcare utilization in older adults with undiagnosed dementia in the Journal of General Internal Medicine.

Leigh Ann Mike and colleagues published a book chapter titled, “Nutritional Supplements in Older Adults” for the American College of Clinical Pharmacy, Ambulatory Care Self Assessment Program, a professional development activity for board recertification. Dr. Mike also published a multimedia interactive case study on management of acute heart failure from admission to transition for public use. Did you know? More than a third of adults age 65 and older take sleep medications. Dr. Mike was interviewed as part of an article in Consumer Reports on this topic. Check it out!

Our Preeminent Geriatric Certificate Students

Take a look at our new Student Outreach and Research page on our website, highlighting the work our students are doing to reach older adults in the community and through their research.

The Plein Certificate in Geriatric Pharmacy trains pharmacists to meet the needs of older adults in all practice settings. We recently wrapped up this year’s application cycle with the largest applicant pool of PharmD students interested in developing an expertise in geriatrics to date! Thirty-four students will be offered admission to the Certificate this cycle!

McDonald & Chaitesipaseut present at ASCP

ASCP Student Chapter President and President-Elect Derry McDonald (PY3), and Lena Chaitesipaseut (PY2) presented a poster at the American Society for Consultant Pharmacists (ASCP) meeting in Orlando, Florida November 2017. The poster described a medication-related fall risk outreach event. ASCP is the only international professional society devoted to optimal medication management and improved health outcomes for all older persons.
Farrar presented at AMCP-Nexus Meeting

Mallory Farrar (PY4) presented a poster at the AMCP-Nexus Meeting in Dallas, Texas October 2017. The poster describes the potential economic and patient-centered outcomes of deprescribing insulin in a select group of older adults. The Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy (AMCP) is the nation’s leading professional association dedicated to increasing patient access to affordable medicines, improving health outcomes and ensuring the wise use of health care dollars.

ASCP Student Chapter at Korean Health Fair

The ASCP Student Chapter participated in an interprofessional Korean Health Fair in October 2017. At the health fair, the pharmacy students screened older, mostly Korean-speaking adults for osteoporosis and provided education on recognizing and reducing falls risks. Additionally, they were able to educate some of the participants’ younger family members about osteoporosis prevention. The students interacted with over 50 people – they were busy the entire time!

2ND ANNUAL PLEIN RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM: PRECISION MEDICINE FOR OLDER ADULTS: DELIVERING ON A PROMISE

Join the UW School of Pharmacy and the Plein Center for Geriatric Pharmacy for our 2nd Annual Plein Research Symposium on Thursday, March 8, 2018 from 11 am to 3:30 pm. The annual symposium explores new advancements on research topics related to Geriatric Pharmacy and celebrates UW’s legacy as a leader in outreach and research for healthy aging. This year we are happy to welcome UW alum, John Newman, MD, PhD, to share his expertise on delivering precision medicine for older adults. Dr. Newman is Assistant Professor in the Division of Geriatrics at UCSF and a Visiting Scientist at the Buck Institute. His Buck research studies the molecular details of how diet and fasting regulate the genes and pathways that in turn control aging. Dr. Newman is also a geriatrician focusing on preserving mobility and preventing delirium. Like many geriatricians, he is deeply interested in how to best target the right treatments and right approach
to older adults, using every tool from genetics and biomarkers to functional and social assessment, in order to maximize function and independence. He completed an MD/PhD at the University of Washington, then did his residency and fellowship training at UCSF.

Virginia Leland established new endowment to support Plein Geriatric Pharmacy Certificate students

An ardent supporter of the UW School of Pharmacy and alumna of the highly engaged class of 1969, Virginia Leland (pictured above left, with Professor Emerita Joy Plein) is a model of tenacity and devotion to our ‘phamily.’ A pharmacist at the UW Medical Center, she worked there from 1974 until she retired in 2012. Most recently, Virginia established a new scholarship fund to support students interested in Geriatric pharmacy research, training, and practice. The Virginia Leland Scholarship in Geriatrics will be a part of the growth of the game-changing Plein Center for Geriatric Pharmacy Research, Education and Outreach. The Center will allow us to build on our 30-year history of comprehensive and state-of-the-art training in geriatrics through the Plein Certificate in Geriatric Pharmacy and expand our role as leader in outreach and research to promote healthy aging.

Together we will!

The UW School of Pharmacy Plein Center in Geriatric Pharmacy is made stronger through support of our faculty, alumni and friends. As you consider your year-end investment opportunities, there are multiple opportunities to support the leading-edge student experience and the life-changing research of our preeminent faculty.

- **Bailey Endowed Faculty Fellowship in Geriatrics**: Established by David and Anita Bailey, this endowment supports faculty in the Plein Center for Geriatric Pharmacy Research, Education and Outreach.
- **Elmer M. Plein Research Fund in Pharmacy**: In memory of Elmer M. Plein, Ph.D., this fund encourages, promotes, and supports research and innovative practice in pharmacy.
- **Geriatric Pharmacy Program**: The Program in Geriatrics encompasses training, research, and service with a focus on the optimal use of pharmacotherapy in older adults to improve appropriate medication use and disease management in older adults.
• **Plein Endowed Faculty Fellowship for the Director of the Center for Geriatric Pharmacy Research, Education and Outreach**: This endowment will support faculty in a Geriatrics Center.
• **Plein Endowment for Geriatric Pharmacy Research**: To support students who are engaged in geriatric pharmacy research at the School of Pharmacy.
• Raymond Wilson and Cheryl Wright Wilson Fund: To support students in the Plein Center for Geriatric Pharmacy Research, Education and Outreach.
• **Virginia Leland Scholarship in Geriatrics**: To support students with an interest in geriatric pharmacy research, training, and practice.