UW School of Pharmacy Mourns the Loss of Dean Emeritus Milo Gibaldi

Milo Gilbadi, Ph.D
1938 - 2006

Photo by Gavin Sisk, University of Washington
Dear Alumni,

Earlier this year, ABC’s 20/20 aired a New Years program in which the hosts interviewed people on what they had accomplished in 2005 and asked if their actions had made them happy. People’s answers ranged from having accomplished nothing in a year that went by too fast to having made a lot of money and buying everything they ever wanted. Yet, many of these people admitted to feeling unfulfilled and empty. There were others, however, who, though they may not have made enormous financial gains, or acquired fine things, said they were happy because they had spent time with loved ones and took advantage of opportunities to become involved in their community.

While money does pay for my flight to see my grandson, which brings me great pleasure; money, in itself, does not bring happiness. What does, for me I have realized, is the same as that latter group above: giving back to the community.

Pharmacy has been a part of my life for over 29 years; it and the UW School of Pharmacy family are my community. As an alumna, I have found great joy in giving back to the School by teaching and mentoring students. I find a heartfelt pleasure in re-creating a residency site they enjoy, a self-fulfilling job they land, or the success they feel at the completion of four hard years of pharmacy school. This passion for being involved in the education and practical experience of current pharmacy students is something I invite you to share with me.

As you know, the UW pharmacy program is a challenging one. We have all been through it and have emerged as better clinicians/pharmacists for it. Remember all the times we struggled in school, the pressures of exams and working as interns? Students today have the same struggles. A few supportive words from someone who has survived it can be just the encouragement a student needs. Teaching and mentoring students takes time and effort, but the rewards far outweigh the work.

I have always been proud of graduating from the UW School of Pharmacy. Giving back to the students is my way of ensuring that the School continues to produce great pharmacists. I encourage you to get involved, mentor a student, volunteer in therapeutics labs, be a preceptor at your practice site or get involved with PAA as a member or officer. I can assure you that you will not be disappointed with the way you use your time, and that that time will lead to a very fulfilling 2006.

Here’s to a wonderful year ahead!

Suzanne Lee, ’01
PAA President
Milo Gibaldi, dean of the School of Pharmacy at the University of Washington from 1978-1995, passed away on Friday, Jan. 13, in Chicago of a heart attack. He was 67 years old.

Gibaldi was a professor of pharmaceutics who was world-renowned for his work in the field of pharmacokinetics. He was an insightful and inspirational leader and is remembered fondly by the UW School of Pharmacy faculty, staff and the many alumni whose lives he touched as professor and dean.

“Those of us who were fortunate enough to know Milo will miss his friendship, wonderful insights and ability to inspire,” said Dean Sid Nelson.

As dean, Gibaldi played an instrumental role in making this a premier school of pharmacy, developing a more clinically oriented curriculum, integrating the School into the UW health sciences community, and launching the Doctor of Pharmacy program. Although internationally honored for his accomplishments in pharmacy research and education, he once said, “I think of myself as a teacher, first and foremost. Even when I discover something in my research, I really get excited about telling my students about it.”

Gibaldi was a pioneer in the study of pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, drug metabolism, bioavailability, bioequivalence, and transdermal drug delivery systems. He published more than 200 scientific papers and eight books, including the Drug Therapy Topics Supplement. He served as scientific advisor to the Food and Drug Administration, the National Institutes of Health, and several pharmaceutical companies.

Over the course of his career, Gibaldi received many honors for his work. He was one of just seven U.S. scientists honored at the Millennial World Congress of Pharmaceutical Sciences in 2000. In 1986, he became one of only two pharmacists who had been elected to the prestigious Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences. The International Pharmaceutical Federation bestowed the Erik Host Madsen Medal to Gibaldi in 1991 for distinction in pharmaceutical sciences. In 1996, he was elected as a fellow of the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists (AAPS) and was a recipient of the association's Research Achievement Award in Pharmacokinetics, Pharmacodynamics, and Drug Metabolism.

As dean, he oversaw the planning and construction of the School of Pharmacy's long-sought permanent home in the Health Sciences Center's H-Wing. Previously the School of Pharmacy had been in Bagley Hall and other locations on the UW campus. In addition, Gibaldi implemented the two-year, post-baccalaureate Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm. D.) program, which had been in the planning stages for some years, and graduated its first students in 1982. Combined with an American Society for Hospital Pharmacy accredited residency program, it was recognized as one of the foremost graduate programs in the nation.

Gibaldi received his undergraduate degree in pharmacy in 1960 and his doctorate in pharmaceutics in 1963 from Columbia University. He was an assistant professor at Columbia until 1966, when he moved to the State University of New York at Buffalo.

There he advanced to the rank of full professor and chair of the Department of Pharmaceutics and established a national and international reputation for research in biopharmaceutics and pharmacokinetics. A strong promoter of collegiality, Gibaldi’s leadership was recognized by UW appointments as associate vice president for Health Sciences (1982-1992), chair of the Board of Deans (1987-1995), and chair of the Board of Health Sciences Deans (1992-1995).

Gibaldi was dean of the School of Pharmacy for 17 years. He stepped down from the deanship on July 1, 1995 to return to the faculty as professor of pharmaceutics and dean emeritus. He moved to Chicago in 2003 to be closer to his family, and taught and continued his research at the Chicago College of Pharmacy. Throughout his tenure and much of his life he battled serious health problems, and was admired for his perseverance and courage that enabled him to still reach great heights as a scientist, leader and educator.

The Milo Gibaldi Endowed Professorship in Pharmaceutics was created in his honor in 1993, designed to focus on faculty and student research and education in advanced drug delivery systems.

Milo Gibaldi is survived by his wife, Florence, and daughter, Ann. The family has asked that those wishing to make a condolence and memorial gift please do so with a donation to the Milo Gibaldi Professorship Endowment. Donations can be made online at www.pharmacy.washington.edu/gibaldi or by calling the University of Washington School of Pharmacy Office of Development directly at 206-616-7613.

A memorial service is scheduled for March 26 at 2pm in Meany Hall. Please contact Cathy Johnson at 206-616-4218 for more information.
Message from the Dean

“In God We Trust; The Rest Must Show Data”
- Milo Gibaldi, 1996

As I reflect on the time I knew Milo, I begin to realize the breadth of his knowledge, impact and interests. Pharmaceutical scientists world-wide will mostly remember him for his ground-breaking research in pharmacokinetics, for which he received many awards, including election as one of the first non-physicians to the National Academy of Sciences Institute of Medicine, and honored as a Millenial Pharmaceutical Scientist at the 2000 World Congress of Pharmaceutical Sciences.

The quotation above is part of a title from one of Milo’s hundreds of insightful commentaries on health-related issues, commentaries that he continued to write until the time of his death in January. Milo was a gifted teacher who was able to pull together large amounts of information that often were disparate, and was able to create perceptive analyses that were useful to scientists and health care professionals, as well as understandable to the lay public. His ability to explain complicated issues and ideas carried into his university-wide class often dubbed “The Gibaldi Chronicles.”

Milo also had a tremendous impact as dean of our School of Pharmacy for 17 years. He arrived in 1978, one year after I joined the faculty. The School was poised for national recognition, and Milo provided the vision to lead us there by encouraging and enabling faculty, staff, students, and alumni to use their individual talents in collective ways that resulted in wonderful synergies. Three examples are the establishment of 1) an NIH-funded Multidisciplinary Research Program Project on Drug Interactions (now in its 23rd year), 2) the School of Pharmacy Dean’s Club for alumni and friends who donate to the School (now in its 15th year) and, 3) the Gibaldi Faculty Excellence in Teaching Award selected each year by the graduating class of students (now in its 11th year).

Milo was a visible and respected University citizen who helped found the Board of Deans and Board of Health Sciences Deans. He was selected as the first chair of each board. He, his lovely wife Florence, and their charming daughter Ann, hosted many dinners in their home for University officials, faculty, staff, students and alumni, as well as the annual holiday party at the University Club. In addition, the family were avid fans of Husky and Seahawk football, and were patrons of the arts and music, both on campus and in the greater Seattle area.

Two characteristics that I will always remember about Milo are his tremendous courage and perseverance in the face of difficult and often painful diseases, and his clean and cluttered desk. Most of us knew about his chronic, and sometimes acute, health problems. Yet, when I talked to him a couple of weeks before his death, he told me that he just wanted to be able to control the pain so that he could continue to teach and write. As to his desk, mine in comparison is piled high with stacks of files, journals, and articles. In Milo we trust; the rest of us must show our data. Farewell, Milo; I will miss you as a friend and mentor.

Dean Nelson

Faculty Volunteers Clear Trails in Honor of MLK Day

In honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day, on Monday, Jan. 16, nearly 1000 University of Washington students, staff, and faculty (as part of the Make It a Day On, Not a Day Off campaign) volunteered for a variety of community projects throughout King, Pierce, and Snohomish counties. Projects include restoring habitat, maintaining trails, painting and cleaning community centers, leading activities for seniors, and assisting at food banks. Among those representing the School of Pharmacy were Gary Elmer, Jackie Gardner, Tom Hazlet, Shari Bennett and Becky Meyers. These five worked with a Washington Trails Association work party to improve trails on Cougar Mountain in Issaquah. “It was a very wet,” said Gary Elmer, “but rewarding day!”

PORPP NEWS

PORPP faculty member Beth Devine, has received a $550,000 grant from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality to study the impact of electronic prescribing in the ambulatory clinic setting. This five-year grant will enable Devine and colleagues to build on the current work they are conducting at The Everett Clinic. She and her colleagues will be evaluating the impact of computerized clinical medication alerts on patient safety and studying aspects of a relatively new area of research, human-computer interface. They also intend to calculate the return on investment in the electronic prescribing system for The Everett Clinic. Co-investigators include Jennifer Wilson-Norton, ’93, Nathan Lawless, from The Everett Clinic; and PORPP faculty member Sean Sullivan.
Understanding Medicare Part D
The Latest in Community Pharmacy Care

Beverly Schaefer discusses options with one of her many Medicare Part D patients.

Medicare Part D is hot in the news, mostly for the confusion it is causing and the challenges patients find with picking the right plan. Many go to their local pharmacists for help. Though it is illegal for pharmacists to tell a patient which plan to choose, UW alumni are finding unique ways to help individuals better understand their options and calm their fears.

Warren Hall, ’79, of Halls Medical Center in Centralia has a designated employee to do just that. Harlan Thompson, marketing director for Halls Medical Center, has been making the rounds to retirement and nursing homes in the area. He puts on what he calls a general information seminar to help educate residents and their families about the various options and what to look for to best decipher which option most effectively meets their coverage needs. Harlan held three information sessions in one week alone in December and has been available for more since the start of the year.

“People are confused,” explains Harlan. “Helping them to identify what to look for, for their particular needs, can help them better evaluate their options.” In addition to Harlan, Hall’s Medical Center also provides space in its store for CCRX, NCPA and NACDS representatives to station themselves so that patients can come in and speak to them directly about their specific offering. These live resource opportunities involve no selling, but simply provide a venue where patients can have direct contact with people who can help answer their questions.

Beverly Schaefer, ’70, of Katterman’s Pharmacy in Sandpoint is helping to advise her patients as well. One of the main challenges Beverly sees with the new program is that there is too much general information and not enough specifics to help patients feel confident about their choice. So what do you do?

Beverly’s strategy is to give her patients comfort and hope by helping them realize that they need not stress and agonize over choosing the perfect plan. “They are looking for the perfect choice, but what they need to understand,” says Beverly “is that there is no necessarily bad choice.” She encourages her patients to find a plan that generally fits their medication needs, again it doesn’t have to be perfect, and then reminds them that they have the option to change this plan at the end of the year should they wish. She also tries to calm her patient’s worries of being rushed into a decision by explaining that they have until May to enroll with no penalty (Sen. Maria Cantwell is in fact trying to extend this deadline.)

Beverly sees Medicare Part D education as just the newest community service pharmacists are now offering. Patients too are looking at their pharmacist in a new light. “Having a patient come in and ask for advice,” explains Schaefer “shows trust in pharmacists that goes beyond retail interactions.”

From bone density, to blood pressure screening, more and more pharmacies are becoming much more than the prescription dispensers of the past, and re-establishing themselves as complete resource centers for overall patient education and community health. This is the future of community pharmacy and one embraced by UW and its many community focused alumni. Medicare Part D is certainly a challenge, but one that pharmacists are helping their patients and community to overcome.

NOTE: Harlan Thompson notes that he has found partners within his community of Lewis County to help patients with Medicare Part D questions, the Area Agency on Aging, and the manager of the local Social Security office. Both have stepped in and helped with difficult problems. Look for such organizations in your neighborhood.

UPCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY through JUNE
Pharmacy Grand Rounds
Meets the last Wednesday of every month through June from 7:30-8:30am in Health Sciences T-661. For more information visit www.uwcepe.org.

MARCH 26
Gibaldi Memorial
Join us in Meany Hall at 2pm to honor the late dean emeritus, Milo Gibaldi. For more information contact Cathy Johnson at 206-616-4218.

APRIL 5
Dean’s Recognition Ceremony
To be held Wednesday, April 5 at the Columbia Tower Club from 7-9pm. For more information please contact Beth Fenkner at 206-543-3485.

APRIL 7
UPPOW Auction
To be held Friday, April 7 in the I-Court Rotunda from 7-11pm. Theme is Sports and Athletics, cost is $8, and proceeds benefit student travel to national conferences. For more information or to buy tickets contact Carolyn Sear at csear@u.washington.edu.

MAY 19
50th Reunion Dinner
The Class of 1954, 1955, 1956, and 1957 reunion dinner will be held at the Women’s University Club of Seattle on Friday, May 19 from 5-9pm. For more information please contact David Chow at 206-221-2465 or chowd@u.washington.edu.

JUNE 9
Pharmacy Graduate Recognition Ceremony
Will take place Friday, June 9 at 4pm in Meany Hall.

JUNE 15
Katterman Lecture
Join Jean Enerson of KING 5 Healthlinks and others from approx. 7:30 am to 12:30 pm. (exact time to be confirmed.) (Please note the change from a Saturday to a Thursday morning.) For more information call the PAA office at 206-543-3485.

JUNE 25 – 29
30th National Medicinal Chemistry Symposium
Will be held June 25-29 on the UW campus. For more information regarding poster submission or registration please contact Jeanine Kanov at 206-543-2224.
Larry Bauer, ’77, recently published the Clinical Pharmacokinetics Handbook, for use by clinicians in patient care areas. He is currently working on the second edition of his textbook, Applied Clinical Pharmacokinetics (available in 2007).

Don Downing was a featured panelist on ABC’s News New Nov. 11 Top Priority Program on the topic of “Plan B: The Morning After Pill.” Don joined Monica Konrad of ABC News and Cindy Pearson of the National Women’s Health Network to discuss the product, issues, the FDA delay on approval, and what Washington and other states are doing to insure Plan B is accessible to those who need it.

Gary Elmer was interviewed on the new diet fad, Hoodia, for the Health section of the Everett Herald article “Who’s hot for hoodia?” Full text can be found at http://www.heraldnet.com/stories/05/11/15/100he_bodidia001.cfm.

Jackie Gardner, Don Downing and Direct Access research study coordinator, Solmaz Shotorbani, have been busy training pharmacists throughout Seattle as part of the Direct Access Three Month Bridging Study, which enables pharmacists to provide up to three months of contraception to clients whose prescriptions have expired or run out, so that they may be covered until their next physician visit.

Dave Goodlett has, as part of the Radical Solutions for Researching the Proteome (RASOR) consortium, awarded to Universities of Dundee, Edinburgh and Glasgow, received a visiting professorship at the University of Edinburgh and will act as chair of the RASOR scientific advisory board. More about RASOR can be found at http://www.gla.ac.uk/rasor/.


Terri O’Sullivan was interviewed by Good Housekeeping for an article on when medication should be thrown out and for a second article regarding tablet splitting.

Andy Stergachis received a grant to train WA pharmacy students for emergency preparedness and response (see adjacent article).

Jashvant Unadkat spoke at the 27th Symposium on Biomembrane-Drug Interaction in Japan, and at the University of Tokyo’s Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences this past fall.

Andy Stergachis, professor of epidemiology and adjunct professor of pharmacy, has received a three-year $559,000 award from the federal Health Services Resources Administration (HRSA) to train UW School of Pharmacy students in bioterrorism and public health emergency preparedness. This grant is part of $26.1 million in funds allocated to 32 universities by HRSA’s Bioterrorism Training and Curriculum Development Program (BTCDP). The BTCDP goal is develop a national health care workforce that can recognize indications of a terrorist event and treat patients and communities swiftly, safely and effectively.

“It is important that pharmacy students and other students within our health sciences schools receive training on how to best prepare for and respond to public health emergencies, such as bioterrorism, emerging infections, or natural disasters,” says Stergachis.

The UW School of Pharmacy will use these funds to further develop, implement and evaluate a multidisciplinary curriculum in bioterrorism and public health emergency preparedness that provides pharmacy and other regional health care students at the University of Washington Health Sciences Center, as well as those at Washington State University (WSU) College of Pharmacy, with the knowledge and skills necessary to recognize signs of a hazardous event, meet the acute care needs of patients, and work in a coordinated, multidisciplinary manner in responding to public health emergencies at the community, state and national level.

Pharmacists play an indispensable role in securing the health of our society in the wake of man-made and natural disasters. They represent the third-largest health profession group, with nearly 200,000 licensed pharmacists nationwide, and are likely first responders in identifying an emergency situation. Pharmacists are uniquely positioned to monitor over-the-counter (OTC) drug sales and patient inquiries into treatments for flu-like illnesses. Unusual patterns or surges of illnesses may alert of a possible epidemic.

Pharmacists are also one of the most trusted healthcare professionals, experts in educating the public about medications and most are authorized by their states to administer medications including vaccines, which can be instrumental in managing community health in the midst of a disaster or terrorist act.

UW School of Pharmacy has a record of innovation in emergency preparedness and response. Its faculty and staff are involved with initiatives pertaining to pharmacy education and public health roles for pharmacists, including mass dispensing, the Strategic National Stockpile, risk communication, and surveillance. This grant will be one more step in UW’s commitment to graduating the best and most prepared pharmacists to take on the ever-expanding role of the profession and meet the growing needs of the community.

Health Sciences Faculty Are Leaders in Patient Safety

Karan Dawson, Dana Hammer, Nanci Murphy and Peggy Odegard served on an inter-professional committee to develop a national faculty leadership curriculum in patient safety. Working in conjunction with the University of Washington’s Center for Health Sciences Inter-professional Education and the Health Services Resource Administration (HRSA), the committee created the Faculty Leadership in Inter-professional Education to Promote Health Safety (FLEIPPS). The goal of FLEIPPS is to develop faculty leaders who will advance the education of patient safety through use of best practices and institutional improvements.

Led by Pamela Mitchell and Lynne Robins, the committee includes representatives from the Schools of Pharmacy, Nursing, Medicine, Public Health, and Social Work, Dentistry, Medical Information and Bioinformatics, Information School, and area medical centers. As part of their service the UWSOP faculty created a presentation module about ethics, inter-professionalism and their relation to patient safety; co-authored “Changing the Response to Error,” in the Patient Safety Leadership Training Manual, presented at the National Patient Safety Meeting in Washington DC; and coordinated the CE for pharmacists.
I2P2 Shines with Tiffany Lights

On Oct. 20, Dean’s Club members were invited to join Institute for Innovative Pharmacy Practice (I2P2) faculty members Jackie Gardner and Don Downing, ’75, at the Seattle Art Museum (SAM) for a special viewing of the Louis Comfort Tiffany: Artist for the Ages exhibit. Alumna Marla Osinski, ’69, and her husband Patrick came from New Jersey to attend the event.

In addition to the beautiful work of Tiffany and his artists, the 60 members and friends in attendance were treated to an informational review of I2P2 and a discussion on how this center for training, research and advocacy is helping our future pharmacists become best prepared for their careers ahead. Downing described how pharmacy student Angie Lambert, ’07, was able to put her pharmacy skills into practice while learning hands-on the challenges and best practices of pharmacy management during her I2P2 Retail Pharmacy Management Program sponsored summer management internship. This experience will help Angie to enter the work force capable of not only promoting better health, but also better business.

To learn more about I2P2, please contact Jackie Gardner at jsgardner@u.washington.edu.
If you are interested in becoming a Dean’s Club member, please contact David Chow at 206-221-2465.

Call for Plein Research Proposals

Proposals are now being accepted for the 2006 Plein Grant awards. All UW School of Pharmacy alumni, faculty, clinical and affiliate faculty, and students are encouraged to apply. The deadline for proposals has changed this year to June 1, 2006.

One to three grants are funded annually by the Elmer M. Plein Endowed Research Fund in Pharmacy, established in 1995 to honor Professor Plein, who served the School from 1938 until his death in 1994. The Plein Fund encourages, promotes and supports research and innovative practice in pharmacy. Areas to be supported may include, but are not limited to, research projects related to geriatric pharmacy, drug metabolism and transport, pharmacotherapeutics, pharmacokinetics, pharmacoepidemiology, pharmaceutical outcomes, pharmacoconomics, and drug utilization; demonstration projects evaluating innovative practice models, publishable scholarly reviews, books or book chapters. Awards range from $500 to $5000.

Proposals must be received by June 1, 2006 for consideration. Awards will be decided by August 1, 2006 and funding will usually begin on September 1, 2006. Unless otherwise stipulated in the award, projects are expected to be completed in one year.

Submit proposals to: Elmer M. Plein Endowed Research Fund, c/o Eric Irvin, UW School of Pharmacy, Box 357631, Seattle, WA 98195. In the cover letter, please state principal contact, names of all proposers and their phone numbers, campus affiliates, if any, fax numbers and email address. Please also submit a resume for each listed proposer. Student projects are required to have a UW School of Pharmacy faculty member listed as a co-investigator. If the proposed research involves human subjects (either directly or through patient records or other data), Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval is required by federal, state and university regulations. For more information, contact Eric Irvin, manager of business operations, at 206-685-8091 or cirvin@u.washington.edu.

IN MEMORIAM

Frank F. Julien, ’41, passed away on Dec. 18, 2005, is survived by daughter Kathy Barrows.
Marianne S. Gaines, ’47, passed away on May 22, 2005 after more than 50 years as an active pharmacist. She is survived by her husband, Lloyd and their daughter.
James E. Soyars, ’58, passed away on Sept. 29, 2005. After Pharmacy School James went on to get his masters in physiology from Tulane University and his medical degree from Creighton University in Omaha, Neb. He served as a captain in the USAF from 1965-1968 and in 1971 established his practice in ophthalmology. He was a member of several medical societies and chief of staff at St. Michael’s Hospital before his retirement in 1998. He loved attending church, collecting art, hunting, fishing, and riding four-wheelers with his three grandchildren. He is survived by his wife, three daughters and one son.
Ann DeGanton, ’64, passed away on Jan. 16, 2006 at the age of 87. Ann, who hailed from Rudyard, Mich., was a pharmacist in the Renton area before retiring and moving to Sun City Center, Florida. She was a member of Chi Chapter of Lambda Kappa Sigma. Ann was preceded in death by her husband Henry, and two sons.
Clark C. Curtis, ’65, who had been retired from pharmacy, passed away in April, 2005. He is survived by his wife Janet Hatcher Curtis, ’69 (see class notes), two sons, one daughter and three grandchildren.
Robert ‘Bob’ Johnson, assistant clinical professor from 1977-2001, passed away on Jan. 20. Bob, an Oregon native, attended Oregon State University and served two years in the South Pacific with the Navy during WWII before moving to Seattle where in 1957 he established Bob Johnson’s Pharmacy. He was well-known and admired within the UW School of Pharmacy and community. He enjoyed pharmacy, gardening and the arts. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Ester, son Paul, daughter Marilyn Chambers and four grandchildren.
Pharmacy Legislative Day has become an important venue for keeping pharmacy in the minds of our elected officials and their staff in Washington State. Many of the legislators and their staff look forward to the day when the white coats of pharmacy arrive at the Capitol. This year, more than 70 pharmacists and student pharmacists from UW and WSU participated in the Feb. 3 event.

Participants spoke with legislators on several pharmacy issues including coverage of dual-eligible co-pays, PBM transparency, medication pedigree legislation, and opposing mandatory mail order. In addition to the discussion of legislative issues, pharmacists and student pharmacists provided health screenings for hypertension, cholesterol and glucose, body composition, osteoporosis, spirometry screenings and medication reviews for more than 100 Capitol employees, answered questions about Medicare Part D and explained the role a pharmacist plays on the healthcare team.

Many state leaders spoke at the event including Dedi Hitchens, Pharmacy Legislative and Regulatory Affairs Counsel administrator; Steve Saxe, executive director of the Board of Pharmacy; Brian Payton, the legislative liaison for the Department of Health; House Minority Leader Rep. Richard DeBolt and Sen. Linda Evans Parlette from the 12th District (Parlette is also a practicing pharmacist). Rep. Steve Conway, father of Collin Conway, ’05, and legislator from the 29th legislative district, credited the many strengths of pharmacy, and the House of Representatives passed a floor resolution in recognition of all that pharmacists do for the residents of the State of Washington.

UW alumni Tim Fuller, ’69, Rod Shafer, ’77, Kari Douglas, ’92, Jeff Rochon, ’99 and Jane Linden, ’02, were among those present as were UW faculty Nanel Murphy, Dana Hammer and Dean Sid Nelson.

Some legislative staff members said “Pharmacy Day is among their three most anticipated days of the session.” Most importantly, it has a very positive effect on moving pharmacy legislation in the right direction.

2nd ANNUAL THANK-A-THON: A GREAT SUCCESS

Over 35 Pharm.D students, many of them UPPOW members or scholarship recipients, hit the phones on Wednesday, Feb. 1 to call and thank over 650 alumni donors for all they do for the School. We hope you enjoyed this opportunity to hear from our students. Thank you again for your support!
By helping patients to think more proactively about their medications, herbs and OTC’s, we are helping to lower the risk of preventable adverse events.”
- Nicole Miller, ’07

UW School of Pharmacy students Nicole Miller, ’07, and Katharine Monaco, ’07, recently took the initiative to create a project called “Promoting Patient Safety - A Statewide Partnership in Washington” with the goals of educating patients on the importance of learning about medications and their proper use, improving the understanding of the pharmacist’s role in the community, increasing communication between patients, pharmacists and prescribers and improving access to health care services in the community. The project was funded by a grant from the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists in June 2005. Miller subsequently wrote a proclamation that was signed by Governor Gregoire designating this past October as Patient Medication Safety Awareness Month and things have just been building from there.

As part of the project, Miller and Monaco led a student group that partnered with the National Council on Patient Information and Education (NCPIE) to create questionnaire sheets. Patients can now reference these guides on Patient Information and Education (NCPIE) to create questionnaire sheets. Pharm.D students worked with Pamela Colman at NCPIE on the “ten questions to ask when receiving a new medication” resource. The students then translated this resource into several languages, including Chinese, Vietnamese, Russian, Korean and Cambodian and then distributed these at local health fairs. The goal of this project was to help patients play a greater role in understanding and managing their own health care – and in turn achieve better care.

Several of Miller and Monaco’s classmates have become involved in the project by actively planning and carrying out local community outreach activities. Amy Little, ’08, coordinated a group of students to help educate seniors in the Seattle area about the new Medicare Part D plan. These students volunteered their time in grocery stores, pharmacies, churches, and at senior health conventions to inform patients of their new prescription drug insurance options. Additionally, Tuyen Huynh, ’08, led the translation, by bilingual students, of Medicare Part D outreach materials into Vietnamese.

Other outreach activities have included those of Aaron Chin, ’08, and Rick Bockovich, ’07. Chin led Operation Immunization, a program of events, including the distribution of flu vaccine information at this year’s homecoming game, to help raise both student and public awareness about the importance of vaccination. Over 300 individuals have been directly impacted by this program, and 45 vaccinations provided. Bockovich created public signs identifying five key points to help patients achieve the best results from their medications. This resource was posted, this past fall, in 40 Seattle downtown metro buses for a period of four weeks.

Several students have jumped aboard by planning and executing community health fairs. Jenny Wong, ’07, and Lisa Choe, ’07, spearheaded a hypertension fair held on Nov. 17 in Seattle’s International District at which students provided blood pressure measurements, information on risk factors related to high blood pressure, and descriptions and use of various different blood pressure monitors. Rhea Coquia, ’07, organized a community health fair held Jan. 14, at the King County Aquatic Center in Kent. About 55 students were on hand to offer attendees free health screenings, brown bag consultations, poison prevention and medication management information, as well as distribute “Vials of Life.” Students also took advantage of the opportunity to visit each work station to practice using medical machines and to learn about the counseling tips provided. The fair was also a venue for students to talk with preceptors and learn about disease states seen in practice. Coquia attributes the success of her fair and other related project activities to the efforts and commitment of her peers. “It is very flattering to attend a pharmacy school that is filled with students eager to help each other and the community,” says Coquia. “I’m proud to be a Husky.”

The UW School of Pharmacy is honored to have Coquia, Miller, Monaco and all our exemplary students who understand and act on the importance of community health. We are proud to be graduating the caliber of students we know will not only live up to the expanding challenges of their profession, but continue to be leaders in it.
Blossom Williams, ’41, at the age of 88 is enjoying the Master Gardener program she started in Washington and continued during her nine years in Wyoming and more recent 13 years in Florida. Blossom sees it as an extension of her botany and pharmacognosy interest.

Shirley Bridge, ’45, received a Helen H. Jackson Women of Valor award for her work in women’s advocacy at a recent fund-raising luncheon for Maria Cantwell, at which Hillary Clinton was the keynote speaker. Bridge received a standing ovation at the event.

Pat, ’45, and Bob Tanac, ’47, celebrated their 60th anniversary on Feb. 24, 2006.

James Carlson, ’49, after viewing the PAA member discounted ski ticket offer, remembered when he and classmates Norma Geil, ’49, Sadako Hisata, ’49, and Dave Robinson, ’49, decided to head to Snoqualmie to learn to ski. Lift tickets where $5 and the resort consisted of three rope tows and a hut. There were tolls over Mercer Island and the girls packed the lunches. They had a lot of fun and each returned home a skier!

Norma Geil, ’49, has left Tonasket, Wash., her home of 51 years, to move to Kingston, Wash. Lois Balent, ’49, and her husband Steve have moved to Kensington Episcopal Home (Alhambra, Calif.) for their retirement and care. They remain busy with numerous arts, theater, social work and church related activities. Steve celebrated his 92nd birthday this year and Lois, recovered from a broken fibula over the summer, is happy that the recent move enables her to return to All Saints Church in Pasaden.

Johnny Johnson, ’50, has lived in Connecticut since graduation. He lost his wife to breast cancer in 1994 but remains busy with the rest of his family of six kids, nine grandchildren and one great-granddaughter. He retired in 1991 at the age of 66 and suffered a heart attack shortly after, but has since regained his health, works out three to four times a week, and keeps himself busy with square dancing twice a week, attending theater, camping and traveling. He celebrated his 80th birthday this August.

Robert W. Kelly, ’50, was called to active duty with the USAF upon graduation and has not lived in Seattle since. He retired from the USAF several years ago and after trying a few other ventures returned to pharmacy. He currently resides in Virginia, where he is a pharmacist in charge of a large high-volume drug store chain. He finds his work both challenging and rewarding.

Don Mehafeff, ’51, spent two years in the army (one in Germany) and has lived in Seattle since. He married a classmate from high school and they have five children and 12 grandchildren. He retired in 1992 as the pharmacist for King County Jail, yet continued to work one day a week for five more years at a community pharmacy. He is happily out of the business now and enjoying his twice weekly games of bridge and tennis, reading and visiting his grandchildren.

Katheren Armatas, ’52, is enjoying her 10 plus years of retirement from pharmacy. She continues writing with the “Tacoma Historical Writers” and is blessed by eight grandchildren. She also is proud to announce that her son, Daniel Armatas, a graduate of UW, was ordained to Orthodox priesthood on June 11 at the St. Spirithon Cathedral in Seattle.

Jack King, ’53, sadly lost his granddaughter Lauri at the young age of 22. He also had a scare with his youngest daughter Tina (43) who narrowly escaped a house fire with nothing but one dog and her life. Happier news is that he has gained a new granddaughter and both a great-grandson and great-granddaughter, bringing the number of great-grandchildren to 11. He and his wife wish all a very happy 2006.

Martha Trollier, ’53, retired in 1996 and has been teaching English as a second-ary language to Chinese and Hispanic students for five years. She keeps in touch with some of her classmates, including Billie (Reider) Kutzera, ’53, with whom she traveled to Hawaii last spring.

Lloyd Gaines, ’53, who lost his wife Marianne this year (see memoriam) is a relief pharmacist for RPh on the GO.

Wayne Mosby, ’54, and his wife June left the hard work of country life, caring for horses, chickens, and goats, nine years ago and now enjoy the peace and quiet of their park side Sumner home. June is very busy with her flowers and other activities. Wayne has recovered from surgery to his left leg and is still working in real estate and development, from which he hopes to retire in two years.

James Roby, ’65, is retired and spends his winters in Prescott, Ariz. and 3-4 months each summer cruising in B.C.

Joanne Iversen, ’65, is currently working with Cameron and Co. as a relief pharmacist and enjoys the experience, flexibility and freedom. She continues to play the violin, performing with the Tacoma Community College Chamber Orchestra and also at special occasion events. She and her husband of 38 years, Nick, have three grown children, Eric (34), Tina (32) an assistant professor in pharmacology at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn. and Amy (26), the mother of Joanne’s 2-year old grandson.

Sandra Hagan, ’66, is going into semi-retirement for a few months, working for a temp agency and enjoying life.

Charles Kahler, ’66, has been elected as club service co-chair for the Rotary Club of Sammamish. In October, Charles chaired the blue ribbon WSPA Ad Hoc Committee to study and recommend a position statement regarding pharmacists and their staff refusing to fill a prescription for reasons of conscience, which was adopted by the WSPA Board of Directors in November.

Larry Martin, ’76, retired as manager of Safeway #584 in Toppenish, Wash. and is now enjoying more time for hunting trips. He’s been on six since September.

Gerald Padgett, ’67, sold his store in Bothell after 35 years to QFC in June 2004 and retired a month later. Gerald now spends his time in Zillah, Wash. helping his son, David, run two wineries, Horizon’s Edge and Masion de Padgett, both producers of great wines!

Janet (Hatcher) Curtis, ’68, is working full-time at Rite Aid in Lake Stevens, Wash. She spends her weekends and vacations at her property on the Oregon coast. She would love to hear from classmates (email janetcurtis2@aol.com). Janet’s husband Clarke passed away earlier this year (see memoriam.)

Doug Mendenhall, ’68, says his post-retirement can’t-quit-job at Merck has been anything but a quiet sunset. Between Vioxx and patent expiry issues it has been a very challenging environment, but also very fulfilling. He is helping to re-tool the R&D process and increase productivity. Merck will be back, he says.

Ronald Bright, ’69, retired from Astra Zeneca Pharmaceuticals as a district manager after 25 years of service. His wife Dorine, also a district manager, continues her employment with the company.


L. Douglas Ried, ’72, professor and assistant dean at the University of Florida College of Pharmacy, has been appointed to a three-year term as an associate editor of the Journal of the American
Pharmacists Association.

Donald Shaw, ’81, has a son, Ryan Shaw, who is in his first year of pharmacy school at UW. Ryan is the third generation of Shaws to enter the profession as Donald’s father was also a pharmacist.

Einar Tjolsen, ’82, Go Blue!! Einar has been brainwashed in Michigan. He and his wife Martha own three Medicine Shoppe pharmacies just south of Ann Arbor. He thanks UWSOP for a great education.

Laura Strelow, ’85, lived on the Olympic peninsula until her divorce in 1990. She left her job at Swanson’s Owl Drug in Aberdeen to move back to Michigan with her now-adult sons, Alex and Bror. In Michigan, she worked at an independent drug store for 13 years, before becoming an outpatient pharmacist at a Kalamazoo hospital. She remarried seven years ago. Her husband Walt works at Pfizer. Laura returned to school in 1999 to finish a B.S. in Botany and recently a M.A. in Biological Science at Western Michigan University and is starting a doctoral program this fall. Her research is on fitness effects of gene flow from transgenic domestic cucurbit to the wild variety. She is active in local environmental organizations, the Green Party and enjoys traveling with her husband.

Thomas Nolan Rivers, ’88, has returned to the Pacific Northwest after 15 years in Houston, West Lafayette and Chicago. He's just bought a home in West Seattle, is settling in and looking forward to catching up with old classmates. The other places were nice, but Seattle is home, he says.

Samir Hage, ’92, moved to Calif. in 1993 to attend medical school. He started his residency in ob/gyn in 1997 and entered private practice in 2001. He practiced both pharmacy and medicine ob/gyn until March 2005, when he switched to just medicine. Samir married Sama, a speech therapist, in 1998, and they have two children Anthony (3) and Natalie (1). He thanks UWSOP for his education.

Tanya Hamilton, ’93, moved to Spokane, Wash. with her husband Mike and their children, Shannon and Sarah. She is now pharmacy manager for Pharmacia.

Barbara (Dean) Groffman, ’94, recently moved to Los Angeles with her husband, Marcus, who is attending a nurse anesthesia program at USC. Barbara is studying for the NABPLEX and CA law exams and remains busy mothering their active 2-year old daughter, Alice. She misses working in the UW community at Hall Health and everyone there, but is enjoying the California sunshine.

David Meade, ’94, retired June 2005 after 20 years in the air force.

Jennifer Crutcher, ’95, and her husband Ernest, welcomed their first child in November. It’s a boy!

Darcie Harnett, ’95, and her husband Sean, announce the arrival of their daughter, Alexa Nicole, born Sept. 16, 2005. Darcie just celebrated her ten-year anniversary with Shopko Pharmacy.

Paul, ’96, and Heidi (Bernhoft) Holm, ’96, announce the birth of their fourth child, a boy! All four, ages nine, seven, five, and one month are currently pre-pharmacy and diehard Huskies. The Holms hope to reunite with classmates at this year’s 10 year reunion.

Timothy Lynch, ’97, was inducted as president-elect of the Washington State Pharmacists Association in June 2005.

John Fulton, ’00, LDCR, returned to Sitka, Alaska in September following a two-week deployment to Louisiana with the US Public Health Service for Hurricane Katrina Relief. He traveled throughout the state as a member of a shelter assessment team and provided pharmaceutical care at a special-needs shelter in Lafayette. John is assigned to the Indian Health Service and is a pharmacist at Mount Edgecumbe Hospital in Sitka, where he lives with his wife Kristine and sons Owen (9) and Conner (6).

Terry Lerma, ’00, just moved back to Washington state after six years in Phoenix, Ariz. After living in the desert, he has a much deeper appreciation for the water and greenery and is happy to be back and working at St. Johns Medical Center in Longview, Wash. His family has grown to eight kids total! The two oldest daughters are playing violin and cello in the Portland Metropolitan Youth Symphony.

Susan Lakey, ’02, and Micki Zedzierski are co-advisors to Chi Collegiate Chapter, re-activated by the Chi Alumni Chapter of Lambda Kappa Sigma at Lakey’s home on Oct. 27, 2005. Seven members were initiated. The Chapters thanks the School of Pharmacy for their interest and support.

Ryan Oftbro, ’03 was interviewed on KUOW regarding Medicare Part D (see Beverly Schaifer, ’70)

A HUSKY APPLE CUP VICTORY!

In celebration of the 2005 Apple Cup, UW and WSU pharmacists gathered at the Yakima Valley Memorial Hospital Pharmacy on Nov. 18, for a little friendly pre-game rivalry. Alumni from each School decorated a portion of the pharmacy with team colors and fanfare. Clinical pharmacy specialists, Angie Stewart, ’90, and WSU alumna Carol Vanevenhoven, organized the contest and reception. Forty plus participants enjoyed the fun that ended with a Husky victory! That's right, we beat the Cougs by one point to become team spirit and decoration champs. All is not lost!
Over 70 pharmacy alumni and friends gathered for a Homecoming pre-game lunch of “make your own fajitas” and beverages to match, on Saturday, Nov. 5. It was a lively affair, with many friendships renewed. Laughter emanated from the groups formed around class photos as we looked at the “hip” clothing and hair styles of our student days. Why did we think we looked okay?

Since the day was cold, windy and wet there was an active exchange of Husky football tickets to secure covered seats. As luck would have it, the day was so windy that all seats were subject to the squalls. Dean Sid Nelson spoke about the myriad of activities occurring at the School and PAA board members announced upcoming activities and recognized each class represented at the event. The game afterwards was a gloriously fought Husky loss to the Oregon State Beavers, but that and the weather failed to dim the good times had by all …especially now that we’re finally dry!