

## 2005 PORPP News Update



### New Students, Autumn 2004

**Joshua Welborn, Elizabeth James, James Cross**

### Welcome to New Faculty

- Lou Garrison, PhD – PORPP welcomes Lou Garrison as Professor of Pharmacy. Lou joins us from Roche Pharmaceuticals where he most recently held the position of Vice President and Head of their global Health Economics and Strategic Pricing department. Lou received his PhD in economics from Stanford University. He began his career as a research scientist for Battelle Human Affairs Research Centers in Seattle where he focused on physician manpower issues and health technology assessment of dialysis and of kidney and heart transplantation. Lou next joined the Project HOPE Center for Health Affairs in the Washington D.C. area. He worked there for eight years, eventually becoming the director of the group. At HOPE, he worked on a variety of domestic and international policy issues. On the domestic side, he directed numerous large-scale research and policy projects for a wide variety of agencies, including HHS, CMS, NCHS and NIH. Internationally, he worked on health sector reforms and health training projects in Poland, Jamaica, Grenada, and Panama. He was also the director and principal investigator on projects supporting the Prospective Payment Commission, the 1991 Advisory Council on Social Security, and HHS Secretary Bowen's Catastrophic Illness Study. At Roche Lou performed cost-effectiveness assessments of specific products for indications such as transplantation, influenza, and obesity, and supervised staff responsible for the development of pharmacoeconomic and pricing strategies for all of the products in Roche's development pipeline. He has also served on the Health Outcomes Committee of the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers Association, the Health Economics Advisory Group to the International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Associations, the Ad Hoc Working Group on Economics, and the Patient Reported Outcomes Harmonization Group. Lou has returned to Seattle and joined us in time for Fall Quarter, 2004. With his expertise in health policy and economics we know Lou will make significant contributions to the PORPP program and we are very pleased to have him.

## **New Graduates in Pharmaceutical Outcomes Research**

- PhD 2004 - Nina Oestreicher (BS, finance & economics, 1990, The Wharton School; MS, epidemiology, 2000, UW) "The Cost-Effectiveness of DNA microarray analysis in women with early stage breast cancer". Nina has accepted a position as a research scientist at Kaiser Permanente Division of Research in Oakland, CA.

## **New Students – Fall 2004**

- Elizabeth James (PharmD, University of Texas at Austin, 2004; BS, Biomedical Science, Texas A & M, 1998) will be pursuing her Master's degree in Pharmaceutical Outcomes. Her primary interests are in population disease state management and in education and training of health care professionals. She joins us with a background in clinical pharmacy practice and pharmacy leadership. She also has extensive experience as a clinical trials coordinator.
- James Cross (MS, Immunology, UC Davis, 1998; BS, Biology & French, Tufts University, 1997). Jamie joins us from the FDA where he is currently a Regulatory Health Project Manager, Office of New Drugs. Jamie brings a wealth and diversity of experience to PORPP. He has worked as a consumer safety officer with the FDA and a research associate investigating cytokine function, while at UC Davis. Jamie has completed two fellowships and is a visiting instructor with the Georgetown University School of Medicine. He will be pursuing his PhD.
- Joshua Welborn (PharmD, UW, 2001; PhD Candidate, University of Minnesota, 2002). Josh transferred from the Minnesota program in Social and Administrative Pharmacy, to our program, as his interests became more defined. His focus will be in public policy. He is anxious to work with governmental agencies to affect beneficial policy changes in healthcare management. He comes from a family of pharmacists, as both of his parents, and his grandfather graduated from the University of Washington School of Pharmacy. He will be completing his Ph.D.

## **Appointments and Promotions**

- David Au (MS, Epidemiology, UW, 1999; MD, University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine, 1993; BA, Biology, University of Chicago, 1989) has been appointed as Adjunct Assistant Professor in the PORPP program. David is assistant professor, UW School of Medicine and has a clinical practice and research program in respiratory and critical care medicine at the Seattle VA Puget Sound Health Care System.
- Denise Boudreau (PhD, Pharmaceutical Outcomes, UW, 2002; MS, Pharmacy Administration, 1996 and BS, Pharmacy, 1992 – both University of Rhode Island) has been appointed Affiliate Instructor. Denise is currently a research scientist, Center for Health Studies, Group Health Cooperative in Seattle.
- Todd Lee (PhD, Pharmaceutical Outcomes, UW, 2001; PharmD, Drake University, 1997) has been appointed Affiliate Assistant Professor. Todd is a research scientist with the Pharmaceutical Outcomes group at the Midwest Center for Health Services & Policy Research, Hines VA Hospital, Illinois. He also

holds faculty positions at the Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine and the College of Pharmacy at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

- Andy Stergachis has been appointed as Interim Chair of the Department of Pathobiology, School of Public Health and Community Medicine, UW.

## **Current Research**

- David Au and Todd Lee are investigating outcomes associated with salmeterol use in obstructive lung disease, and evaluating the impact of communications on quality of life in patients with end-stage chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.
- Denise Boudreau is currently investigating the cost and effects of hormone replacement therapy use on biologic and screening endpoints, the cost utility of measures to improve mammography screening, risk adjustment, cost of co-morbidities, and the impact of benefits on health care utilization.
- Dave Blough – is studying the effect of missing data in longitudinal studies on the incremental cost-effectiveness ratio. His simulation study looks at a number of missing value mechanisms, distributional assumptions and imputation techniques, and will make a comparison of various combinations of these factors on the empirical confidence level for nominal 95% confidence intervals for the incremental cost-effectiveness ratio.
- Beth Devine – is investigating the epidemiology of medication errors and adverse drug events in the ambulatory setting. She is evaluating the impact of electronic prescriber order entry systems on patient outcomes and process outcomes within the ambulatory health-system. She is also exploring the relationship between prescriber attributes and the adoption of information technology.
- Jackie Gardner – is currently funded by the NIH to investigate the improvements made to contraceptive practice and delivery through community pharmacists.
- Tom Hazlet – is initiating work that will evaluate medication errors in the community pharmacy setting. He will be using a “root cause analysis” approach.
- Will Hollingworth is studying the cost-effectiveness of early rapid MRI in primary care patients with low back pain and the cost-effectiveness of functional cardiac testing in the diagnosis and management of coronary heart disease. He is also conducting a validation study of gadolinium –enhanced carotid magnetic resonance angiography.
- Todd Lee is assessing adherence to antipsychotic regimens in patients with serious mental illness, assessing the risk of other large and small vessel disease in patients with type-2 diabetes, determining the costs of colon cancer care in the VA and Medicare populations, and examining variations in care and exacerbations in patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.
- Scott Ramsey is conducting a surveillance project centered around lung cancer screening with spiral computed tomography. He is also evaluating the effectiveness of primary prevention versus screening for prostate cancer. Along with Dave Veenstra, he is evaluating an integrated approach to screening for colon cancer.
- Sean Sullivan is leading a team in the development of a cost-effectiveness model for smoking cessation and treatment of asthma. Sean has also been appointed as a member of the Task Force on Asthma Exacerbations and Control, jointly sponsored by the American Thoracic Society and the European

Respiratory Society. He is also serving as immediate past president of the International Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research.

- Andy Stergachis – is focusing on emergency preparedness for bioterrorism, including providing executive training for public health leaders, curriculum development for a Masters degree program in Strategic Planning for Critical Infrastructures, and assisting with Strategic National Stockpile activities at the state and local level. He recently returned from Athens, Greece, where he was invited to help with public health preparedness and public safety for the 2004 Olympic Games
- Dave Veenstra has just completed development of several disease- simulation models to evaluate the economic and clinical outcomes associated with novel treatment options for hepatitis B virus (HBV). His models incorporate the complexities of long-term drug response, drug resistance, and the differential response of HBV viral genotypes.

## Grants

- David Au - "Improving Health Outcomes for Patients with COPD". Department of Veterans Affairs.
- Denise Boudreau – "Statins and Risk of Site-Specific Cancers". National Cancer Institute.
- Denise Boudreau – "Medications and Colorectal Cancer Risk. National Cancer Institute".
- Beth Devine - "Evaluating the Impact of an Electronic Prescribing System on Outcomes". Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.
- Jackie Gardner - "Improving Contraceptive Practice and Delivery through Community Pharmacies". National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.
- Jackie Gardner - "AMCP/UW Management Development Program". Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy.
- Tom Hazlet – "Root Cause Analysis of Medication Errors in the Community Pharmacy Setting". Elmer M. Plein Endowed Research Fund, University of Washington.
- Will Hollingworth – "Cost-effectiveness of Early Rapid MRI in Primary Care Patients with Low Back Pain". Medical Research Council, UK.
- Todd Lee – "Outcomes Associated with Salmeterol Use in Obstructive Lung Disease". Department of Veterans Affairs.
- Scott Ramsey and Sean Sullivan - "The Cost-Effectiveness of Lung Volume Reduction Surgery". National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute.
- Sean Sullivan – "Graduate Fellowship in Health Economics and Outcomes Research". Sanofi-Synthelabo.
- Sean Sullivan – "Postoperative Pain and Functioning after Total Knee Arthroplasty: Economics and Patient Satisfaction. Purdue Pharma LP.