

Drake University

COLLEGE OF PHARMACY
& HEALTH SCIENCES
ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

pharmakon

CONNECTING WITH OUR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS AROUND THE WORLD

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or Quackery?**

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A Note from Dean Stephen Hoag



Greetings, alumni and friends. This is the third issue of the newly formatted *Pharmakon* and all comments have been positive so far. If there are other comments or suggestions, I would be happy to hear from you.

In the past I've talked about the increasing numbers of applications for admission to both the pre-pharmacy and PharmD programs. The trend presents us with both challenges and opportunities. The challenges occur most often in how we establish and use the necessary criteria for selecting from among the many outstanding applicants those who will be offered admission to the PharmD program. We use two approaches. First, to make sure we maintain a strong pre-pharmacy class, we offer an advantage to students who enroll in the pre-pharmacy program at Drake. By meeting certain grade point requirements, on-campus students can automatically progress into the PharmD. This approach was devised to ensure that we would always have a large pool of applicants with whom we have direct contact and knowledge about their capabilities. Second, we consider applicants from other Drake programs or other campuses (transfer students). In this group, admission is even more competitive.

The balance between these two approaches is something we continually examine. We want the best group of students to enter the PharmD, and if we don't balance the criteria just the right way, we may not admit students with the best mix of talents, experiences and education.

We could easily fill our class with outstanding Drake pre-pharmacy students, for example, but that would eliminate the opportunity to admit people bringing different college experiences or who already have a four-year degree. Conversely, we could fill the class with a majority of students who have a degree, and such students bring special characteristics to the class, but we suspect that interest in doing pre-pharmacy at Drake would then wither. Every year we reconsider our strategy regarding qualifications, approaches and balance.

The opportunities outweigh the challenges, however. In all groups applying for admission there are enough candidates to ensure that we admit only those who have outstanding potential. Each year we admit students with greater capabilities than the year before and feel very good about their future capabilities as pharmacists. Many of these students will pursue postgraduate training of some kind, such as residency training, and pursue advanced practice roles. We also see more and more students with leadership potential and expect that Drake graduates will become more and more recognized as leaders in many segments of the profession.

While the high number and capabilities of students are wonderful things to deal with, we always have concerns that we are using the best admission criteria and procedures. It would be very helpful to have alumni input on how we can take full advantage of the situation. Please let us know how you think we can best assess students for admission and what kinds of characteristics we should most be looking for. I can be reached at 515-271-1814 or e-mail stephen.hoag@drake.edu.

“Each year we admit students with greater capabilities than the year before and feel very good about their future capabilities as pharmacists.”

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Pharmakon, the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences newsletter, is published for alumni and friends of the College

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Herbal Remedies: Medicine or Quackery?

by June Felice Johnson

Think back to a recent conversation you have had with a patient regarding his/her use of herbal remedies. How many times did you hear these opinions voiced?

“I would rather use herbal therapies since they are safer than prescription medicines.”

“I don’t like using synthetic chemicals. Herbals are natural and I prefer natural to synthetic.”

“I don’t like going to doctors. It’s easier for me to treat myself with herbal products.”

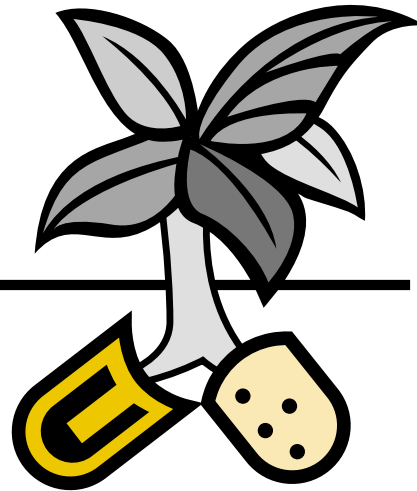
“My neighbor tried ginseng to increase her energy and told me I should try it too.”

A resurgence of interest in herbals and other dietary supplements, fueled by the Dietary Supplement, Health, and Education Act (DSHEA) of 1994, has increased patient access to these products. Formerly regulated as food additives, herbals were redefined by DSHEA as dietary supplements. Therefore herbals fell under a new set of regulations — regulations that essentially prohibited the agency from disapproving herbals based on minimal safety data.

PROS AND CONS OF HERBAL REMEDIES

A telephone survey conducted by Dr. David Eisenberg in 1990 and repeated in 1997 showed an increase in the use of alternative therapies such as herbal medicine. About three out of 10 Americans used an alternative therapy in 1990 compared with about four of 10 Americans in 1997. Sales currently exceed \$1.5 billion annually. But do these products really work and are they as safe as the manufacturers claim? Consumers trying to learn more will have to steer themselves through a maze of misinformation, deception, partial truths, and inflated claims.

June Felice Johnson is vice chair and associate professor of pharmacy practice in the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences.



There is growing evidence of the effectiveness of certain herbal products. St. John’s Wort appears to be an effective antidepressant for mild depression when compared to standard tricyclic antidepressants. Ginkgo biloba has been associated with mild improvements in cognitive function for patients with the memory loss of early Alzheimer’s disease.

Yet, even these benefits can come with a price. St. John’s Wort has recently been shown to function as a hepatic enzyme-inducer and reduces the effectiveness of many anti-retroviral drugs and cyclosporine. The concentrated and standardized formulation of ginkgo and ginkgo biloba extract (GBE) can reduce blood clotting time at higher doses and increase the risk of bleeding in patients receiving anticoagulants.

These problems highlight the fact that safety is **not** always assured with an herbal product when an active component of the plant causes a physiologic response. If we use the definition of a drug as “any chemical agent that affects processes of living,” doesn’t this apply to herbal medicines as well? And yet,

we regulate them as dietary supplements. Interesting semantics!

In addition to safety and efficacy, there are product quality concerns that have been documented repeatedly. *Consumer Reports* has conducted testing of specific herbal products and has found wide variation in the actual amount compared to the labeled product potency. Manufacturers of dietary supplements are only required to follow good manufacturing practices (GMPs) for food, practices that are far below those required for GMPs regarding drugs.

HOW CAN OUR PROFESSION ASSIST PATIENTS THROUGH THE HERBAL JUNGLE? HERE ARE A FEW TIPS:

- Remind patients that these products are not FDA-regulated for safety and effectiveness in the same manner as prescription medicines.
- Show patients how to read the labels on herbals and other dietary supplements. DSHEA required that only structure function claims could be made on these products. An FDA disclaimer statement should also be included in product labeling. Products with expiration dating may be an indication of higher quality. A “Supplement Facts” section of active ingredients must be listed on the label.
- Help patients to choose products from reputable manufacturers. Examples of these are PhytoPharmica, Nature’s Way, Pharmanex, Qunterra, Bayer or American Home Products.
- Screen patients’ medication profiles for potential drug-herbal interactions.
- Encourage patients to discuss their use of these products with all health care providers to assist them in safe and effective use. **P**

YOUR OPINION WANTED: If you have a professional opinion you’d like to write and submit for consideration as a future *Hot Topic*, or if you want to respond to this editorial, send an e-mail to *Pharmakon* editor rachel.ballweg@drake.edu.

IN BRIEF

NEBEL RECEIVES GRANT FOR PHARMACEUTICAL CARE

The American Pharmaceutical Association Foundation awarded Michelle Nebel, instructor of pharmacy practice at Drake's College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, an incentive grant for innovation in pharmaceutical care.



Michelle Nebel

Nebel is currently a resident in community pharmacy at Medicap Pharmacy. The grant will allow Nebel to create a patient education program for safe medication use during conception and pregnancy.

"It's exciting to receive an award and grant right out of school," said Nebel, who completed the PharmD program in 2001. "The money will go to a program educating both parents about what to do and what not to do when taking medication while trying to conceive or during pregnancy. The program will focus on issues that range from taking prenatal vitamins to specific guidelines for people who are on continuous medication for various disease states and would like to conceive."

MURER RECOGNIZED FOR PHARMACY PRACTICE AND MANAGEMENT CONTRIBUTIONS

The American Pharmaceutical Association awarded Melissa M. Murer, PH'89, the Academy of Pharmacy Practice and Management Merit Award in March.



Melissa Murer

Murer, executive director of the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board (PTCB) in Washington, DC, was recognized for her singular, significant contributions to pharmacy practice.

Murer has been executive director of PTCB, a national certification program for



STUDENTS EXPLORE NEW ZEALAND DURING ROTATIONS

Senior pharmacy students Heather Lechelt, Katie Sherman and Abby Shimon take a break from their rotations to explore Signal Hill in Dunedin, New Zealand. Current pharmacy students have more opportunities to learn the health care practices of other cultures with the addition of the overseas rotation program. John Rovers, associate professor of pharmacy and head of the New Zealand study program, said the program helps students learn firsthand how "countries develop health care systems that reflect their priorities and values as a nation and as a people."

pharmacy technicians, since its inception in 1995. She is also a member of the National Advisory Board for Drake's College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences and was recently selected as one of six pharmacists nationwide making a difference in health-system pharmacy. As executive director of PTCB, Murer guides the pharmacy technician certification process, fosters consensus among key pharmacy stakeholders, and works with major employers to identify solutions for the current and future challenges in pharmacy practice.

DRAKE HOSTS ANNUAL PHARMACY DAY

Drake's 15th annual Pharmacy Day was held in late February. The event featured keynote speaker Lisa Ploehn, pharmacy manager/owner of Main at Locust Pharmacy

Clinic and Medical Supply in Davenport, IA. Ploehn is an adjunct faculty member in the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences and precepts senior students' rotations. She is also a past president of the Iowa Pharmaceutical Association.

Pharmacy Day 2002 gave students the opportunity to interact with local pharmacists, pharmacy organizations and pharmaceutical companies, and included a state of the College address from Dean Stephen Hoag. In addition, Pharmacy Day included research poster presentations and exhibits, as well as presentation of awards and scholarships. Pharmacy Day is also an opportunity for pharmacists to receive continuing education credit for attending and participating in the event.

COLONEL BEATTY AWARDED WEAVER MEDAL OF HONOR

Colonel Maxine Beatty, PH'47, was awarded Drake's 2002 Weaver Medal of Honor. The award was given to Col. Beatty at her home in Florida as she was unable to attend the award ceremony on Drake's campus.



Col. Maxine Beatty

As an Air Force veteran, Col. Beatty led a long and distinguished career in pharmacy. An Iowa native, Col. Beatty retired in 1978 as chair of the Wilford Hall United States Air Force Medical Center Department of Pharmacy. She spent 27 years in the military practicing pharmacy, educating future pharmacists and reorganizing military pharmacies to make them more current.

Col. Beatty was the first woman to receive a direct commission as a pharmacist in the United States Air Force; the first woman to be selected as associate chief in the Biomedical Sciences Corps for Pharmacy; the first female pharmacist to attain the rank of Colonel; the first pharmacist to be assigned to the Air Force Medical Inspection Team where she inspected Air Force medical facilities throughout the world; and now, she is the first female graduate of the Drake College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences to receive the Weaver Medal of Honor.

Prior to her appointment as chair of the Pharmacy Department at Wilford Hall, Col. Beatty served as associate chief and consultant in pharmacy to the U.S. Surgeon General.

The Weaver Medal of Honor is named after Lawrence C. and Delores M. Weaver. The medal recognizes an outstanding individual who has advanced the College's

education, research, or outreach mission for the benefit of human health; has created or helped promote a program of excellence in the College; has made a substantial impact on the profession of pharmacy; or has provided outstanding financial support to the College.

Dr. Weaver, PH'49, Hon. Doctorate of Sciences '92, is a leader in pharmacy and science education and dedicated Drake alumnus. He is dean emeritus of the University of Minnesota College of Pharmacy and a past vice president for professional relations with the Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association.

Drake Historical Moment

Students work in a laboratory in this 1942 Quax yearbook photo. In those days, pharmacy majors shared lab space with biology, chemistry, and pre-med majors. The original caption with this photo read, "their is a purpose of service and research so that they can add their share to make this a better, more scientific world in which to live."



BSPS: The Other P

by Rachel Ballweg

The hallmarks of the PharmD program in the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences are well known. But a newer and lesser-known program has been added to the College's curriculum that provides opportunities for students who are interested in intense science courses, but are not interested in the doctor of pharmacy degree.

The bachelor of science in pharmaceutical sciences (BSPS) provides students with in-depth science and research experiences. Graduates of the BSPS program go on to medical schools and Ph.D. programs.

"The impetus for creating the BSPS program was to serve the students for whom pharmacy wasn't the correct fit as a profession," said Jim Reynolds, associate dean for administration and chair of the department of pharmaceutical sciences, who is also the BSPS student adviser. "Students who enroll in the BSPS degree program generally desire an intensive scientific research component as part of their undergraduate education and see themselves, after graduation, going on to graduate school (Ph.D. programs) or toward other professional schools (e.g. medical school)."

LAYING THE FOUNDATION

The BSPS degree prepares students for entry-level positions in the pharmaceutical industry or advanced study in graduate school by providing the breadth and depth of education available in the department of pharmaceutical sciences. The BSPS focuses heavily on research.

"When I applied for medical school, my interviewers were very impressed with my wide range of classes and my experiences in the BSPS program. I took a lot into my med school application process that most students do not, like pharmacology, pharmacokinetics, and six hours of research," said Jona Rushing, a senior in the BSPS program who will attend medical school at the University of Iowa next fall. "They were impressed by my diversity of classes and I think it really helped me get into medical school."



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STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

RESIDENCIES

Primary Care

Amanda Zahasky Davis, University of Iowa/Iowa Lutheran/East Des Moines Family Care Clinic, Des Moines

Community Pharmacy

Lisa Izzo, Cub Pharmacy/Midwestern University-Chicago College of Pharmacy, Downers Grove, IL

General Practice

Lisa Dacey, Mercy Medical Center, Des Moines

Managed Care

Suzanne Watkins, Walgreens Health Initiatives, Deerfield, IL

General Practice

Carmen Carroll, Aurora Healthcare, Milwaukee

Jennifer Donnelly, United Hospital, St. Paul

Pharmacy Practice

Kristin Crowley, Barnes-Jewish Hospital, St. Louis

Katie Sherman, University Hospital, Cincinnati

Kanika Vij, Rush-Presbyterian — St. Luke's, Chicago

Ben Gebhart, University of Utah, Salt Lake City

Kristi Limke, Aurora Healthcare, Milwaukee

Cory Sarver, Aurora Healthcare, Milwaukee

Shital Vaghani, Hines VA Hospital, Chicago

Oncology Specialty

Joanna Schwartz, University of Pennsylvania

Community Practice

Patty Hill, Aurora Healthcare, Milwaukee

Geriatric Specialty

Jacob Tillman, North Florida/South Georgia Veterans Affairs System, Gainesville, FL

FELLOWSHIPS

Clinical Research/Drug Development

Julie Bullock, University of Buffalo/Novartis Pharmaceuticals, Buffalo, NY

Global Marketing: New Product Planning

Andrew Otoo, Eli Lilly & Co., Indianapolis

Ph.D.

Pharmacoeconomics and Policy

Troy Trygstad, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

Digital Drake

Check out the new and improved College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences @ <http://pharmacy.drake.edu/>

Pharmacy Program

“Our degree program is designed so that students have hands-on research and skill development throughout the curriculum,” said Reynolds. “We provide students with a broad background in the pharmaceutical sciences so that they can be successful, regardless of the career track they choose.”

Sarah Ronnenbaum, a senior in the BSPS program, agrees. “This is really a great degree for anyone who wants to go to graduate school or medical school and enjoys learning about drugs and medicine from a more scientific standpoint,” said Ronnenbaum.

A HANDS-ON, FLEXIBLE PROGRAM

“The close personal relationship between faculty and students that comes from having a small program with a lot of faculty-student interaction is a hallmark of the program,” said Reynolds. “So are the senior capstone research projects that students complete and present to the faculty, the hands-on nature of the research courses in the curriculum, and the flexibility for students to do concentrations in biological and/or chemical sciences,” he added.

“The best part of the program is definitely the one-on-one teaching by excellent faculty,” said Ronnenbaum. “I’ve gotten

to do my own research project as part of the program, which is something that most science majors seldom do alone. Although it’s challenging at times, I’m glad I’ve had the opportunity to demonstrate my ability. It’s a lot more invigorating to present your seminar to the faculty by yourself than to sit with a hundred other kids in the same hum-drum classes.”

The opportunity to pursue the BSPS degree has made a difference in the lives of students who are interested in a pharmaceutical sciences education, but aren’t interested in the traditional doctor of pharmacy degree.

“The addition of the BSPS degree has not significantly changed the pharmacy program as a whole in that it isn’t a drain on faculty resources,” said Reynolds. “I think it has made a significant impact on those students choosing the major because they have remained engaged and have found a major that is scientifically intensive within the college.”

Ronnenbaum said her background in pharmaceutical sciences is essential to her future career plans. “Right now, I’m visiting graduate schools like Duke and the University of Colorado to begin a pharmacology Ph.D. program. It’s a credit to the program that I have the background and experience to be considered for these highly prestigious schools. I think that the program’s course requirements give great background for the classes I’ll take next year.” **P**



Student Profile

Joanna Schwartz

Major: Pharmacy, DP4

Hometown: Montoursville, PA

Internship/Work Experience: Selective summer internship at the University of Missouri Hospitals in Columbia, MO; pharmacy intern at Hy-Vee Pharmacy in Des Moines; research assistant at Drake.

Notable Achievements: Studied abroad in London at the University of Westminster; co-authored a book chapter; moderated three poster presentations; Presidential Scholar; has won five honors scholarships and awards as a Drake student.

Campus Activities: Instructor in the English as a second language program at Drake and member of the Phi Delta Chi pharmacy fraternity and the Alliance of Jewish Students at Drake. “Only at Drake would I have been able to be the principal oboe player of the symphony, study abroad, get a pharmacy degree, be in a great professional pharmacy fraternity and do research with an excellent professor, all as an undergraduate. Before coming to Drake as a freshman, I looked at pharmacy

schools all over the country to see which ones would let me do all of that, and it was only Drake. Thanks Drake!”

Career Aspirations: Clinical pharmacy in a teaching hospital performing research, and working on clinical trials for new drugs.

“I am very thankful (and my resume is very thankful) that I was introduced to so many activities and leadership roles because now I understand how the ‘whole package’ goes into making a great pharmacist — a lesson that many other pharmacy students around the country probably do not learn!”

REGIONAL SCOOP: TWIN CITIES

A postcard-pretty skyline, a multitude of restaurants and sports arenas, a pedestrian-only boulevard, a nationally-renowned regional theatre festival and more than 20 lakes within the city limits makes the Twin Cities a great place to call home.

BUSINESS

The Twin Cities is located at the center of one of the strongest agricultural areas in the United States and is a regional station for transportation, commerce and finance. Some of the Twin Cities' most prominent industries include super computer manufacturing, electronics, medical research, milling, food and dairy processing, printing, computers, health services, graphic arts and machinery manufacturing.

Fourteen companies headquartered in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area are ranked in the Fortune 500, including Target, United Health Group, SuperValu, 3M Company, Northwest Airlines, Best Buy, General Mills and Hormel Foods.

CULTURE

Popular Twin Cities cultural locations include the Minneapolis Institute of Art, Walker Art Center, Frederick R. Weisman Museum and the American Swedish Institute. The Minnesota Orchestra and the Guthrie Theater Company are also based in the city.

The Hubert H. Humphrey Metrodome is home to Twins baseball and Vikings football. The NBA's Minnesota Timberwolves plays at the Target Center arena.

Minneapolis' Mall of America is the largest mall and indoor theme park in the United States, and is the third most popular tourist destination in the United States.



"Minneapolis has been a center of activity for managed care pharmacy innovation. The three largest national pharmacy benefit management companies have offices in the Twin Cities and employ a significant number of pharmacists. The opportunities are varied — clinical management/utilization review, clinical account management, product or business development, marketing, etc." – Suzanne Blackburn, PH'73, senior vice president of client and market strategic development, Merck-Medco

TWIN CITIES BY THE NUMBERS (2000 data)

Greater Twin Cities population	2,642,056
Unemployment rate	2.2%
Avg. household income	\$33,561
Avg. house sale price	\$252,528
Avg. monthly apartment	\$865



"There is a shortage of pharmacists in Minnesota. The opportunities are great for Drake graduates both in practice and involvement with the College of Pharmacy at the University of Minnesota." – Larry Weaver, PH'49, Ph.D., president of Larry Weaver Associates, fundraising chair of the University of Minnesota College of Pharmacy



"My advice to future pharmacy graduates, whether looking to move to the Twin Cities or not, is to find a work environment where you respect and relate to the leaders in your department and also will feel challenged to learn and grow on a daily basis." – Kiersten Miller Anderson, PH'00, clinical pharmacist, United Hospital

ALUMNI CHAPTER

Thinking of visiting or moving to the Twin Cities? Connect with other Bulldogs in the area through Drake's Twin Cities Alumni Chapter by contacting Drake grad Kathy McNee, FA'68, at 952-473-2982, cutiemcnee@aol.com.

Or you can connect in cyberspace by visiting Drake's online alumni community at www.drakealumni.net.

ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNERS

Each year, several pharmacy alumni are selected as exemplary members of the pharmacy profession. The following Alumni Achievement Award recipients were recognized in February.

Rodney A. Carter, PH'76, associate to the dean and professor at the University of Minnesota College of Pharmacy, was recognized for his dedication to non-traditional pharmacy education and its integration into professional curricula; for his involvement in the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy; and for his sustained contributions to both pharmacy practice and education throughout his career.

Dr. Renae Chesnut, PH'85, GR'85,'96,'98, assistant dean of student affairs and assistant

professor of pharmacy practice at Drake University College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, was recognized for her extensive contributions to the College in teaching, scholarship and service. Chesnut is involved and committed to the College as an institutional representative to the Missouri Valley Conference, and is highly respected by her colleagues for her collaborative approach and problem-solving skill.

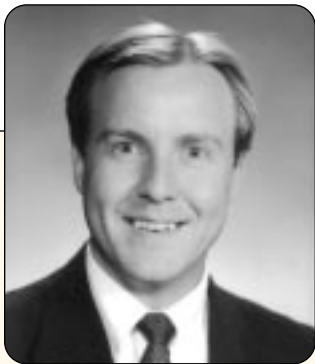
Michael Glen, PH'78, manager of continuous quality improvement at Sun Script/HRA Pharmacy in Burr Ridge, IL, was recognized for his exemplary commitment to

improving the pharmacy profession through professional involvement, including membership in the Illinois Pharmacy Association, Illinois Board of Pharmacy, Illinois Department of Public Health and The American Pharmaceutical Association.

Ronald Snow, PH'81, community pharmacist for CVS Pharmacy in Indianapolis, was recognized for his care-based practice in community pharmacy and his dedicated alumni service to Drake, including membership on the National Alumni Board. Snow is a preceptor at Purdue and involved in the Indiana Pharmacy Association.

Lindsey Stephens, PH'98, is president of MediHealth Solutions, Inc., a division of

Medicap Pharmacies in Des Moines that focuses on health screening and wellness programs. Stephens was recognized for her commitment to the pharmacy profession, for advancing within the profession quickly after receiving her degree, and for providing innovative pharmacy services. Stephens started a mobile osteoporosis screening program throughout Iowa while finishing her final rotations at Drake. She is a frequent speaker on women's health issues and serves on a speaker's bureau for Proctor and Gamble Pharmaceuticals.



Faculty Profile

Chuck Phillips

Title: Associate professor of pharmacy administration. Phillips came to Drake in 1993 and teaches classes in quantitative methods, evaluating medical literature, pharmacy management and pharmacy marketing.

Background: PharmD from the University of Nebraska in 1988; Ph.D. in pharmacy administration from the University of Oklahoma in 1992.

Professional Associations: APHA, AACP, IPA.

Research Interests: Marketing services in retail pharmacy and third party insurance issues in pharmacy.

Notable Achievement: My family.

Campus Activities: President of the Faculty Senate; member of the President's Cabinet; adviser to Phi Delta Chi and the NCPA student group; ongoing assessment of the College and its programs; member of the governance subcommittee for Drake's NCAA self-study; and a number of other campus committees.

Off-the-Job Interests: Woodworking, golf and family.

Favorite Aspect of Teaching: "Being around talented students. I'm continually impressed with their efforts outside of the classroom — from campus activities that promote pharmacy to organizing service projects in the community. It is great to be around so many energetic people. Every year, a new group comes along and carries on the hard work. It is fun to be around so many talented individuals year in and year out."

"What stands out in my mind is being able to work with some wonderful people — not just talented people, but people who are fun to be around. When I think of my career at Drake, the biggest positives are the friends I work with."

Talk of the Town

Welcome to *Talk of the Town*, the public forum for airing opinions, gripes and predictions regarding issues of interest to Pharmacy and Health Sciences faculty, students and graduates.

How concerned are you with the current illegal activity surrounding highly addictive prescription analgesics such as OxyContin? What precautionary measures should the industry adopt to protect pharmacists and their patients?

As a community pharmacist, I am always concerned with the diversion of prescription and non-prescription drugs to illegal activity. However, I am not a policeman or DEA agent. My job is to make sure the right drug at the right dosage gets to the right patient at the



Alumni Profile
Jamie Vortherms, PH'00

Background: A clinical market manager at Marsh Clinical Services and Outcomes, Marsh Drugs, LLC, in Lafayette, IN, Vortherms has received special training from Purdue University as a diabetes patient care provider and is an asthma self-care



right time. After that product leaves my pharmacy, I have virtually no control over it. It seems the vast majority of illegal users will always find a way to abuse a substance, wherever its source. I am also assuming most pharmacists use professional judgment when dealing with obvious abusing patients. – Carl Marsh, PH'74, owner/manager, Granby Drug Store

I have been in pharmacy for 29 years and have had highly addictive drugs in inventory for those years. This has always been a concern. I now work in a pharmacy that is open at

night. We are very vulnerable to a “stick-up” and I’m very concerned. Doctors are turning to OxyContin too easily and patients are receiving this expensive, addictive drug excessively. If their pain is that great, they need to get to the source of the pain, and not just control it with a pill. – Tom W. Stites, PH'73, The Medicine Shoppe

The problem is not one of the drugs being bad, it is a problem of the drug-seeking behavior of patients and non-patients. That said, I do think that the pharmaceutical industry and pharmacists and physicians

should do a better job of educating patients about the potential dangers of these and all drugs. I also think that health plans and law enforcement should endeavor to treat drug problems as health problems. Pay for addiction-based services and make addictive services mandatory for drug offenders, rather than locking them up and then turning them loose to continue their addictions and the behaviors that result from those addictions. – Jeff Peterson, PH'81, Glaxo Wellcome

The FDA needs to be tougher. We as pharmacists must become more vocal about this and other addictive meds. Some physicians seem to give this out like candy, it seems, just to get the patient off their collective backs. We all have responsibilities in this problem. We can't afford to be quiet about this any longer. – Bill Morris, PH'65, Walgreens Company

specialist. She also received diabetes and Cholestech LDX certificates from the American Pharmaceutical Association Foundation's Advanced Practice Institute.

Professional Associations: Member of the Tippecanoe County Pharmacists Association, Indiana Pharmacists Alliance, American Pharmaceutical Association and Society of Health System Pharmacists.

Research Interests: Simplifying the current drug utilization review (DUR) system for community pharmacists.

Notable Achievement: Affiliate faculty member at Purdue University's School of Pharmacy in Lafayette, IN; secretary of the

Tippecanoe County Pharmaceutical Association; developer of the Marsh Clinical Services and Outcomes Smoking Cessation Program, the Marsh Clinical Services and Outcomes Weight Maintenance Program, and the Marsh Clinical Services and Outcomes Advanced Clerkship Site.

Off-the-Job Interests: Golfing.

“By attending Drake, I was able to develop relationships with my professors that were instrumental in my development as a health care professional.”