A Message from Linda Garrelts MacLean
Associate Dean for Advancement

Dear Alums, Colleagues and Friends of Pharmacy,

What an exciting time! The class of 2018 will join us on campus next week for a five-day orientation program culminating in the White Coat Ceremony on Friday, August 22, at 2:00 p.m. at the Lincoln Center in Spokane.

We anticipate over 600 guests will attend this year’s White Coat Ceremony to honor our incoming students, meet Dean Gary Pollack, and officially launch our new students’ pharmacy education. Our keynote speaker this year is Leon Alzola, class of 1991, who is the current president of the Washington State Pharmacy Association and a vice president at Fred Meyer.

A new academic year means many upcoming opportunities to renew ties with the WSU College of Pharmacy and I’d like to invite you get involved in the following ways:

1) MENTORING PROGRAM

I’m pleased to announce that we have 135 alumni and friends of the College of Pharmacy that have signed on to mentor an incoming PY1 student. Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to assist the College as a pharmacy mentor! Your involvement has allowed us to assign each incoming student pharmacist a one-on-one mentor that he or she can turn to when help or guidance is needed.

But we are not done. We will need new mentors every year and are already signing up mentors for the class of 2019. You can get more information about the mentoring program, generously sponsored by Fred Meyer, on our website: Alumni & Student Doctor of Pharmacy Mentor Program.

Also, on Thursday, August 21, from 4:00-5:30 p.m. we will host a special reception for students to meet their mentors in the Pharmaceutical and Biomedical Sciences building in Spokane. If you are a current mentor or
plan to mentor a student in the future, please attend the reception. To RSVP, please email gocougs@pharmacy.wsu.edu.

I'd like to thank Doug Crafton, class of 1978, for agreeing to speak at the reception about the important role mentors play in pharmacy practice and career growth. By the way, if you are a mentor to an incoming PY1 and cannot attend the mentoring reception, your student’s name and contact information will be emailed to you after the first day of classes on August 25.

Thank you to our incredible alumni for making this program possible!

2) HOMECOMING WEEKEND
The start of a new academic year also means Homecoming is just around the corner. This year we are hosting a reunion for all pharmacy classes.

On Friday, October 3, from 4:00-7:00 p.m. we will have an open house and “lab crawl” to highlight our new building in Spokane. On Saturday, October 4, in Pullman we will once again host a tailgate party in the Wegner Hall parking lot two hours prior to kickoff for the WSU vs. Cal football game.

All events are free to attend and you can RSVP to gocougs@pharmacy.wsu.edu. Come join us for football fun this fall!

If you are in the Seattle area and plan to attend the WSU v. Rutgers football game on August 28, come early and stop by the Pharmacy Alumni and Friends Reception. Look for our banner and hang out with fellow pharmacy alums from 4:00-7:00 p.m. in the Century Link Event Center. For complete details on events, click here: Event Calendar.

3) COUGARx NATION...Are You In?
Another great way to get involved is to join the CougaRx Nation Pharmacy Alumni Community as a member or as an area coordinator. We are fortunate to have a newly-elected board led by Manpreet Chahal, class of 2010, Merrie Kay Alzola, class of 1993, and a great team of pharmacy leaders. See our website for the board roster and click this link to join the CougaRx Nation.

Our goal is to have CougaRx Nation representatives in major cities where we have alumni all around the west coast. We’re also planning to have locally-hosted networking receptions to connect pharmacy alumni in cities like Portland, Seattle and Los Angeles. If you would like more information on hosting an alumni event in your area, please email Kelly Sylvester.

PRECEPTOR OF THE YEAR
More than 100 community leaders, WSU pharmacy alumni and Pacific Northwest University (PNWU) representatives attended our open house in July to celebrate our Doctor of Pharmacy pharmacy program extension at
PNWU in Yakima, Wash.

At the event, Patrick O'Connor, class of 1995, was recognized as the WSU College of Pharmacy Preceptor of the Year. Patrick was nominated by Jalena Young, class of 2014, who worked with him during her pharmacy rotation at Toppenish Regional Hospital. You can read more about the award and Patrick’s career in our news story.

STUDENT NEWS

Three of our Cardinal Health scholarship winners were able to attend the Cardinal Health Retail Business Conference in Washington D.C. this July, thanks to Cardinal Health. Mark Goff, Sekinah Samadi, and Cassandra Song, all class of 2015, appear in several of the highlight reels from the event posted on DrugStoreNews.com.

Here’s one from the highlight video: (0:48)

Azuka Nwude, class of 2015, is the president of the new Student National Pharmaceutical Association (SNPhA) chapter at WSU. Azuka and Anne Louise Ervik, class of 2015, recently attended the national convention in Virginia. Other students who were key members of the effort to bring the SNPhA chapter on campus include: Myngoc Son, Adelaide Twum-Ampofo and Dan Healey, all class of 2015.

WAVE THE FLAG FOR PHARMACY

There’s still time to Wave the Flag for Pharmacy!

Send us a photo and we’ll enter you in our photo contest. All entries will be eligible for a drawing to win a Cougar gift basket with Cougar Gold Cheese and other goodies. Email photos to gocougs@pharmacy.wsu.edu. In September’s newsletter, we will feature the winning photo.

I hope to see you on campus soon!

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ALUMNI UPDATES

- **Corinne Johnson**, class of 2009, is working as a drug information and formulary pharmacist at Kaiser Permanente in Portland, Ore. She answers drug information questions and works on drug use management with the psychiatry, neurology and sleep departments, and serves as a drug therapy and pharmacy resource. She also serves as a student and resident preceptor.

- **Sarah McDaniel**, class of 2009, checked in with us from Legacy Good Sam in Portland, Ore., where she is on the kidney transplant team.

- **R. Keith Campbell**, class of 1964, will celebrate his 50-year “Golden Grad” college reunion at WSU on September 10-12 in Pullman, Wash. Keith retired from the WSU College of Pharmacy last year after 45 years as a professor and mentor to hundreds of pharmacy students.

- **Linda Garrelts MacLean**, class of 1978, was elected to the board of trustees of the American Pharmacists Association and will be installed at the 162nd APhA annual meeting in San Diego, Calif., next March. For more information on the election results and the annual meeting, [click here](http://www.pharmacy.wsu.edu/news/alumninewsletter/index.html).

Want to be listed in our alumni updates? Send us your career information or let us know what you’ve been up to! [gocougs@pharmacy.wsu.edu](mailto:gocougs@pharmacy.wsu.edu)

Have you included the College of Pharmacy in your estate plans? For more information, please [contact us](mailto:contactus@pharmacy.wsu.edu) or visit the [WSU Foundation website](http://www.wsufoundation.org).

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