



From
College of Pharmacy Dean
Gary Pollack, Ph.D.

May 2016

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Dear Friends and Colleagues:

The end of the spring semester tends to be the busiest segment of the academic year. In addition to closing out the semester, with all that entails, we honor our alumni and friends, without whom the college would be lost; we celebrate the successes of our students, which is why faculty do what they do; and we engage in commencement activities, which for many of us is the most meaningful event of the year. In other environs, the end of a defined period represents a time for reflection; in the academy, the end of the year primarily represents a time for chaos, and is wonderful.

Despite the myriad activities leading up to the official end of our academic year, it is important to consider where we have been and, particularly, where we are headed. To that end, we will be hosting a faculty recognition banquet on Wednesday, May 4 (the evening before commencement) at Luigi's in Spokane. We are at the approximate mid-point of our current strategic plan, which runs through 2020, and this event will allow us to reflect on our journey to date in light of our aspirations for the future. I am looking forward to sharing the evening (and some good Italian food) with faculty colleagues from Spokane and Yakima.

While all of the college's accomplishments for the year, and those of individual students, faculty, and staff, are too numerous to mention, there are a few programmatic successes that are worthy of note here:

- We have just completed a three-year transition to comprehensive competency-based assessment of student performance throughout our Doctor of Pharmacy curriculum, with an attendant shift to an Honors-Satisfactory-Fail grading system. This approach, which provides rapid feedback to students with the ability to re-engage content, and incentivizes cooperative as opposed to competitive performance in the classroom, has had a remarkable effect on student retention in and progression through the curriculum, particularly in the first year of study.

- We also are just completing the first year of a three-year transition to an active- and collaborative-learning approach for delivering our Pharm.D. curriculum. This represents a fundamental change in the characteristics and culture of our program, and is a significant undertaking by our faculty. We are in the process of analyzing the influence of this change on student performance to date, but of course it will take several years to determine the true impact of this approach.
- Finally, we have completed the first year of our new Pharm.D. program extension in Yakima. We were fortunate to recruit 30 truly outstanding students for our inaugural Yakima cohort. These students and the faculty who lead them are representing our program well, and we have a second group of 40 students who intend to commence their studies in Yakima in August. To date, this project has exceeded expectations, and I am grateful to everyone who has worked so diligently to make this a success.

Applications to and enrollment in our Pharm.D. and Ph.D. curricula continue to increase. Our faculty continue to have remarkable success in securing extramural funding to support their scholarly activities, particularly from the National Institutes of Health. The Chicago Cubs are off to their best start since the 1907 season (the year before their last World Series championship). Life is good.

Wishing you all a relaxing and enjoyable summer,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary", written in a cursive style.

Gary M. Pollack
Dean
Washington State University College of Pharmacy

National pharmacy advocate to speak at commencement

Laura Cranston to deliver 2016 commencement ceremony keynote



PQA Executive Director Laura Cranston

Laura Cranston, executive director of the Pharmacy Quality Alliance (PQA), will be the keynote speaker at the commencement ceremony of the Washington State University College of Pharmacy on Thursday, May 5.

The non-profit PQA's primary role is to promote appropriate medication use and improve the quality of medication management across health care settings through the development and implementation of performance measures used in federal, state and commercial programs.

Cranston oversees the development of medication use measures, which are individual or sets of data points related to the use of medications that are measured and tracked with the purpose of improving patient care and better health outcomes.

Previously, Cranston served as the executive director for the Institute for the Advancement of Community Pharmacy, an organization focused on advancing innovative practices and pharmacist-delivered services in ambulatory care and also independent and chain community pharmacies.

For over a decade, Cranston served as the vice president of pharmacy affairs for the National Association of For over a decade, Cranston served as the vice president of pharmacy affairs for the National Association of Chain Drug Stores (NACDS). While at NACDS she was responsible for working with chain corporations and developing policy and positions on issues that impacted the industry, including state board of pharmacy regulations, DUR/ counseling, training pharmacy technicians, and legislation to establish a Medicare prescription drug benefit.

Cranston is very active within the pharmacy community, and currently serves as chair of the board of visitors of the St. John's University College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, as president of the St. John's University Washington, D.C., alumni chapter, and she also serves on the University of Notre Dame College of Pharmacy board of advisors.

Cranston's selection as the commencement speaker for pharmacy maintains the college's practice to bring thought leaders to campus. Last year, Former Surgeon General Richard Carmona delivered the keynote address.



Linda Garrelts MacLean

Associate dean honored by American College of Apothecaries



Associate Dean and Clinical Professor Linda Garrelts MacLean

The American College of Apothecaries (ACA) recently inducted Linda Garrelts MacLean of Spokane as a fellow at its annual Educational Conference in Coronado, California.

MacLean is a clinical professor at the WSU College of Pharmacy and teaches courses focused on business management, leadership and entrepreneurial pharmacy. She also serves as the associate dean for advancement, which is the alumni relations arm of the college.

Prior to her work in higher education, MacLean worked as a pharmacist and co-owner of Jones Pharmacy in Spokane. She continues to be involved with new and evolving practice models for community pharmacy. She currently serves on the board of trustees for the American Pharmacists Association.

“Being an ACA Fellow shows a pharmacist’s commitment to the profession of pharmacy and to providing the highest-quality independent pharmaceutical services to both patients and community,” said ACA President Tom Hunt.

Founded in 1940, the American College of Apothecaries is a professional pharmacy organization dedicated to advancing the entrepreneurial spirit of member pharmacists through education, innovation, mentoring, fellowship, and training.



NCPA Outstanding Student Member Award

WSU student pharmacist receives national honor



Derek Matlock, class of 2017

Derek Matlock, a student pharmacist at Washington State University, received the 2016 Outstanding Student Member Award from the National Community Pharmacists Association (NCPA) Foundation.

Matlock was presented the award at the college’s annual Celebrating Generosity event on April 22. The event, hosted by the College of Pharmacy on the WSU Health Sciences campus in Spokane, celebrated those who have made substantial contributions to the college in the last year.

Honoring Matlock was a surprise coordinated by classmates Kimberly Paulson and Eric Kim, who are on the local WSU NCPA student chapter leadership team and nominated him for the award. The NCPA Foundation provides scholarships

for professional development and research grants to pharmacy faculty, students and practitioners in order to contribute to the success of independent community pharmacy.

Matlock is in the WSU Doctor of Pharmacy class of 2017. He is from Tucson, Arizona, and completed his undergraduate coursework at the University of Arizona.



Other College News

FACULTY SCHOLARSHIP

Publications

- Allen I. White Distinguished Professor and Experimental and Systems Pharmacology Chair **K. Michael Gibson** co-authored with 10 others, “Anti-inflammatory, analgesic and antioxidant activities of novel kyotorphin-nitroxide hybrid molecules,” published in the online, peer-reviewed journal Bioorganic and Medicinal Chemistry Letters, a publication of ScienceDirect.com, posted on March 3, 2016. [read abstract](#)
- **K. Michael Gibson** co-authored with 10 others, “Preservation of mitochondrial function using curcumin-PAK peptide conjugates mitigates acute limb ischemia/reperfusion injury,” in the Journal of Medicinal Chemistry.
- Experimental and Systems Pharmacology Postdoctoral Research Associate **Garrett R. Ainslie**, **K. Michael Gibson** and Experimental and Systems Pharmacology Postdoctoral Research Associate **Kara R. Vogel** published the book chapter, “mTOR, autophagy, aminoacidopathies, and human genetic disorders,” in Molecules to Medicine with mTOR, edited by K. Maiese (chap. 9, pp. 143-166).
- Pharmacotherapy Professor and Chair **John R. White, Jr.**, Experimental and Systems Pharmacology Clinical Assistant Professor **Jeannie M. Padowski**, Pharmaceutical Sciences Associate Research Professor **Gang Chen** (Lazarus lab), Pharmaceutical Sciences Visiting Scientist **Shaman Luo** (Lazarus lab), Boeing Distinguished Professor and Pharmaceutical Sciences Chair **Philip Lazarus**, and three others published, “Pharmacokinetic analysis and comparison of caffeine administered rapidly or slowly in coffee chilled or hot versus chilled energy drink in healthy young adults,” in the peer-reviewed medical journal Clinical Toxicology, posted online April 21, 2016. [read article](#)
- Pharmaceutical Sciences Associate Professor **Grant D. Trobridge** co-authored with seven others, “Development of third-generation cocl envelope producer cell lines for robust lentiviral gene transfer into hematopoietic stem cells and T cells,” published in the peer-reviewed journal Molecular Therapy, posted online April 8, 2016 (doi: 10.1038/mt.2016.70). [read abstract](#)
- Pharmaceutical Sciences Research Associate **Arun K. Nalla** (Trobridge lab) and **Grant Trobridge** published, “Prospects for foamy viral vector anti-HIV gene therapy,” in the journal Biomedicines (doi:10.3390. [read abstract](#))

Presentations

- Experimental and Systems Pharmacology Associate Professor **Susan A. Marsh** presented, “O-GlcNAcylation at the interface of cardiac responses to exercise and nutrient excess,” at the Experimental Biology meeting in San Diego, California, on April 2-6, 2016.
- **Susan Marsh**, with one co-presenter, presented the poster, “Anti-diabetic effects of class 1 histone

deacetylase inhibition in a rodent model of type 2 diabetes mellitus,” at the Experimental Biology meeting in San Diego, California, on April 2-6, 2016.

- Pharmacotherapy Clinical Associate Professor **Lisa J. Woodard** and two co-authors presented, “Interprofessional education at WSU Health Sciences Spokane,” at the Center for Nursing Education in Washington State in Spokane on April 15, 2016.
- **Lisa Woodard** and two co-authors presented, “Developing an implementation plan for pre-diabetes and hypertension prevention in local communities,” to the Washington Association of Diabetes Educators in Spokane, Washington, on April 16, 2016.
- **Kara Vogel** presented, “Rapalogue therapeutics in SSADH Deficiency,” at the SSADH Symposium: Focus on a Rare Neurotransmitter Disease, March 31-April 1, 2016, at the Boston Children’s Hospital and Harvard School of Medicine. The meeting focused on a rare genetic disorder in the GABA metabolic pathway, and brought together basic scientists, clinicians, other healthcare workers, and families of patients for a multifaceted discussion of this disease, including new advances in both the basic and clinical avenues of investigation.
- **K. Michael Gibson** presented, “Historical timeline of SSADH Deficiency,” at the SSADH Symposium: Focus on a Rare Neurotransmitter Disease March 31-April 1, 2016, in Boston.

Service

- **Susan Marsh** will serve as co-chair of the American Heart Association’s cardiac biology/regulation grant review panel from 2016-2018.
- **Susan Marsh** served as a tour guide for the American Physiological Society’s Workshop for High School Life Science Teachers and Students.

Grants

- **Lisa Woodard** received \$15,000 over one year from the Spokane-based non-profit organization Better Health Together for the project, “1422 grant to improve health for all Americans.”

Awards

- Pharmaceutical Sciences Clinical Assistant Professor **Connie Remsberg** was voted 2015-16 Teacher of the Year by College of Pharmacy first-year student pharmacists.
- Experimental and Systems Pharmacology Clinical Assistant Professor **Damianne Brand-Eubanks** was voted 2015-16 Teacher of the Year by College of Pharmacy first-year student pharmacists.
- Pharmacotherapy Clinical Assistant Professor **Kimberly C. McKeirnan** was voted 2015-16 Teacher of the Year by College of Pharmacy second-year student pharmacists.
- Pharmacotherapy Professor Emeritus **Mark Garrison** was voted 2015-16 Teacher of the Year by College of Pharmacy third-year student pharmacists.
- Pharmacotherapy Clinical Associate Professor **Megan N. Willson** was voted 2015-16 Teacher of the Year by College of Pharmacy fourth-year student pharmacists.
- Pharmaceutical Sciences Professor and Associate Dean for Graduate Education **Kathryn E. Meier** was voted 2015-16 Teacher of the Year for the College of Pharmacy graduate program.
- Pharmacotherapy Associate Professor and Director of Experiential Services **Joshua J. Neumiller** was named an honorary member by the pharmacy leadership fraternity Phi Lambda Sigma, WSU chapter, for his service and dedication to helping student pharmacists develop their leadership skills.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) students

- **Emily Johnson** (Marsh lab, experimental and systems pharmacology) presented, “Anti-diabetic effects of class 1 histone deacetylase inhibition in a rodent model of type 2 diabetes mellitus,” at the Experimental Biology meeting in San Diego, California, on April 2-6, 2016.
- **Emily Johnson**, with faculty co-presenter Susan Marsh, presented the poster, “Anti-diabetic effects of class 1 histone deacetylase inhibition in a rodent model of type 2 diabetes mellitus,” at the Experimental Biology meeting in San Diego, California, on April 2-6, 2016.
- **Xinyue Dong** (Zhenjia Wang lab, pharmaceutical sciences) presented, “Cell membrane-coated nanoparticles as a drug delivery system,” as part of the WSU College of Pharmacy Graduate Research Seminar Series on April 15, 2016, in Spokane.
- **Panshak Dakup** (Gaddameedhi lab, pharmaceutical sciences) presented, “Understanding the role of the circadian clock in modulating cisplatin-induced DNA damage repair and its therapeutic efficacy against cancer,” as part of the WSU College of Pharmacy Graduate Research Seminar Series on April 22, 2016, in Spokane.
- **Mahamudul Haque** (Ahmed lab, pharmaceutical sciences) presented, “The emerging role of epigenetics in rheumatoid arthritis pathogenesis,” as part of the WSU College of Pharmacy Graduate Research Seminar Series on April 29, 2016, in Spokane.
- **Yili Zhong** (Pollack lab, experimental and systems pharmacology) co-authored with WSU faculty **John White, Jeannie Padowski, Gang Chen, Shaman Luo, Philip Lazarus**, and two others, “Pharmacokinetic analysis and comparison of caffeine administered rapidly or slowly in coffee chilled or hot versus chilled energy drink in healthy young adults,” in the peer-reviewed medical journal *Clinical Toxicology*, posted online April 21, 2016. [read article](#)
- **Faya Zhang** (Hui Zhang lab, pharmaceutical sciences) has been selected for a 2016 American Association of Immunologists (AAI) Trainee Abstract Award to cover registration and travel expenses to attend the AAI annual meeting, IMMUNOLOGY 2016TM, on May 13-17, 2016, in Seattle, Washington.
- **Diana Browning** (Trobridge lab, molecular biosciences) successfully defended her thesis titled, “Development of a clinically relevant insulated foamy viral vector for hematopoietic stem cell gene therapy.”
- **Emily Johnson** was selected for a 2016 WSU Health Sciences Spokane Chancellor’s Award.
- **Mahamudul Haque** was voted 2015-16 Teaching Assistant of the Year by College of Pharmacy student pharmacists.
- **Shannon Kozlovich** (Lazarus lab, pharmaceutical sciences) was voted 2015-16 Teaching Assistant of the Year by College of Pharmacy student pharmacists

Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.) students

- **Loan Lam** was elected by his peers as the WSU Professional Pharmacy Student Organization (PPSO) president for 2016-17 academic year.
- **Sharon Na** was elected by her peers to serve as the PPSO treasurer for the 2016-17 academic year.
- **Katie Cashman** was elected by her peers to serve as the PPSO fundraising chair for the 2016-17 academic year.

- **Janae Rame** was elected by her peers to serve as the PPSO public relations chair for the 2016-17 academic year.
- **Audry Nordness** was elected by her peers to serve as the PPSO historian for the 2016-17 academic chair.
- **Katie MacCamy** was elected by her peers to serve as the PPSO fourth-year student liaison for the 2016-17 academic year.
- **Mark Nguyen** was elected by his peers as the WSU APhA chapter president for the 2016-17 academic year.
- **Andrew Rech** was elected by his peers as the WSU ASHP chapter president for the 2016-17 academic year.
- **Ashley Ta** was elected by her peers as the WSU ASCP chapter president for the 2016-17 academic year.
- **Tory Knebel** was elected by his peers as the WSU NCPA chapter president for the 2016-17 academic year.
- **Madison Block** was selected by her peers to speak at the 2016 Commencement Ceremony on Thursday, May 5, 2016.
- **Juliet Nguyen** received the U.S. Public Health Service “Excellence in Public Health” Pharmacy Award.
- **Derek Matlock** received the 2016 NCPA Outstanding Student Member Award.

Coming Events

- May 5, 2016 | 1:00 p.m.
The College of Pharmacy will host the 2016 Commencement Ceremony at the Martin Woldson Theater in downtown Spokane, Washington.
- May 13-17, 2016
Faya Zhang will present, “Chronic alcohol consumption inhibits peripheral NK cell development and maturation by decreasing the availability of IL-15,” as an oral presentation and poster at the IMMUNOLOGY 2016™ in Seattle, Washington.
- May 20, 2016
Lisa Woodard with two others will present, “Strategies for implementing diabetes prevention programs,” at the Pre-Diabetes and Weight Management Symposium, hosted by Inland Northwest Health Services in Spokane, Washington.



College of Pharmacy

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