

# SHOWGLOBE

## CHANGING COURSE

Alumnus Thomas Menighan will step down as CEO of APhA in 2020 after 10 years at the helm.



 West Virginia University  
SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

### IN THIS ISSUE:

**SMALL RETIRES FROM THE PROGRAM HE PIONEERED NEARLY A DECADE AGO** PG 6

**CHILDHOOD CANCER SURVIVOR FOUND A CAREER PATH THROUGH HER TREATMENT** PG 10

**WVU STUDENT PHARMACISTS CAN EXPECT ENHANCED LEARNING FACILITY IN 2020** PG 20

# A Message From the Dean: *Inspirations*

There are plenty of examples of wonderfully impactful leaders who have graced our world from both a societal and professional standpoint. These individuals often have extraordinary vision, persistence and listening skills that typically result in inspiring others to facilitate change.

I am not unique in having had many inspirational figures in my life. My father, a World War II veteran and small business owner, and my mother, a nurse who worked with polio patients, were two of the first.

High school teachers who believed in my potential inspired the self-confidence necessary for me to become a successful first-generation college student. My professional inspirations were certainly founded in my West Virginia University School of Pharmacy mentors, primarily Drs. Carl Malanga and Art Jacknowitz. Since Art's passing in April, I've had many conversations about him with alumni. It's



▲ Dean William Petros and the late Dr. Art Jacknowitz at Art's retirement dinner in 2012.

**“One of the greatest dignities of humankind is that each successive generation is invested in the welfare of each new generation.”**

—MR. (FRED) ROGERS

our profession, their communities and patients. The front cover of this Showglobe, and an accompanying story, celebrate one such individual, Tom Menighan. Self-described as “a pharmacist’s pharmacist,”

a treasure to hear examples of how “Dr. J” inspired so many of us, in addition to his faculty colleagues.

During its 105-year history, the School has been blessed with many alumni and faculty who've inspired

Tom has inspired and facilitated the transformation of pharmacy in his local community, our state and the entire profession through his leadership of the American Pharmacists Association (APhA). He truly exemplifies “Mountaineers Go First.”

The School of Pharmacy experienced another wonderful year with impactful service provided to the state by our students, faculty and staff; continued growth in externally sponsored research; recruitment of an incredible P1 class; and a top-five nationally ranked residency placement rate for our graduating students. We are grateful for alumni and friends of the School who've contributed to our success.

I hope you enjoy this edition of the Showglobe and may country roads bring you back to see us in 2020!

*William P. Petros*

William Petros, PharmD, FCCP  
Dean and The Gates Wigner Endowed Chair

◀ **ON THE COVER** Menighan's office overlooks the National Mall in Washington, D.C. The American Pharmacists Association (APhA) headquarters is the only non-governmental building on the Mall.  
*(Photo: Liz Lynch, APhA)*

## WINTER 2020

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# CONTENTS

Winter 2019-2020

## 02

**FEATURE**  
**Changing Course**

## 06

**Small Retires from the Program He Pioneered Nearly a Decade Ago**

## 10

**Childhood Cancer Survivor Found a Career Path Through Her Treatment**

## 20

**SoP Unveils New Enhanced Learning Facility**



### Snapshot

▲ First-year pharmacy students use teamwork to navigate the Challenge Course at the Adventure WV Outdoor Education Center during New Student Orientation.

### ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

**08 Community Engagement**

**11 School of Pharmacy News**

**12 ICYMI: In Case You Missed It**

**14 Q&A: Krystal Hughes**

**15 Student News**

**16 Faculty News**

**22 Focus on Research**

**24 Interprofessional Education**

**25 Donors and Scholars**

**28 Alumni News**

**30 Class Notes**

**31 In Memoriam**

**33 Future Pharmacists**

Service to **The Profession**



# Changing Course



**After ten years of guiding a membership of more than 62,000 practicing pharmacists, pharmaceutical scientists, student pharmacists and pharmacy technicians, Thomas Menighan (BSPHarm, '74; ScD 2011) is setting a new course for his life and career.**

On July 1, 2020, Menighan will step down as chief executive officer and executive vice president of the American Pharmacists Association (APhA). However, he says his retirement marks a transition in — but not an end to — his personal pharmacy journey.

Menighan's path to pharmacy began as a youngster growing up in Sistersville, West Virginia. A chemistry set he received in the fifth grade sparked his interest, but a local pharmacist named Jim Phillips (BSPHarm, '57) inspired his career.

"I went in before school each day to clean his pharmacy. I was about 13 or 14 years old, and I had the keys to a pharmacy," said Menighan. "I think back to the tremendous trust that Jim Phillips gave to me and how important his mentorship was. He taught me the little things — like never answer the phone without a pen in your hand."

As Menighan made his way through pharmacy school at West Virginia University, he held tight to his hometown values of honesty, persistence and a strong work ethic. Lessons he learned not only from Mr. Phillips but also from his parents, his high school sports coaches and his involvement with the Boy Scouts. On his first

day as a student pharmacist, he learned another treasured piece of advice that would guide his career.

"The dean at the time told our class, 'You are now entering a profession where you'll never have to worry about making a living, so worry about making a difference.' That still sticks with me today," said Menighan.

One of Menighan's personal mottos is, "Keep showing up and saying yes." Words and actions that may have put him in the right place at the right time to begin his relationship with APhA. In 1984, his late wife Jeanie was fighting ovarian cancer. Side effects of chemotherapy and radiation made it difficult for her to tolerate food. As her caretaker, Menighan began to experiment with home infusion therapy to keep her nourished. During this period, he was also working full-time at The Medicine Shoppe, his pharmacy in Huntington, West Virginia. Eventually, Jeanie's illness and Menighan's passion for helping others inspired him to start a home infusion practice.

***"The dean at the time told our class, 'You are now entering a profession where you'll never have to worry about making a living, so worry about making a difference.' That still sticks with me today."***

—TOM MENIGHAN

“Tom has what I would refer to as fearless leadership,” said WVU School of Pharmacy Dean William Petros. “He sees something that needs improvement, and he goes after it. He’s done that with success his whole career.”

Home infusion therapy was innovative at the time, and APhA asked Menighan to travel the country and give a series of talks on the topic. It wasn’t long before the organization recruited him for a senior staff member position, which he held from 1987 – 1992. Menighan saw the opportunity as a higher calling and a chance to impact millions of lives, something he couldn’t do with his pharmacy practice.

APhA turned out to be a good fit for Menighan. Through the years, he held several positions within the organization. He was a member of the APhA Board of Trustees from 1995 – 2003 and served as president from 2001 – 2002. When he did take a break from working for APhA, he pursued consulting and entrepreneurial opportunities. However, in 2009 the opportunity of a lifetime presented itself.

“I was at a neighborhood picnic, and I got a call from a friend. He said, ‘Tom, you need to apply for the Gans job.’ John Gans, my predecessor at APhA, had just announced his retirement. I said, ‘Well, I’ve been thinking about applying for the job, but it would be complicated right now,’” said Menighan. “After I hung up the phone, I looked at my wife Bonnie and said, ‘what do you think?’ She said, ‘well, you know you’d love it, and you’d be good at it.’ Boom! That’s all it took.”

Menighan is proud of APhA’s role in moving the pharmacy profession forward during the past decade. He says the collaborative relationships built with other pharmacy organizations and state associations have and will continue to advance the profession.

“Tom is someone who has a really strong sense of what needs to be done. He’s very strategic and focuses on our objectives,” said Elizabeth Keyes, APhA’s Chief Operating Officer. “For example, if our objective is provider status, he keeps that topic at the forefront of all of our activity here at APhA.”

Simplifying APhA’s mission, which was once a multipage document, has also been a source of pride for Menighan.

“We promote consumer access and coverage for pharmacists’ quality patient care services — that’s 12 words,” said Menighan. “Everything in our mission, everything in our strategic plan rolls up into those 12 words. It took me six years to write them. If I had more time, I’d write a shorter version.”

One of Menighan’s important endeavors as CEO was successfully renegotiating the lease for the high-profile APhA headquarters building with the General Services Administration and the State Department. The historic building, also known as the “Pope Building,” is the only private structure on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. Renowned architect John Russell Pope,

**“Tom has what I would refer to as fearless leadership. He sees something that needs improvement, and he goes after it. He’s done that with success his whole career.”**

—WILLIAM PETROS,  
WVU School of Pharmacy dean



who also designed the Jefferson Memorial, National Archives, National Gallery of Art, and Constitution Hall designed it.

“Tom has left a strong legacy here. He helped to revitalize APhA — our systems, our products and services, our education and training and our publishing,” said Keyes. “He’s very much about modernization and making sure we have the right resources in place to meet the needs of today’s members while also investing in our future members.”

As a native West Virginian and WVU alumnus, Menighan sings the praises of his home state and his alma mater to everyone he meets. Those who visit his office can immediately identify his roots from the wide variety of WVU memorabilia. He has been an avid supporter of both the School of Pharmacy and the University for many years.

Menighan received an honorary doctor of science degree from WVU in 2011 for his positive impact on the U.S. healthcare industry, and he was inducted into the School of Pharmacy’s Hall of Fame in 2014. Dean Petros says Menighan has blessed the School with his time, talents and treasures.

“Tom has spent multiple years on the School’s external leadership council, presently serving as co-chair,” said Petros. “The vision he brings to the council is invaluable.”

In addition, Menighan routinely meets with PharmD students, in both Morgantown and Washington, D.C. Philanthropically, his generous donations have gone in part toward student scholarships as well as funds for student travel to professional meetings.

► **Top:** Menighan proudly displays his honorary doctorate of science degree, which he received from West Virginia University in 2011. (L-R) former WVU President James P. Clements, former HSC Chancellor Christopher C. Colenda, Menighan, and former School of Pharmacy Dean Pat Chase. **Middle:** Menighan (center) with his daughter Caroline (left) and School of Pharmacy Dean William Petros at the 2018 SoP Homecoming tailgate. **Lower left:** Menighan speaking to SoP students about his life and career journey. **Lower right:** Menighan with a group of WVU student pharmacists, resident and faculty in Washington, D.C.

Outside of family and pharmacy, Menighan’s greatest passion is sailing. On his first day as CEO/EVP, he introduced his staff to the book, “It’s Your Ship,” by Commander Michael Abrashoff. In the book, Abrashoff writes, “The key to being a successful skipper is to see the ship through the eyes of the crew. Only then can you find out what’s really wrong and, in so doing, help the sailors empower themselves to fix it.”

As captain and CEO/EVP at APhA, Menighan has motivated and inspired those in the profession to pursue pharmacist

provider status on both state and national levels. He has engaged his members to work towards ensuring optimal care for patients, particularly in underserved areas, and to seek pathways for compensation of these services. Under his direction, the profession has found the wind to set its sails and the compass to guide it. Now it is up to all pharmacists to adjust these sails for the profession’s future. ♡





## **Small Retires** from the Program He Pioneered Nearly a Decade Ago

**Twenty-four years ago, Stephen Small took a one-person operation and ultimately turned it into a one-of-a-kind program for the West Virginia University School of Pharmacy and a blockbuster cost savings approach for the State's Medicaid program.**

In May, Small retired as director of the School of Pharmacy's Rational Drug Therapy Program (RDTP), a prior authorization and consulting service for Medicaid, PEIA and DXC Corporation (formerly Unisys).

Through Small's leadership, RDTP saves the State of West Virginia millions of dollars in pharmaceutical costs every year. The impact RDTP

has on the State's Medicaid program was best documented by an external audit in 2017-2018 when it saved West Virginia \$54.4 million and put \$116 million back into state pharmacies.

"As I reflect on Steve's service contributions during the past 24 years, I can without hesitation say that there are very few people in West Virginia who have made such a dramatic and enduring impact on pharmaceutical use," said Dr. Suresh Madhavan, former chair of the School's Pharmaceutical Systems and Policy Department. "The impact has not only been financial in terms of saving the State tens of millions of dollars annually, but also in terms of improving the quality of medication use and patient outcomes of West Virginians. Thus, for well over two

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RDTP SAVED WEST VIRGINIA**

**\$54.4m**

**AND PUT**

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**BACK INTO STATE PHARMACIES**

decades now, he has served WVU, the School of Pharmacy, State government agencies, West Virginia citizens and the pharmacy profession with great devotion and loyalty.”

Small joined the School in 1995 to help develop and implement RDTP. When Small started the program, he anticipated about 50-60 telephone prior authorization requests per day.

From that modest start, the program has grown to 12 pharmacists and five pharmacy technicians handling 1,200 to 1,400 calls per day from pharmacists and healthcare provider offices from all over West Virginia.

“My goal was always safe, rational, cost-effective therapy

focused on patient outcomes. My pride is that we maintained that throughout the whole program,” said Small. “I always kept a replica of the blind justice scale on my desk. One side said cost and the other side said patient outcomes. It was a reminder to me that we had to balance the two.”

In addition to his work with RDTP, Small helped to develop the Safe and Effective Management of Pain (SEMP) program in 2016, which combats opioid overuse and misuse.

Small graduated from West Virginia University School of Pharmacy in 1976 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Pharmacy and in 1998 with a Master of Science Degree in Pharmacy Administration. ♡

***“I always kept a replica of the blind justice scale on my desk. One side said cost and the other side said patient outcomes. It was a reminder to me that we had to balance the two.”***

—STEPHEN SMALL

## Pharmacy Professor Dedicated to Researching Mine-Related Illnesses Retires



**Dr. Vincent Castranova, known for his pulmonary toxicology research, particularly coal mining-related black lung, retired in June.** He had a

combined 42 years of service to the University and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH). Most recently, he was a professor in the School of

Pharmacy’s Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences.

The Mine Safety and Health Administration, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration and NIOSH have lowered the recommended exposure limits to particles known to cause occupational respiratory diseases based on Castranova’s research studies.

Castranova has published nearly 500 peer-reviewed papers and received numerous awards — including his most recent, the 2019 Stokinger Award for his groundbreaking research in nanotoxicology.

Castranova received his PhD in physiology and biophysics from West Virginia University in 1974. He completed a postdoctoral fellowship in the same field at Yale University before returning to WVU in 1977.

## Madhavan Accepts Position as Dean at a Texas University



**Dr. Suresh Madhavan accepted a new position in June as dean of the University of North Texas System College of Pharmacy.**

Madhavan was a loyal faculty member with West Virginia University since 1988 and had guided the School of Pharmacy’s Department of

Pharmaceutical Systems and Policy for more than 25 years as an outstanding chairperson.

During his time at the WVU School of Pharmacy, he received numerous awards, including the 2018 American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy Paul R. Dawson Award for Excellence in Patient Care Research. In addition, he participated as a Fulbright Specialist for the U.S. State Department.

Madhavan led many efforts to improve the School and its programs during his time at WVU, both here and internationally, as well as having a major impact on the state’s approach to drug therapy.



▲ Front row (L-R) Maddie Harvey, P4 student; Leigh Davis, PGY-2 pediatric resident; Cece Jebbia, P3 student; Dani Dolin (PharmD, '03), former WVU resident and preceptor. Back row (L-R) Jeff Arthur (PharmD, '19), PGY-1 community resident; Tyler Smith PGY-1 community resident; Chris Hartman, PGY-1 community resident; Lucas Prine, P3 student and Seth Holler, P4 student.

## SoP Students, Residents and Alumni Volunteer at Camp Kno-Koma

Several students, residents and alumni of the West Virginia University School of Pharmacy volunteered their time this summer as medical staff and counselors at camp Kno-Koma, a nonprofit summer camp for children with diabetes in the state of West Virginia. The camp was in Lewisburg at the Greenbrier Youth Camp July 7-13. They worked alongside a large interprofessional group made up of pharmacists, nurses, physicians, dietitians and psychologists. Together, they provided the medical supervision needed for campers to make having fun their number-one priority. More than 150 children ages seven to 15 with type 1 diabetes attended the annual camp and participated in activities such as swimming, archery, crafts, ropes courses, bike riding and more.

## Students Launch Successful National Campaign for Drug Adherence

During the months of February and March, the WVU chapter of the National Community Pharmacists Association (NCPA) took part in a national movement to raise awareness about medication adherence and chronic disease state management. The campaign is "Script Your Future," and under the leadership of Assistant Professor Dr. Megan Adelman, students produced and executed a social media campaign asking SoP alumni and supporters nationwide to post a photo of themselves taking the pledge to take their prescribed medications. They received responses from as far away as New Mexico and Alaska. The chapter's hard work paid off. The student organization was among six national finalists for the Script Your Future National Award.



## APhA-ASP Ramps Up Community Services in the Mountain State

West Virginia University's American Pharmacists Association - Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP) chapter has been busy volunteering in the community and advancing the profession. This academic year, the chapter's goal is to provide a health-related event in all 55 West Virginia counties. The Mountain State is historically known for its health disparities. With 34 of its 55 counties considered rural, and a majority medically underserved, it is APhA-ASP's mission to provide care to patients across the state. They hope to positively impact the lives of West Virginians and demonstrate the vital role pharmacists play on the health care team.

Over the past five months, APhA-ASP has volunteered in 17 counties, clocked more than 850 hours of community service and impacted approximately 2,600 patients through point-of-care tests and education.

They have three new patient care initiatives this year: Women's Health, Operation Respiration and Operation Mental Health and Wellness. Each initiative is providing innovative new services in the community. Women's Health is off to a great start by visiting several University residence halls and educating undergraduates about sexual health. Operation Respiration has educated numerous patients about proper inhaler technique at health fairs, and members are also beginning to provide pulse oximetry tests to patients. Operation Mental Health and Wellness has educated patients at fairs and has provided stress-relieving activities for students on campus.



## Freezin' For A Reason

Members of the Alpha Eta Chapter of Phi Lambda Sigma (PLS) participated in the 15th annual Polar Plunge in February to raise money for Special Olympics West Virginia.

Associate Professor Dr. Werner Geldenhuis and Assistant Professor Dr. Marina Galvez Peralta braved the cold water as well. The Plunge took place in the frigid waters of Cheat Lake. PLS exceeded its goal of raising \$1,500. Together with pharmacists from WVU Medicine, they raised \$2,140.



▲ **Front Row (L-R)** Rachel Trimmer, P4 student; Tiffany Cavallucci, P4 student; Katie Murto, P4 student; Zack Swedberg, P4 student. **Back Row (L-R)** Dr. Werner Geldenhuis, Chelsea Golliday (friend of Tiffany Cavallucci), Kaitlyn Legg, P3 student, Kara Piechowski (PharmD, '14), WVU Medicine clinical pharmacist; Jessica Kanai, WVU Medicine clinical pharmacist and Paul Brook, WVU astrophysicist.

## Mountaineers Go First ... Even During Flu Season!

Mountaineer Mascot Timmy Eads led the charge for flu shot awareness in October. Eads volunteered to let WVU student pharmacist Callan Banks administer his flu vaccine with supervision from Associate Professor Dr. Gretchen Garofoli.

Members of the WVU student organization American Pharmacists Association-Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP) organized the event, which received state-wide media coverage, as part of a public service announcement.

# Childhood Cancer Survivor Found a Career Path Through Her Treatment

**A West Virginia University School of Pharmacy student who spent most of her high school years in outpatient chemotherapy treatments was inspired to pursue her degree because her doctor explained to her how the cancer-fighting drugs were being used.**

▼ Autumn Smith, childhood cancer survivor and third-year pharmacy student.

While going through treatment 9 years ago, Autumn Smith, now a third-year pharmacy student, made it a point to learn about every drug she took, how many milligrams of each drug she received and the side effects of each one.

“My doctor was good at telling me why I was getting the drugs,” Smith said. “I thought that was super cool, and that’s what inspired me to go into pharmacy.”

Smith is a native of Brandywine, a small Pendleton County community in West Virginia’s eastern mountains. Doctors discovered that she had acute lymphoblastic leukemia six days after she turned 15. In addition to daily oral chemotherapy, her family drove her to additional treatments every Friday, a two-hour trip from her home.

“Having cancer as a teenager was difficult because I missed out on things I wanted to do —like cheerleading,” said Smith. “I deal with my diagnosis by embracing it, and I don’t really think of it as a bad thing anymore because it led me to pharmacy and a passion for my career.”

Smith is now interested in pediatric oncology. In September, she participated in Go Gold for Kids with Cancer, an event sponsored by the WVU School of Pharmacy’s National Community Pharmacy Association (NCPA) and the Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP) during Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. Proceeds from the fundraising events went to the Childhood Cancer Association, which provides support and resources to families who have kids with cancer at no cost.

Smith said events like Go Gold for Kids with Cancer are important because public acknowledgment is the first step in finding a cure.

“To develop drugs and the clinical research necessary to have good cure rates for cancer starts with awareness,” she said. “If you don’t have awareness, you don’t have funds.” ♡

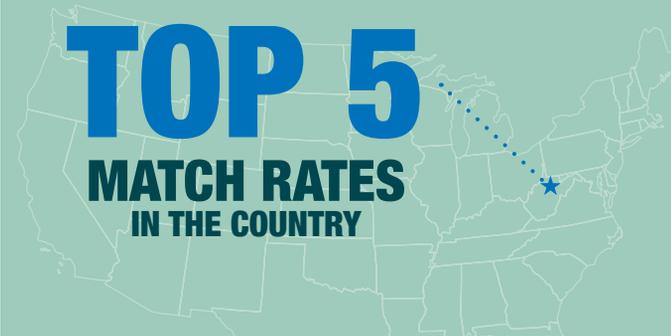
**“My doctor was good at telling me why I was getting the drugs. I thought that was super cool, and that’s what inspired me to go into pharmacy.”**



# Pharmacy Residency *Match Day*

WVU School of Pharmacy Residency Match Day

**TOP 5**  
MATCH RATES  
IN THE COUNTRY



## MOST PARTICIPANTS EVER

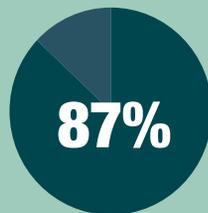
**53%**



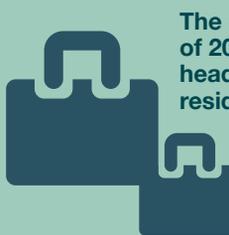
The WVU School of Pharmacy had an increase in residency interest this year, with 38 students participating in the match process, out of a total class size of 72 students (53% of the class).

## MOST MATCHES EVER

With 33 students doing residencies (87% Phase 1 match rate), WVU surpassed last year's numbers for most students pursuing residency in its history.



The class of 2019 is heading to residencies in **13** DIFFERENT STATES



### The West Virginia University School of Pharmacy and its latest group of residents reached new milestones during 2019's Pharmacy Match Day.

In 2019, the WVU School of Pharmacy was in the top five schools of pharmacy for match rates – pairing 87 percent of the postgraduate year one (PGY1) applicants seeking residency through Phase I of the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) Resident Matching Program. In addition, the School surpassed last year's numbers for most students pursuing a residency in history.

"Participation in residencies signifies a PharmD graduate is interested in aspiring to the highest levels of training for their future pharmacy practice," said William Petros, dean of the WVU School of Pharmacy. "The extraordinary rate of successful PGY-1 residency placement of our students is a direct reflection of their incredible efforts in addition to that of their faculty and preceptors."

In addition, the School of Pharmacy had more participants than ever in the Match. Thirty-eight students participated out of a total class size of 72 students. As a result, WVU student pharmacists are doing their postgraduate training in 13 different states.

PGY-1, Rachel Kolar ('19), is completing her residency in acute care at J.W. Ruby Memorial Hospital. Since Match Day, Kolar has already seen improvements in her abilities at her placement.

"I've come so far in the short period I've been working, and it has been an incredible learning experience," said Kolar. "A residency lets you take things to the next level."

Dr. Jay Martello, clinical assistant professor and one of the coordinators for the residency program, says he has been analyzing the Match Day data since 2012 and may know what's driving the positive numbers.

"I'm a numbers person. I like looking at trends and finding issues, and what I've been doing over the years is trying to find out what is a good predictor of residency acquisition," said Martello. "We have a residency prep elective and it definitely correlates but I'm also looking at other factors like GPA and areas of emphasis."

Martello also credits social media and organizational involvement with increased awareness of the value of residency training.

Pharmacy Match Day is held each year in March. The Match provides an orderly process to help applicants obtain positions in residency programs of their choice and to help programs obtain applicants of their choice. ASHP is responsible for establishing the rules and for monitoring the implementation of the Match. The administration and conduct of the Match are carried out by National Matching Services Inc. on behalf of ASHP.

According to the ASHP, of the approximate 5,134 residency positions available, 4,697 were filled during Phase I. And 283 applicants from the Class of 2019 matched in Phase II. 🏆

# ICYMI: In Case You Missed It

When we have exciting news 🎉, social media is the fastest, most efficient way to share it with you!

We encourage you to join us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn. Who knows, 🧐 maybe you'll find that long-lost classmate you were wondering about. Here is the kind of content we share on social media:

- Upcoming School-sponsored events
- Alumni and student profiles
- Faculty and student news
- Industry-related news

If you haven't checked out our social feeds recently, here's a sample of what you've been missing:

**Follow the School of Pharmacy on social media to stay in the know about upcoming events and important news.**



WVUPharmacy



@WVUPharmacy



WVU School of Pharmacy



WVU School of Pharmacy



## PhD and PharmD graduates recognized at May Commencement

The School of Pharmacy held its 2019 Spring Commencement Ceremony Saturday, May 11, at the WVU Creative Arts Center. Three PhD graduates from the School's Health Services Outcomes and Research (HSOR) program and 70 PharmD graduates received their diplomas during the ceremony.

Vice President and Executive Dean for Health Sciences Dr. Clay Marsh, School of Pharmacy Dean Dr. William Petros and Valedictorian Dr. Rachel Kolar presented remarks during the commencement ceremony.

## School of Pharmacy officials visit alumni in Low Country



▲ (L-R) Betsy Elswick (PharmD, '01), Susan Meredith (BSP Pharm, '67), Dewey Blair (BSP Pharm, '93), Melissa Blair (BSP Pharm, '97), Mountaineer Timothy Eads, Jason Cooper (BSP Pharm, '94), Nathan O'Dell (PharmD, '07), Karen Petros (BSP Pharm, '83), Bill Petros (BSP Pharm, '83) and Scott Bragg (PharmD, '11).

In June, West Virginia University School of Pharmacy Dean Bill Petros, Alumni Association Coordinator Dr. Betsy Elswick and Director of Development Kevin Tephabock attended the Low Country Mountaineers BBQ Bash and Pepperoni Bake Off in Charleston, South Carolina. The event was held at The Citadel Holiday Alumni Center and included BBQ as well as live entertainment. This year marked the 12th anniversary of the event, which hosts up to 175 Mountaineers from the Low Country each year. A number of SoP alumni attended the event. It was sponsored by the South Carolina Low Country Mountaineers Chapter of the West Virginia University Alumni Association to help raise money for the Charles Drake Memorial Scholarship Fund. For more information about the Low Country Mountaineers Chapter, visit [www.lowcountryyears.com](http://www.lowcountryyears.com).

## Class of 2023 receive white coats



Faculty, staff and alumni of the School of Pharmacy welcomed 74 new students on Saturday, August 17, during the annual White Coat ceremony at the WVU Health Sciences Center. These first-year pharmacy students committed to being future healthcare professionals, who will develop, deliver and monitor medication to improve the health and well-being of the community. Loved ones, faculty, staff, alumni, student pharmacists and friends donated the white coats. A note of encouragement was placed in the pocket of each one.

If you are interested in sponsoring a white coat for a future student, visit [pharmacy.hsc.wvu.edu/support-us/give-a-white-coat/](http://pharmacy.hsc.wvu.edu/support-us/give-a-white-coat/).

### CLASS OF 2023 BY THE NUMBERS

44

FEMALES

30

MALES

49

WEST VIRGINIA NATIVES

25

OUT-OF-STATE STUDENTS

3

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS



### WVU School of Pharmacy renames its Office of Student Services

One of the administrative units within the School of Pharmacy had a name makeover this year. The School's Office of Student Services is now the Office of Admissions and Student Affairs. School administrators say the name change better reflects the broad nature of the services provided by the office and makes it clear to potential students where to go first when exploring pharmacy career options at WVU. Some of the services provided include pre-admission advising, application process advising, academic advising, enrollment verification, grade audits, career advising and writing letters of recommendation — just to name a few.



### Alumna returns to campus as guest speaker for Louis A. Luzzi Lectureship Series

Elizabeth Keyes (BSPHarm, '91) returned to campus in March as the guest speaker for the Louis A. Luzzi Lectureship Series. Keyes is the senior vice president and chief operating officer of the American Pharmacists Association (APhA) and is also the executive director of the APhA Foundation. Her presentation, "Leadership Experiences: Practical Perspectives for Personal Growth," demonstrated ways for students to develop leadership skills, such as modeling the behavior they expect and require. She also spoke about her path to pharmacy, her time at WVU and her career at APhA. In addition to her pharmacy degree from WVU, Keyes holds a degree in biology and a minor in technical writing from Wheeling Jesuit University. The Luzzi Lectureship is named after former Dean Dr. Louis A. Luzzi. It is intended to give students insight into leadership in pharmacy by featuring alumni who have fashioned unique careers and have made significant contributions to the pharmacy profession.

## Q&A: Krystal Hughes

Qs BY CHRISTA CURREY

**Krystal Hughes, a third-year pharmacy student at the West Virginia University School of Pharmacy, is one of seven students acting as a national student officer for the Industry Pharmacists Organization (IPhO). Hughes is a preceptor to IPhO's numerous regional student officers and interns across the country. Her duties include recruiting and hiring interns, conducting interviews and establishing and managing projects on a large scale. This is the first year that IPhO has had an internship director. Hughes will hold the position until spring 2020.**

### **Q** How did you become the internship director for IPhO?

**A** I was a virtual intern for IPhO in fall 2018. I assisted the organization with its professional development by gathering internship opportunities from pharmaceutical companies and creating a catalog for IPhO members. One of the regional student officers that I worked for recommended me for internship director. IPhO reached out to me based on her endorsement and my performance as an intern. It was kind of crazy because I received an unexpected email from the organization asking me to apply for a national officer position, but I didn't know what I was applying for until the day of the interview. In hindsight, I think they did that on purpose because I didn't apply for the position. I believe they wanted to see — without preparing me — if I was truly a good fit for the position and the organization.

### **What were some of the qualities they were looking for in the ideal candidate?**

They were looking for someone with communication and time management skills. With a national organization, many are in different time zones, so that's something you need to work around. They were also looking for previous IPhO experience. My P1 year I was the chief operating officer for WVU IPhO. My P2 year, I was the president-elect. In addition, they liked the fact that I had experience rebuilding WVU IPhO. I was largely responsible for increasing our membership over two years from eight members to the 52 we have currently.



**How do you feel this experience will help you in the future?**

It will help me manage people on a large scale. I have leadership experience on a school level, but it will be a challenge having everyone spread out across the country. I will have to adjust my schedule and work with them virtually to get things done. Also, reaching out to people through email, phone calls and social media will help me develop my communication skills.

**How do you feel about a peer recommending you for this position?**

It is a huge honor because last year I applied for a regional officer position, and I didn't get it. I felt discouraged because I wasn't selected. Now, here I am in a national student officer position. It's surreal, and it makes me think of something my professors say constantly at the pharmacy school "It [pharmacy] is a small world." If I hadn't made a connection with my regional officer, then I probably wouldn't have been recommended for the internship director position.

**What would you tell other students who are looking for similar opportunities?**

You have to get involved in student organizations as soon as possible during your P1 year. You need to start going to meetings and figuring out where you fit in. Many of my classmates waited until their P2 year, but spots fill up fast. People know what clubs they want. It's really about establishing what you're passionate about. I think getting involved early and making connections is important. I'm a first-generation college student, and I felt intimidated by my classmates who knew someone in pharmacy or their parents were in pharmacy. I realized it doesn't matter. You have to make connections and really push for what you want. If you put yourself out there, people will remember you.

***“You have to make connections and really push for what you want. If you put yourself out there, people will remember you.”***

## School of Pharmacy Graduate Students Shine on National Stage and at Home



▲ (L-R) HSOR PhD students Rudi Safrudin, Nazeen Fatima Shaikh, Mona Nili and Jayeshkumar Patel.

Graduate students from the WVU School of Pharmacy's Health Services and Outcomes Research Program had an excellent year of recognition for their efforts in various competitions, presentations and organizations.

The WVU student chapter of the International Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research (ISPOR) earned the organization's

Outstanding Chapter of the Year award. The organization presents the honor annually to chapters that best support its mission to promote health economics and outcomes research excellence to improve decision-making for health globally.

PhD students Jayesh Patel, Nazneen Shaikh and Rowida Mohamed earned the 2019 Health Services Research Projects in Progress (HSRProj) team competition for students. The competition was sponsored by AcademyHealth and the National Information Center on Health Services Research and Health Care Technology of the National Library of Medicine. The annual competition invites students to use data from the HSRProj database, in conjunction with other sources, to identify research gaps in health services and systems research. Fellow PhD students Chibuzo Iloabuchi, Mona Nili and Yves Mbous were finalists (team) in the competition. Dr. Usha Sambamoorthi, professor, pharmaceutical systems and policy, was the faculty advisor for both teams.

Patel won the ISPOR Distinguished Service Award and Xiaohui Zhao won the best poster presentation at the 2019 ISPOR conference. Patel, Nili, Shikh and Rudi Safarudin earned the WVU Outstanding Graduate Student Organization Award. Pragma Rai was a finalist, grand finale and People's Choice Award winner in WVU's 3-Minute Thesis competition. Finally, Patel earned and Chibouk Iloabuchi earned first and second place, respectively, in the poster presentation at the Pharmaceutical Sciences Research Symposium.



### SoP Students Receive Scholarships from State Pharmacy Organization

Third-year student pharmacists Christiana Hess and Andrew Lee are

two of three students to earn the West Virginia Society of Health-System Pharmacists (WVSHP) Student Scholarships.

Hess and Lee received the awards in May at the 2019 WVSHP Annual Meeting held at the Embassy Suites in Charleston.

WVSHP is a professional society representing the interests of pharmacists and technicians throughout the state of West Virginia.

# New Faces in the School of Pharmacy



**Dr. Benoit Driesschaert** is an assistant professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences. Prior to coming to West Virginia University, Driesschaert was a postdoctoral fellow at the Dorothy M. Davis Heart and Lung Institute at the Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio. In addition, he was a research scholar in the Department of Biochemistry at the West Virginia University School of Medicine before joining the School of Pharmacy. Driesschaert earned his PhD in Chemistry and Biomedical EPR/MR from the Université Catholique de Louvain Belgium in 2013. Driesschaert teaches PHAR 779, Methods in Drug Discovery, and serves as a mentor to multiple students at WVU. His laboratory focuses on the development of new contrast agents for magnetic resonance based imaging technologies. Specifically, his lab develops advanced paramagnetic probes that enable in vivo measurement of physiologically relevant parameters such as enzyme activities, oxygen concentration or pH non-invasively. The probes developed in the lab find applications in many diseases.

Driesschaert is a member of WVU's in vivo Multifunctional Magnetic Resonance Center, the WVU Cancer Institute and the West Virginia Clinical and Translational Science Institute.

In 2019, Dr. Driesschaert was awarded a NIH R00 from the National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering to launch his independent research programs.



**Angela L. Goodhart, PharmD**, is an assistant professor of Clinical Pharmacy in the School of Pharmacy with a secondary appointment as a clinical assistant professor of family medicine at the WVU School of Medicine. Dr. Goodhart completed her BS degree at Bowling Green State University before studying pharmacy at Northeast Ohio Medical University. She completed a PGY1 Pharmacy Residency at St. Vincent Indianapolis Hospital before pursuing PGY2 training in ambulatory care at Summa Health System.

Dr. Goodhart practices as a clinical pharmacist within a family medicine patient centered medical home. She meets with patients and provides pharmacist support for chronic disease management including diabetes, hypertension, COPD and anticoagulation. She also assists with polypharmacy, immunizations and drug information.

Dr. Goodhart teaches within the ambulatory care course as well as various therapeutic areas, and she precepts IPPE and APPE student pharmacists. Her teaching and research areas of interest are chronic disease management, interprofessional education, and expanding clinical pharmacy services. She is also passionate about student pharmacist engagement in professional organizations and advocacy for the profession.

Dr. Goodhart is an active member of the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists and American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy.



**Dr. Kazuhiko Kido** is an assistant professor of clinical pharmacy. Prior to his current position, he was a faculty member at the South Dakota State University College of Pharmacy Allied Health Professions for four years. Dr. Kido graduated from the University of Iowa College of Pharmacy in 2013 and completed PGY 1 pharmacy practice residency and PGY 2 cardiology pharmacy residency in University of Kentucky HealthCare. He also received his Master of Science from Keio University and Bachelor of Science from Kyoritsu College of Pharmacy in Japan.

Dr. Kido is a cardiology clinical pharmacy specialist in the WVU outpatient heart failure clinic and on the WVU inpatient heart failure service. His practice interests are diuretic therapy optimization, anticoagulation therapy and pulmonary arterial hypertension therapy management.

His main teaching responsibilities include therapeutic lectures in cardiology and pulmonary courses and precepting fourth-year pharmacy students for APPE rotations. His teaching interests include inter-professional education, international pharmacy education and simulation in pharmacy education. His research interests include anticoagulation, heart failure and pulmonary hypertension. Dr. Kido has published multiple original research articles and review articles in peer-reviewed journals.

Dr. Kido is an active member in the American College of Clinical Pharmacy and the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists. He currently serves as a committee member for multiple national pharmacy associations.

## Dwibedi Selected as 2019 -2020 WVU IDEA Faculty Fellow



▲ (L-R) WVU's 2019 - 2020 IDEA Faculty Fellows: Dr. Nilanjana Dwibedi, assistant professor, WVU School of Pharmacy; Colleen Moretz, associate professor, WVU Davis College of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Design; Dr. Kenan Hatipoglu, assistant professor, Leonard C. Nelson College of Engineering and Sciences, WVU Technical Institute; Lauren Prinzo, assistant professor and community and economic development specialist, WVU Extension Service; and Craig Nelson, teaching assistant professor, Davis College of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Design.

Dr. Nilanjana Dwibedi was selected by the Office of the Provost to be one of WVU's 2019 - 2020 Innovation, Design and Entrepreneurship Academy (IDEAS) Faculty Fellows. Dwibedi, an assistant professor at the School of Pharmacy, is among five WVU faculty chosen for the honor. The IDEA Fellows Program is part of the WVU IDEA Hub, a University-wide network of centers, offices and programs that fosters and supports innovation and entrepreneurship among WVU students, faculty and staff while engaging the statewide community. In May, the group attended a Symposium for Entrepreneurship Educators at Babson College in Massachusetts, where they received extensive training on how to effectively teach entrepreneurship in their coursework. Using the knowledge and skills they learned at Babson, each IDEA Fellow will either create a new course or modify an existing one for the coming academic year. Beginning in spring 2020, Dwibedi will offer an elective course on entrepreneurship and intrapreneurship in pharmacy to second- and third-year pharmacy students. The curriculum is designed to foster the development of such skills and help students identify possible opportunities and resources for entrepreneurship.

### Appointments and Elections



**Dr. Betsy Elswick**, associate professor of clinical pharmacy, was appointed chair of the 2019-2020 American Pharmacists Association Policy Review Committee. The committee is charged with ensuring that adopted policy is relevant and reflects the opinion of the contemporary pharmacy community.



**Dr. Megan Adelman**, assistant professor of clinical pharmacy, was elected to the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) New Practitioners Forum Executive Committee. The forum is comprised of five new practitioners appointed by the ASHP president. The group directs the activities and programs of the forum, as well as advises the organization's staff on ways to better meet the needs of ASHP's new practitioner members.



**Dr. Kimberly Kelly**, associate professor of pharmaceutical systems and policy, was appointed an associate editor of The Journal of the American Pharmacists Association (JAPhA), the official peer-reviewed journal of the American Pharmacists Association. It provides information on pharmaceutical care, drug therapy, diseases and other health issues, trends in pharmacy practice and therapeutics, informed opinion and original research. JAPhA publishes original research, reviews, experiences and opinion articles that link science to contemporary pharmacy practice to improve patient care.



**Dr. Jon Wietholter**, associate professor in the School's Department of Clinical Pharmacy, was elected as secretary/treasurer of the American College of Clinical Pharmacy (ACCP) Internal Medicine Practice and Research network. The ACCP is a professional and scientific society that provides leadership, education, advocacy and resources enabling clinical pharmacists to achieve excellence in practice, research and education.



## Faculty and Staff Receive 2019 Values Recognition

The WVU Values awards program began in 2017 to commemorate the University's 150th anniversary by recognizing faculty and staff who help bring our mission to life through their daily work. Senior leaders awarded 150 commemorative coins in 2017 to faculty and staff who go above and beyond to make our University community a better place by living our core values of service, curiosity, respect, accountability and appreciation.

The program was so successful among faculty and staff that it continued into subsequent years. In 2018, recipients of the 2017 coin were asked to demonstrate our shared value of Appreciation and "pay it forward" by identifying other faculty and staff who embody our values. 2017-coin recipients were asked to show recognition to these faculty and staff members by presenting them with a 2018 WVU Values Coin.

In late 2018, faculty and staff voted on three design options for the 2019 WVU Values Coin. The tradition of WVU faculty and staff voting on the new coin design will continue into the future. This year's School of Pharmacy Values Coin recipients are:

**Dr. Marie Abate** – Professor of Clinical Pharmacy (Presented by Linda Jacknowitz, wife of the late Dr. Art Jacknowitz)

**Dr. Ginger Scott** – Professor of Department of Pharmaceutical Systems and Policy (Presented by Angela Frame, senior administrative assistant, Dean's Office)

**Dr. Krista Capehart** – professor of clinical pharmacy and director of the Wigner Institute for Advanced Pharmacy Practice, Education, and Research (Presented by Brenda Higa, program specialist, Office of Student Services)

**Dr. Werner Geldenhuis** – associate professor pharmaceutical sciences (Presented by Dean William Petros)



## Faculty and Students Participate in Mr. Pharmacist Pageant

◀ (L-R) Dr. Mark Garofoli, Dr. Ryan Turner, Luke Earls, Emery Smith, Jordan Horshaw and Jimmy Wyland.

In December, West Virginia University's Chapter of the American Pharmacists Association – Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP) put a spin on the pageant concept for a good cause. They held the first-ever Mr. Pharmacist Pageant in the Okey Patteson Auditorium. Dr. Mark Garofoli, assistant professor for the School of Pharmacy and Dr. Ryan Turner, an academic pharmacy fellow for the School, participated as contestants alongside SoP students Luke Earls, P3; Jordan Horshaw, P2; Emery Smith, P2; and Jimmy Wyland, P1. The contestants competed in four categories, WVU spirit wear, holiday wear, the white coat walk and a question and answer session. School of Pharmacy faculty Drs. Megan Adelman, Ashleigh Barrickman, Marina Galvez, Lena Maynor and Tara Whetsel served as judges. Prior to the pageant, students, faculty and staff had the opportunity to choose a "fan favorite" by making a monetary donation. Earls earned the title of 2019 Mr. Pharmacist and Wyland was runner-up, as well as "fan favorite." APhA-ASP raised \$549 through donations and admission sales. The money was divided and donated between the American Heart Association and Camp Kno-Koma, a nonprofit organization that provides a summer camping experience for children with diabetes in West Virginia.

## Congratulations to the 2019 Outstanding Teachers!



Each year, student pharmacists get the opportunity to vote for their favorite School of Pharmacy professors. The winners are announced at the School's annual Scholarships and Awards ceremony held each spring. The recipients of this year's Outstanding Teacher Awards were **Drs. Ashlee McMillan, Megan Adelman, Jon Wietholter and Ashleigh Barrickman.**

## Martello Earns National Experimental Education Award



Dr. Jay Martello was among six pharmacy educators in the country to receive the 2019 Award of Excellence in Experiential Education Award by the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP). The organization's Education Awards Committee bestows the prestigious

honor annually to an individual, school/college of pharmacy, or group of individuals who have made recent outstanding contributions to or achievements in pharmacy experiential education. He and the other winning experiential educators were tasked by AACP to develop a definition of intentional interprofessional experiential education in pharmacy curricula. The committee felt that this work was cutting-edge and impactful, yet relevant and practical. The outcomes were published in the American Journal of Pharmaceutical Education 2018; 82(3) Article 6502. Martello was recognized at the AACP Annual Meeting in Chicago.

## Baugh Chosen as Academic Leadership Fellow



Dr. Gina Baugh, an associate professor of clinical pharmacy, was chosen to participate in the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) 2019 - 2020 Academic Leadership Fellows Program. It is designed to develop the nation's most promising pharmacy educators to become future

leaders in pharmacy and higher education. As part of her fellowship, Baugh will meet and work with designated mentors over the course of the fellowship, as well as actively participate in a group project and attend a special commencement ceremony at the 2020 AACP Annual Meeting. In addition to her appointment in the School of Pharmacy, Baugh is the director of interprofessional education for the WVU Health Sciences Center. Her fellowship runs through July 2020.



## Ponte Earns Health Sciences VP Award

Each spring, the Vice President's Office at the Health Sciences Center honors faculty and staff who have made significant contributions to the mission of the University and their schools and units. At a ceremony in April, Vice President and Executive Dean of Health Sciences Dr. Clay Marsh presented 16 awards, one of which went to the School of Pharmacy's Dr. Charles Ponte. Out of all the nominees for the five HSC schools and campuses, Ponte was selected as the 2019 recipient of the Vice President's Master Clinician Award. The award recognizes an exemplary faculty member with outstanding clinician skills in providing patient-centered quality care with compassion, integrity and honesty. Criteria for the award included recognition by peers locally, regionally and nationally for clinical excellence, as well as proven leadership and mentorship skills. Winners were nominated by their peers and selected by the Achievement Awards Committee.

# WVU PHARMACY STUDENTS CAN EXPECT AN

# ENHANCED LEARNING EXPERIENCE

7,650<sup>SQ. FT.</sup>  
**COMPLETELY RENOVATED**



STATE-  
OF-  
THE-  
ART



- > COMPOUNDING LAB
- > GROUP ROOMS
- > TECHNOLOGY AREA
- > FACULTY OFFICES
- > PHARMACY STUDENT LOUNGE AND MORE



**A new Pharmacy Skills Development Center, designed to prepare student pharmacists for an evolving role in healthcare, will open in 2020 at the West Virginia University School of Pharmacy in Morgantown.**

The School is relocating and expanding the 20-year-old Center for Pharmaceutical Care Education from the eighth floor of the Robert C. Byrd Health Sciences Center (HSC) South to the third floor of the HSC North. The new location is in alignment with two other floors in the same wing of the building that are currently occupied by the School.

The new Pharmacy Skills Development Center is 7,650 square feet of fully renovated space. It will house a state-of-the-art compounding lab, innovatively designed group rooms to foster contemporary practice, as well as a new technology area. In

# LEARNING FACILITY

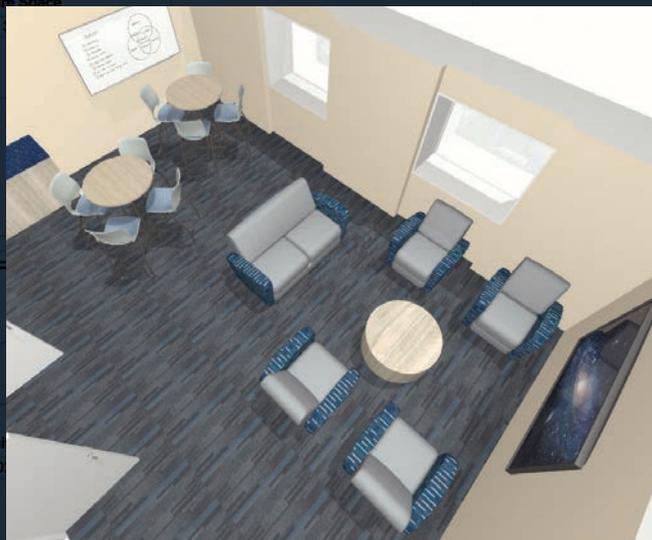
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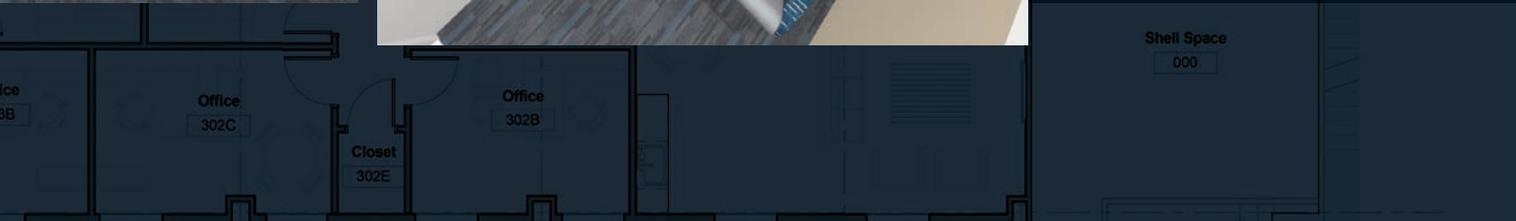
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**“OUR PROFESSION IS RAPIDLY EVOLVING, NECESSITATING STUDENTS BE FAMILIAR WITH ADVANCED MONITORING AND TESTING TECHNOLOGY ESSENTIAL FOR OPTIMAL CARE.”**

**—DEAN WILLIAM PETROS**

Shell Space  
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in addition, some faculty offices and a pharmacy student lounge will be included. <sup>6</sup>

“This facility signifies the School and University’s commitment to providing our students with education and skills that will position them for optimizing their professional practice when they graduate and well into the future,” said Dean William Petros. “While production of individual pharmaceutical products (compounding) remains an important skill, our profession is rapidly evolving, necessitating students routinely work as an integral part of the healthcare team, and to be familiar with

advanced monitoring and testing technology essential for optimal care.” <sup>9</sup>

The center will be complimented by WVU’s nearby state-of-the-art David and Jo Ann Shaw Center for Simulation Training and Education for Patient Safety (STEPS). Work on the new center started in August, and students will begin to use the facility in spring 2020. It will greatly assist us with our mission to improve the health and well-being of West Virginians and our global community by developing exemplary pharmacists and scientists; conducting meaningful research; and advancing pharmacy practice.

## School of Pharmacy Moves Up in NIH Research Support Rankings

**The West Virginia University School of Pharmacy has approximately 10 times more funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) today than it did just six years ago, according to a research ranking report from the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy.**

The report shows WVU's School of Pharmacy is ranked 37 out of 142 other schools and colleges of pharmacy nationwide for the total amount of funding awards it receives from the NIH. Between October 2017 and September 2018, the School received \$3,714,990.

Dr. Paul Lockman, assistant vice president of experimental therapeutics at the WVU Health Sciences Center and senior associate dean for research and strategic initiatives for the School of Pharmacy, attributes the growth to highly innovative and collaborative faculty who are strongly supported by administrative structures in the School of Pharmacy and the Health Sciences Center.

"There has been a lot of investment both in lab space and in personnel over the past several years," said Lockman. "The School has hired nine research and teaching faculty, and with significant support, we've been able to provide them with the equipment and infrastructure they need to do their work. The increase in NIH grants is evidence that we are seeing results."

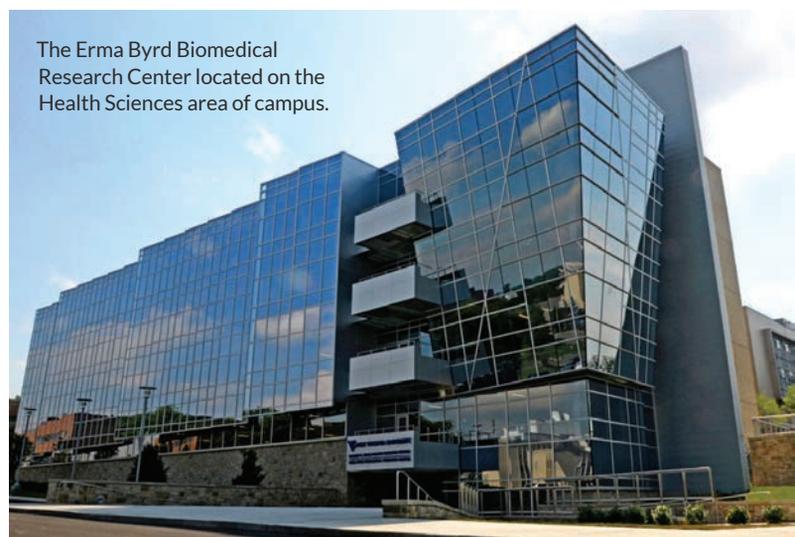
Most of the grant monies have been used to support cancer and stroke research, including drug development in those areas. In September 2018, the School was part of an NIH \$11.2 million

award given over five years to establish a center that focuses on the environment surrounding malignant tumors, which is emerging as a site that allows the tumors to grow.

Lockman says the School's ranking is important for attracting additional high-quality scientists who are dedicated to solving problems that benefit the health of West Virginians and people everywhere.

"If you have a scientist who is interested in coming to the WVU School of Pharmacy, they want to know that they will be successful here," said Lockman. "A place that is near the top 25% of pharmacy schools and colleges to receive funding from the NIH certainly suggests that we have the tools help them succeed."

Lockman says he plans to build on the School's momentum by encouraging more collaborations and integration with the Health Sciences Center in terms of research. The School of Pharmacy currently has partnerships across the Health Sciences Center as well as WVU's Morgantown campus.



The Erma Byrd Biomedical Research Center located on the Health Sciences area of campus.

## WVU Researchers Map Crystals to Advance Treatments for Stroke, Diabetes and Dementia



Medications attach to the proteins in our bodies the way spacecrafts dock into the International Space Station. Describing that process in detail can reveal a lot about how the medications work — and what form new medications should take.

Researchers at WVU have mapped the crystal structure of a protein that resides in our cells and determined — for the first time — how a drug latches onto it. The findings appear in *Communications Chemistry*, a *Nature* research journal.

The study — funded by the West Virginia Clinical and Translational Science Institute — centered on a protein called "mitoNEET." MitoNEET inhabits the outer membrane of our mitochondria, which act like power plants that energize our cells.

"MitoNEET is a novel therapeutic target for metabolic-based diseases and could possibly lead to disease-modifying treatments for Alzheimer's disease and stroke," said Dr. Werner Geldenhuys, an associate professor in the WVU Schools of Pharmacy and Medicine.

Researchers suspect mitoNEET is important in several diseases that are difficult to tackle, such as diabetes, stroke and heart disease. However, it is unclear what exactly the protein does. It is in close proximity to the powerhouse of the cell, and all of these diseases have an energy-flow theme to them."

To explore the role mitoNEET plays in our energy processes, Dr. Geldenhuys and his colleagues isolated mitoNEET from both bacterial overexpression and animal models. Then they synthesized 11 molecules similar to furosemide (a common diuretic) and exposed them to mitoNEET.

After the molecules bonded to the MitoNEET, the researchers built atom-by-atom maps of the pairings. They then used an Advanced Photon Source (an ultra-bright, high-energy X-ray) from the U.S. Department of Energy and Science to reveal how the molecules came together.

The team discovered that the molecules docked into a cluster of iron and sulfur atoms that made up part of the protein. Researchers say these findings are important, as they allow them to understand the role played by mitochondria and bioenergetics in many disease states. In addition, the modulation of mitochondrial function through targeted therapeutics may be a critical avenue of drug discovery.

# WVU Researcher Studies Incurable Blood Disease

**Dr. Wei Du says treating a stubborn blood disease mostly seen in young children may come down to tweaking energy production in stem cells.**

Du, an assistant professor in the WVU School of Pharmacy's Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, is investigating the link between how stem cells make energy and how Fanconi anemia develops.

The disease makes it harder for bone marrow to churn out the blood cells our bodies need to fight illnesses, stop bleeding and transport oxygen. It also makes repairing damaged DNA more difficult.

"Almost all of the kids with Fanconi anemia will develop leukemia eventually," said Du, who co-leads the Alexander B. Osborn Hematopoietic Malignancy and Transplantation Program at the WVU Cancer Institute. The average lifespan for people with the disease is between 20 and 30 years.

Typically, stem cells found in bone marrow and blood prefer an anaerobic process that doesn't rely on oxygen. However, Du and her research team discovered that in animal models of Fanconi anemia, stem cells tended to use aerobic (or oxygen-based) processes to make energy.

This metabolic distinction suggests that Fanconi anemia's diverse symptoms — from fatigue and shortness of breath, to frequent bruising and nosebleeds — may hinge on cellular-level energy production.

In fact, a single step in the metabolic process seems crucial. Dr. Du's research group identified a specific signaling pathway — called the p53-TIGAR axis — that was overexpressed

in the anemic models. The overexpression correlated to the aerobic "rerouting" of the stem cells' energy production.

The current standard of care includes bone marrow transplant, but according to Du, it works less than one-third of the time.

"In people with Fanconi anemia, blood cells aren't the only ones that have a mutation," she said. "So do other cells in other parts of the body that support stem cell survival." For that reason, the patients' bodies can't support the replication of healthy, transplanted normal cells properly, and their anemia persists.

Du's findings could lead to new and better treatments. One promising option is a drug that inhibits the overactivation of the p53-TIGAR signal. Preventing p53-TIGAR from inordinate activation may guide the stem cells' energy production back to the normal pathway.

Her insights might even deepen researchers' understanding of gene-therapy techniques. "If you know more about diseases of the stem cell — how they regulate energy, and how they regulate maturation and self-renewal — you probably can improve gene therapy as well," Du said. "If you can manually balance the energy production of the diseased stem cells then maybe this can be a benefit when you harvest those gene-delivery cells and transplant them into the patient."

## Fentanyl-related Deaths On the Rise in West Virginia



A group of West Virginia University researchers says fentanyl-related deaths went up 122 percent between 2015

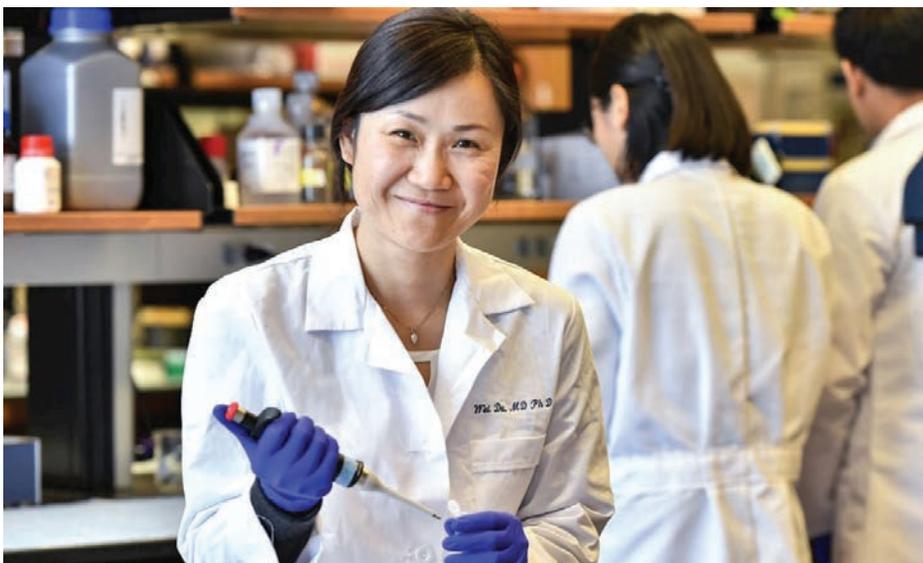
and 2017 as compared to a study of drug-related deaths between 2005 and 2014. In contrast, prescription opioids played a role in 75 percent fewer deaths between

**122%** ↑  
**in fentanyl-related deaths**

between 2015 and 2017 as compared to a study of drug-related deaths between 2005 and 2014.

2015 and 2017 than over the previous 10 years.

The research team included WVU Clinical Pharmacy Professor Marie Abate. So, what's causing the surge in fentanyl-related deaths? Some factors mentioned were illegal fentanyl imports from China, fentanyl's high potency and the varying amounts of fentanyl in samples sold on the street. The rise in fentanyl-related deaths in the Mountain State are consistent with the national trend. As the CDC reported, deaths from fentanyl overdoses spiked across the United States in 2015 and continued to climb in 2017. West Virginia, however, leads the nation in fentanyl-related deaths. It also has the highest per capita rate of overdose deaths overall.



## Interprofessional Education

# An Interdisciplinary Project Prepares Pharmacists for *Expanding Role in Home Healthcare*

**Jane Smith recently had open heart surgery at Ruby Memorial Hospital. Her doctors released her to recover at home. Smith is in her mid-to-late 60s and lives alone with her pet dog. She has family members who check on her occasionally, but she is primarily responsible for her care and well-being.**

Smith has many questions about her medications and dosage regimen post-surgery. To ensure that she receives the best care possible, her physician scheduled a home visit with an interdisciplinary team of healthcare professionals.

Students at the West Virginia University Health Sciences Center were given this scenario as part of the WVU Interdisciplinary Education Apartment Simulation (IDEAS) project. During a simulated exercise, a group of students from different health-related disciplines visited a staged apartment for a home visit.

“There are limited opportunities for students to visit patients in their homes — especially pharmacy students,” said Dr. Gina Baugh, associate professor of clinical pharmacy and director of interprofessional education (IPE). “This project is important because it allows students to develop the necessary knowledge and skills within their profession, and as part of an interdisciplinary team, to provide optimal patient-centered care.”

Courtney Burgazli, a fourth-year pharmacy student from Middletown, Delaware, participated in the project. During her home-visit experience, she explained each medication to Smith, advised her of harmful interactions, recommended which ones to discontinue, provided her with a medication organizer

and suggested that she use a reminder system to improve her adherence. Burgazli says the IDEAS project is an excellent way to prepare her for the evolving profession of pharmacy.

“Experiences like these set up a generation of cohesive healthcare team members, provide students an opportunity to expand their training and further advocate for our role as a healthcare provider,” said Burgazli. “My future in older adult care is shaped by these unique learning environments provided by WVU, and will impact my ability to perform on a healthcare team.”

Burgazli’s group included students from the Schools of Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Nursing and Dentistry. She and her teammates discussed smoking cessation options and the importance of a healthy diet as part of Smith’s healthcare plan.

The IDEAS project is a partnership between the Office of IPE and the David and Jo Ann Shaw Center for Simulation Training and Education for Patient Safety (STEPS). It is intended to build effective communication and teamwork, to provide excellent healthcare, learn and advance their roles and responsibilities as part of an interdisciplinary team and to develop values and ethics needed in the healthcare industry.

The pilot program was launched in 2018; however, there were only a limited number of spots for pharmacy students. This fall, Baugh received a \$15,000 WVU Research and Scholarship Advancement grant that allowed the program to fund more scenarios and accommodate up to 40 pharmacy students. Baugh hopes to secure enough funding to have a dedicated space for the program.

“We believe that there are endless possibilities for a real-world home environment for simulated activities,” said Baugh. “These activities could include various HSC disciplines as well as others across the University, such as education, engineering and speech and language pathology.”

The IDEAS project is a new aspect of simulation education, which, if adopted, would be a model for universities across the country to create an authentic homecare practice environment.



▲ Student pharmacist Courtney Burgazli fills a weekly medication and vitamin supplement organizer. At right: Burgazli reviews each prescribed medication and supplement on Smith’s list.

# WVU Donors *Help Fight the Opioid Crisis*

**When Pam Maphis Larrick and her husband Jon began looking for ways to honor her late father through the West Virginia University Foundation, they wanted the gift that bears his name to match the positive and lasting impact that he made on his community.**

Larrick's father, Allen Maphis (BSpharmacy, '51), was the former owner of Byard Pharmacy in Clarksburg, West Virginia. With his wife and business partner Elviera by his side, and their daughter Sue running the home healthcare offering, Allen devoted countless hours at the family-run pharmacy on Main Street listening to patients' concerns and counseling them on their medications and other health-related topics.

The Larricks say Allen was an innovative pharmacist who had his finger on the pulse of what was trending at the time — and more importantly — what was most beneficial to his patients.

"Dad was always about understanding and addressing what was on his patients' minds. Today, that would be opioid addiction," said Pam. "If he were here today, he'd be very active in trying to find solutions to solve the [opioid] problem," added Jon.

With the opioid crisis in mind, the Larricks worked together with a dedicated team at the WVU Foundation and the WVU School of Pharmacy to identify a project that aligned their goals with the School's needs. It took some time to find the perfect match, but today, their gift and the legacy of Pam's beloved parents, are supporting a research study that has the potential to save lives.

The Larricks established the Allen and Elviera Maphis Pharmacy Endowment to help researchers at the School of Pharmacy understand how to better treat patients who are suffering from opioid use disorder in a more personalized manner.

Assistant Professor Dr. Marina Galvez is the principal investigator of the study. In 2017, Galvez began to explore why some patients with opioid use disorder don't respond to standard treatment. Specifically, she mapped out ways to optimize use of the combination of buprenorphine and naloxone, one of only two major pharmacological interventions approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to treat opioid dependence by affecting opioid receptors in the brain. The WVU Substance Abuse Task Force and the West Virginia Clinical and Translational Science Institute funded the initial study.

"I'm very grateful to the Larricks for their generous donation to the School," said Galvez "Their gift has allowed us to take a closer look at the genetic factors that could play a role in how individual patients respond to buprenorphine. In addition, it has permitted us to expand the number of tests that we can perform on patients. The



▲ Jon and Pam Maphis Larrick.

engagement of pharmacy students, also made possible by the gift, further helps us with this very important research."

Student researchers are learning through hands-on opportunities like recruiting participants, collecting and isolating DNA, and analyzing different genes. However, the most meaningful lessons they've learned didn't always happen in the lab.

"These students hear the patients' stories, witness firsthand the stigma they face and the day-to-day challenges they experience. By the time the students graduate, they will be better prepared to intervene and treat patients with dignity and become key members of an interdisciplinary treatment team," said Galvez. "I believe that you put your brain where your heart is, and these students are true examples of that. They have the passion to make an impact on the opioid crisis and to help elevate the pharmacy profession as leaders in personalized medicine."

The Larricks hope that their contribution will inspire others to invest in the future health of West Virginians and beyond.

"This has been a win-win for the School, the students and the community at large in terms of trying to be a small help in the opioid crisis," said Jon. "The important thing is to help this project grow. We want it to take on a life of its own — well beyond what we're contributing and doing with it right now."

If you would like to make a gift to the School of Pharmacy, please contact the School's Director of Development Kevin Tephabock at [kevin.tephabock@hsc.wvu.edu](mailto:kevin.tephabock@hsc.wvu.edu) or 304-293-7731. ♡

# A note from the WVU School of Pharmacy Director of Development Kevin Tephabock

**As the Director of Development for the School of Pharmacy, I have the privilege of sharing stories of fantastic students, dedicated faculty and our incredible research success with alumni and friends across the country. Our Mountaineer pride resonates from coast-to-coast, and giving back is truly a School of Pharmacy tradition.**

This year alone, your donations have helped to provide:

- White coats and new scholarships for first-year pharmacy students
- Newly endowed scholarships
  - » The SoP Alumni Association Leadership Scholarship
  - » The D. Steven Crawford Scholarship
  - » The CENtential Class Scholarship
- Pledges to endow
  - » Calvin Brister Scholarship
  - » George R. and Lynne B. Spratto Pharmacy Scholarship
- Dr. Art Jackowitz AMEN (Advise, Mentor, Empower, Nurture) Award for students who exemplify AMEN in their work with others
- Travel and professional opportunities for students and faculty
- A new fellowship in regulatory science
- Research dollars for cancer and opioids
- In-kind donations to provide housing for students on rotation
- Planned gifts for future projects
- Unrestricted funds for our greatest needs

It has been an amazing year of giving at the School of Pharmacy. Your contributions have more than doubled in just two years. Since the inception of the WVU Day of Giving, the School of Pharmacy has been a leader across the entire University. For your part, a resounding Thank you!

We will officially open the new Pharmacy Skills Development Center soon, and we invite you to join us as we move into the next decade of providing our students with optimal education and practice skills.

I am your source for exploring giving opportunities. Whether you are making your first donation or planning an estate gift, it's important to ask yourself, "What is most meaningful to me?" before you proceed. I'm here to help you answer that question.

Thank you for the opportunity to represent such a caring and giving group of professionals. Most of all, thank you for your gifts and support of the WVU School of Pharmacy.



**Kevin Tephabock**  
Director of Development  
WVU School of Pharmacy  
[Kevin.tephabock@hsc.wvu.edu](mailto:Kevin.tephabock@hsc.wvu.edu)  
304-293-7731



2019 - 2020 scholarship and student award recipients.

# 2019-2020 Scholarships and Individual Student Awards

**The Anido Family Pharmacy Scholarship**  
Megan Deavers

**The Nancy Teeman Anido Memorial Scholarship**  
Madison Hill

**The Bernabei Independent Pharmacy Scholarship**  
Casandra Camilletti  
Elizabeth Confronti

**The Thomas L. and Mary M. Biery Scholarship**  
Jordan Wood

**The Honorable Larry Border Memorial Scholarship**  
Lucas Prine

**The Tom and Ben Carson Pharmacy Scholarship**  
Bradley Gutta

**The Pat and Jim Chase Pharmacy Endowed Scholarships**  
Madison Gongaware  
Kristine Hotlosz

**The Clutter-Rhoades Scholarship**  
Amanda Kyriakopoulos

**The Roger S. Cole Pharmacy Memorial Scholarship**  
Kristian Fuchs  
Jessica Wayne

**The James F. Smith Community Pharmacy Scholarships**  
Adison Beal  
Jordan Eckman  
Emily Elias  
Tyler Flint  
Courtney Glascock  
Jordan Jacobs  
Daniel Mohoroski

**The D. Stephen Crawford Pharmacy Scholarship**  
Charles Douglas

**CVS Caremark Charitable Trust Scholarships**  
Kara Kozul  
Daniel Lewis  
Slade McDowell  
Emile Younes

**The Ann Dinardi Scholarship**  
Ashley Robinson

**The Walgreens Diversity and Inclusion Excellence Scholarship/Multilingual Scholarship**  
Mai Do  
Dianne Techwei

**The Don E. Eaglehouse RPh Pharmacy Scholarship**  
Kara Ehrenberger

**The Exley Memorial Scholarship**  
Douglas Wilson

**The Fruth Scholarships**  
Callan Banks  
Lindsay Hoke

**The Herbert Gottlieb Memorial Pharmacy Scholarship**  
Miranda Cason  
Karalee McPherson

**The Robert E. Stitzel Graduate Student Award**  
Kelly Fraser  
Pushkar Saralkar

**The Anthony S. and Mary D. Guido Family Scholarship**  
Bryce Adams  
Emily Thacker

**The Nona Fay and CM Hamlett Scholarship**  
Hunter Moody  
Seo Lin Park  
Danny Stanley

**The Joseph and Edna Hudachek Family Scholarship**  
Wyatt Kincell

**The Arthur I. and Linda M. Jacknowitz Endowed Scholarship**  
Cecelia Jebbia  
Raven Powers

**The Ralph S. Johnson Scholarship**  
Andrew Kraich  
Lainey Large

**The Harold M. Johnston School of Pharmacy Scholarship**  
Allegra Browne  
Rachel Cruickshank  
Kaitlyn Legg

**The Steven C. Judy Memorial Scholarship**  
Logan Cox  
Ashley Dorsey  
Corey Whetzel

**The Justice-Lindstrom Pharmacy Compounding Award**  
Logan Cox

**The Leading Change in Pharmacy Scholarship**  
Madelyn Harvey

**The Dr. Carl J. Malanga Pharmacy Scholarship**  
Ryan Archer  
Megan Hardy

**The James A. Mauro Family Memorial Scholarship**  
Amina Byers

**The Kline McMann Family Pharmacy Scholarship**  
Katie Murto

**The Merck Awards**  
Callan Banks  
Cecelia Jebbia

**The Miller Advocacy Scholarship**  
Jenna Boram

**The Rebecca Smith Monti Memorial Scholarship**  
Amy Lusk

**The Lina Anne Newman Pharmacy Scholarship**  
Samantha Hines

**The Ohio-Marshall Counties Pharmaceutical Association Scholarship**  
Megan Blackburn  
Rachel Trimmer

**The Mary Ann Pavlick and Helen Pavlech Scholarship**  
Joy Apopa  
Christiana Hess

**The Romeo and Elizabeth M. Rega Memorial Scholarship**  
Elizabeth Rightnour

**The Rite Aid James Kyle Harman Memorial Scholarship**  
Tiffany Cavallucci  
Paige Kearns  
Sarah Snider  
Jian Yang

**The Edward W. Rockis Memorial Scholarship**  
Krista D'Ulisse

**The Sidney A. and Gwen S. Rosenbluth Pharmacy Scholarship**  
Colby Acri

**The Robert and Stephany Ruffolo Endowed Scholarship**  
Matthew Prophet

**The Robert and Stephany Ruffolo School of Pharmacy Graduate Fellowship**  
Tiffany Kornberg

**The Harry D. Schiff Scholarship**  
Troy Boughner

**The School of Pharmacy Annual Achievement Scholarship**  
Rebecca Arthur  
Ryan Cobb  
Liberty Embacher  
Emily Greig  
Kara Howard  
Sarah Kemerer  
Calvin Parmiter  
John Stilgenbauer  
Taylor Talkington  
Taylor Thompson  
Nicole Virtue  
Mackenzie Walker  
Mikayla Wright

**The School of Pharmacy Centennial Class Scholarship**  
Ashleigh Gaudet

**The Jack H. Smith Family Pharmacy Scholarship**  
Anastasia Robinson

**The Southern Appalachian Pharmacists Association Scholarship**  
Amy Lusk

**The Gerald L. Sprowls Pharmacy Scholarship**  
Andrew Lee  
Stephen Lomax

**The Kenneth Stollings Memorial Scholarship**  
Michaela Howell

**The Charles Stump Community Service Award**  
Laura Hunter

**The Terry Taylor and Ellen Burchett Taylor Pharmacy Scholarship**  
Kelsey Hinzman

**The Edward A. Toompas Memorial Scholarship**  
Shaina Trippett

**The George A. and Lurania K. Topakas Pharmacy Scholarship**  
Alexander Bowlby  
Jordan Burnette  
Kayla Crabtree  
Mariah Dent  
Riley Fisher  
Asa Ricketts  
Levi Rose  
Autumn Smith  
Alyssa Wallace

**The Autumn Grace Trent Memorial Scholarship**  
Kiersten Weber

**The Irvin and Benita VanMeter Pharmacy Scholarship**  
Connor Digman  
Andrew Ward

**The Frank W. Vigneault Memorial Scholarship**  
Courtney Babe  
Emily Hathaway  
Shaina Kopelov  
Lucy Luo  
Kayla Rose  
Amy Yeung

**The West Virginia University Alumni Association Loyalty Permanent Endowment Scholarship**  
Abigail Barnett  
Ashley Van Camp

**The West Virginia University School of Pharmacy Alumni Association Leadership Scholarships**  
Madison Hill  
Emma Platt

**The West Virginia University School of Pharmacy Dean's Leadership Scholarship**  
Matthew Brooks  
Krystal Hughes  
Megan Klingler  
Rachael Rose  
Emily White

**The West Virginia University School of Pharmacy Excellence in Pharmacy and Business Scholarships**  
Maxwell DeNora  
Ashton Prusia

**The Whitten Family Scholarship**  
Caleb Jennings

**The John and Edna Witten Scholarship**  
Mackenna Boone

## GRADUATE AWARDS

**The Graduate Student Outstanding Achievement Award**  
Samuel Sprowls

**The School of Pharmacy Graduate Student Research Awards**  
Pragya Rai  
Katherine Roach

# School of Pharmacy Returns to Touchdown Terrace for Reunion Weekend

The School of Pharmacy paid tribute to our outstanding alumni, preceptors and friends during the annual alumni reunion dinner. The awards acknowledge outstanding professional achievements, as well as commitment and service to the School and the profession.

Dean Bill Petros welcomed alumni and guests to the all-years reunion dinner, which was held at Milan Puskar Stadium's Touchdown Terrace on Friday, June 7, 2019. The event was sponsored by the School of Pharmacy's Alumni Association. Betsy Elswick (PharmD, '01), associate professor and Alumni Association coordinator, presented the awards.

The Alumni Dinner and Awards Ceremony was part of a reunion weekend focused on health and wellness. Continuing pharmacists' education classes offered ways for alumni to learn about both caring for themselves, as well as their patients. Session speakers included experts on mindfulness techniques for managing stress and anxiety, utilizing intuitive eating and treating insomnia. Speakers from the WVU Wellness Center provided yoga, breathing, and meditation techniques to use in the workplace.



### Outstanding Alumnus of the Year

Stephen (Steve) Small (BSParmacy, '76; MS, '98) retired director of the Rational Drug Therapy Program

### Outstanding Community Service: Alumnus

Sonny Hoskinson (BSParmacy, '86) assistant director of pharmacy at United Hospital Center in Bridgeport, West Virginia

### Outstanding Community Service: non-Alumnus

Dr. Mark Garofoli, director of experiential learning and assistant professor of clinical pharmacy



### 2019 APPE Preceptor of the Year

Eric Likar (PharmD, '15) Perioperative Pharmacist, WVU Medicine Ruby Memorial Hospital

### 2019 IPPE Preceptor of the Year: Health System

Brianne Fairchild (PharmD, '03) Veteran's Affairs Medical Center, Beckley, West Virginia

### WVU School of Pharmacy Honorary Alumni Induction

Drs. Mark and Gretchen Garofoli, husband and wife, both faculty in the SoP



### 2019 IPPE Preceptor of the Year: Community Practice

Stephen Crowe (BSPharm, '84), *not pictured* Kroger Pharmacy, Princeton, West Virginia

## A Mountaineer “Pharmily” Homecoming

More than 200 members of our “pharmily” returned to campus to celebrate Homecoming the weekend of October 4-5. The School hosted a parade watch party at the Iron Horse Tavern on High Street Friday night before the big game and a tailgate Saturday afternoon. Unfortunately, WVU lost to Texas 31 to 42, but it was still a beautiful day for football, a good time to catch up with old friends, and make new ones! Who traveled the farthest? Toshiyuki Saotome (PhD, '84) and his wife made the trip to Morgantown all the way from Tokyo, Japan.



### Alumni Presidents' Message

It is a great honor and privilege to serve as your 2019-2020 co-presidents of the West Virginia University School of Pharmacy Alumni Association.

This past June, we held our annual Alumni Weekend. Class years 1954, 1959, 1964, 1969, 1974, 1979, 1984, 1989, 1994, 1999, 2004, 2009 and 2014 received special recognition. The silent auction raised money for the School of Pharmacy Alumni Association Leadership Scholarship, from which we were able to provide two scholarships this past spring to students Madison Hill and Emma Platt.

In May, the Class of 2020 will walk across the stage and become part of the Mountaineer alumni family. We encourage our newest graduates and young alumni to get involved with the SoP Alumni Association.

Please send us updates on what you are doing in your careers and community. There is a submission form on the School of Pharmacy's website ([bit.ly/sopalumniupdates](http://bit.ly/sopalumniupdates)). We will share your news in our next Showglobe.

Finally, we invite you to join us this May for our Kentucky Derby themed all years reunion dinner. Please be on the lookout for updates regarding this and other upcoming events by following or liking us on social media. We look forward to seeing you soon!

**Danny and Amanda True, Co-Presidents, PharmD, '10**



### New Alumni Association Officers

**President-Elect**  
Amber Chiplinski (PharmD, '08)

**Secretary**  
Susan Meredith (BSP Pharm, '67)

**Treasurer**  
Scot Anderson (BSP Pharm, '68)

**Alumni Representatives at Large**  
Jeremy Prunty (PharmD, '11)  
Olivia Shoemaker (PharmD, '18)

### WVU School of Pharmacy 2020 Spring Alumni Weekend

**May 1-2, 2020**

There will be an informal social mixer on Friday, May 1 and continuing education classes during the day on Saturday, May 2 (details for both TBD). Please join us Saturday evening at the Morgantown Marriott at Waterfront Place for an all-years reunion dinner with a Kentucky Derby theme (time TBA).

# Class Notes

## 1960s



**Wanda Rogers ('63)** received the 2019 Gene Graves Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Home Infusion

Association at their annual conference in Orlando, Florida, in March. Rogers is the national director of pharmacy for Coram CVS Specialty Infusion Services.

## 1970s

**Steve Neal ('76)** was named Ohio-Marshall County Pharmacist Association's Pharmacist of the Year at the 2019 Pharmacists Association Spring CE Seminar in Wheeling.



**Joseph F. Dasta ('74)** is the 2019 Clifton J. Latiolais Award Winner. The award is peer-selected by past Latiolais awardees

and presented to someone who has made significant achievements and contributions to the pharmacy profession. Dasta earned the award for his enthusiasm for excellence and his contributions to the field of health-system pharmacy.

## 1980s



**Mike Brown ('98)** returned to the School of Pharmacy as the featured guest speaker for February's

Dean's Hour. Brown is the director of the West Virginia Pharmacists Recovery Network (WVPRN), which is a non-profit organization, commissioned by the West Virginia Board of Pharmacy. The purpose of the WVPRN is to provide a peer-reviewed service for pharmacists, pharmacy interns, pharmacy students and pharmacy technicians who may have substance abuse issues with alcohol or controlled substances or who may have psychiatric issues potentially affecting public safety. In addition to talking about the PRN, Brown discussed addiction as well as signs and characteristics of addiction.



**Stephen Toompas ('81)** was awarded the Best Pharmacist of Harrison County and the Best Pharmacy of Harrison County

(Town & Country Drug Store) during the inaugural Best of Harrison County 2019 awards ceremony. The online contest was voted on by community members. The awards, presented by NCWV Media, asked the residents of Harrison County, W.Va., to vote online for their favorite businesses, people and institutions across a wide array of industries and professions.

## 1990s



**Elizabeth Keyes ('91)** was recognized by the Joint federal Pharmacy Seminar leadership during its annual meeting in Dallas for her

support of federal pharmacy programs. Keyes, the chief operating officer of the American Pharmacists Association (APhA) has actively worked to ensure that APhA served as the home for the federal pharmacy community. As a result of APhA's commitment, the federal pharmacy community receives discounted membership fees, the establishment of a federal pharmacy advisory committee to APhA leadership, and five delegate seats on the APhA House of Delegates. Keyes was also responsible for initiating the APhA Federal Forum in 2001, which provides an opportunity for federal pharmacists who attend annual meetings to gain additional continuing education credit. Keyes established an endowed program that supports the Distinguished Federal Pharmacy Award, which is presented during annual meetings. Through her efforts, federal pharmacists and technicians who participated in the Department of Defense Global War on Terrorism were recognized with a plaque and rededication of the APhA Flagpole Memorial. To honor Keyes, the "Elizabeth Keyes Distinguished Federal Pharmacy Lecture" will be the featured title of a keynote presentation at all future JFPS annual meetings. Keyes will present the first lecture at the 2020 JFPS annual meeting in Cleveland.

## 2000s



**Aaron Cumpston ('01)** earned the 2019 Excellence in Advocacy Award from the American Society for Blood and

Marrow Transplantation Pharmacy Special Interest Group. The national award is presented to members who have made a significant impact on the field of pharmacy in hematopoietic stem cell transplantation through patient or practice advocacy. Cumpston is a clinical pharmacy specialist in bone marrow transplantation/hematologic malignancies. In addition, he is director of the PGY2 Oncology Pharmacy Residency Program at the WVU Cancer Institute. Cumpston serves as an adjunct assistant professor at the WVU School of Pharmacy.



**Christina Deusenberry ('09)** received the Cornerstone of Recovery Award at the 10th Annual WVU Medicine/

Jon Michael Moore Trauma Center Night of Recognition. Deusenberry is a trauma pharmacy specialist at WVU Medicine's Ruby Memorial Hospital.



**Kylea Goff ('10)** and her colleagues at the Norton Sound Region Children's Coalition earned the 2019 Pinnacle Award

in the Government Agency-Nonprofit Organization Association category. The recipients were honored during a ceremony in September, at APhA headquarters in Washington, D.C. The Pinnacle Award recognizes those whose contributions to the profession of pharmacy are helping to transform and elevate patient care.

**We'd like to hear from you.**

Do you have news to feature in Class Notes? Stay connected by submitting your information online: [pharmacy.hsc.wvu.edu/alumni/alumni-update-news-form/](https://pharmacy.hsc.wvu.edu/alumni/alumni-update-news-form/).

# Remembering the Life and Work of *Dr. Douglas Glover*



**Most people remember Dr. Douglas Glover, MD, RPh, as an obstetrician and gynecologist, but long before he specialized in women's health, he was a pharmacist.**

Glover died March 5, 2019. His friends and colleagues in the WVU community remembered his extraordinary life as a champion for rural healthcare and a beloved teacher and mentor.

Glover was a native West Virginian whose father was a pharmacist in the southern part of the state. As a youth, he worked in his father's drugstore performing duties such as janitor, tending the soda fountain and home delivery of medications to his community members. After high school, Glover enrolled in the former West Virginia University College of Pharmacy. He graduated in 1951 and joined the U.S. Army shortly thereafter to serve his country in Korea.

Following his return to the States, Glover practiced pharmacy in his home state for four years before entering Emory University School of Medicine, where he

received his medical degree before doing an obstetrics and gynecology residency at Grady Memorial Hospital in Atlanta. Glover practiced as a physician in Marietta, Georgia, for 17 years before returning to Morgantown in 1982.

Upon his return home, Glover entered academic medicine at WVU and taught students in a series of clinics in underserved rural communities throughout southern West Virginia and nearby Ohio counties. He established five rural outreach clinics where he taught both medical and pharmacy students. He conducted research in medication use in pregnancy and pharmacokinetics of drugs in pregnant women. This research has been published in 43 peer-reviewed journals.

Upon his retirement, Glover wrote, "From the Everyday to the Extraordinary: West Virginia Pharmacist's Stories," a book that captures and documents the varied and diverse lives and

experiences of pharmacists from the state of West Virginia.

"The book is a wonderful archive of how pharmacists from West Virginia have improved the lives of its citizens and the profession," said WVU School of Pharmacy Dean Bill Petros.

Glover earned Emeritus status in the School of Pharmacy, and the School has an endowed chair position named in his honor. ❖



#### HEATHER KNIGHT-TRENT

I learned a lot from Dr. Glover. His advice while we drove to the various clinics to help women in need was truly priceless and I will not forget.

#### JENNIFER ANNON ROBERTS

Dr. Glover was special, from the rural clinics he served to donating newspapers to the library for others to read! His clinical was one of my favorites.

## The WVU School of Pharmacy wishes to acknowledge our alumni who have recently passed away.

### 1950s

Louise F. Cunningham ('48)

### 1950s

M. Neil Lohr ('50)  
Franklin D. Smith ('50)  
Charles Kakos ('54)

### 1960s

Richard L. Hopkins ('61)  
Louis C. Palmer ('63)  
Fred Alvaro ('65)  
R. Thomas Knapp ('65)  
James I. Thomas ('69)

### 1970s

Rodney F. Pawich ('74)  
Lawrence D. Barlow ('77)

### 1980s

Roger L. Boothe ('81)

**Lucille Ann (Papa) Smith ('52)** passed away January 6, 2019. She worked in the hospital pharmacy at Ohio Valley Medical Center in Wheeling, West Virginia; St. John's Hospital and East Liverpool Hospital in Steubenville and East Liverpool, Ohio, respectively, and Weirton General Hospital and Weirton Medical Center in Weirton, West Virginia. Also, she worked as a retail pharmacist. Smith and her husband were co-owners of the original Medicine Shoppe in Florence, South Carolina. In more recent years, she worked at CareSouth Carolina Inc. in Hartsville, South Carolina, and for CVS throughout the PeeDee region of South Carolina and in the Myrtle Beach area. In addition, Smith served with distinction for two years on the South Carolina Silver-Haired Legislature representing the interests of senior citizens in the state.

**Dr. John E. Capito ('71)** passed away October 30, 2019. After graduating from the WVU School of Pharmacy, he practiced in the pharmacy industry for six years before pursuing a degree in medicine at Central Eastern University School of Medicine. He did his post-graduate work at UPMC Shadyside and St. Francis Medical Center in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He completed his residency in 1984 and returned to Weirton to join his father, Dr. Emil Capito, in medical practice. In 2012, 2013 and 2015, Dr. Capito was designated the "Best of the "Best" in the Readers' Choice selection of Best Family Physician and Best Internal Medicine Doctor in the Weirton-Steubenville newspapers. Dr. Capito was on the teaching staff of several universities, including the WVU School of Medicine, where he served as a clinical assistant professor. Capito maintained his license as a registered pharmacist and had APHA precertification as a diabetic educator.

# Shalom, Dr. Jacknowitz

BY DR. BETSY ELSWICK, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR AND ALUMNI COORDINATOR

**Dr. Art Jacknowitz was a beloved professor, mentor, advisor, friend, husband, brother, avid Mountaineer fan and so much more.**

For many of us, our relationship with Art, or “Dr. J,” as so many affectionately remember him, began with a story of slide projectors and handouts riddled with the pathophysiology and therapeutics of Alzheimer’s or GI diseases.

Perhaps you were lucky enough to receive one of his handwritten notes or letters he carefully crafted with the edge of his ruler. Maybe it was the sound of his footsteps and the subsequent knock at your office door, followed by the sight of a warm smile and an ever-graying beard. Art’s quick-witted humor could make you laugh aloud, and it was even better when he laughed with you.

Art rarely came to your office empty-handed. His arms were routinely full of photocopied newspaper clippings from the New York Times that he was sure you would enjoy (and we did). He kept copious amounts of notes and news clippings on numerous topics from pharmacy-related news to general interest items. Art was “in the know,” and in my role as

alumni coordinator, he was among the first people I would call for information about alumni or the School of Pharmacy.

It’s difficult to remember a time “B.A.”— before Art. Growing up as a child of two WVU School of Pharmacy alumni, I don’t recall a Homecoming tailgate or alumni dinner without his presence. A son of Brooklyn, New York, many people might wonder how Art became so well assimilated amongst the hills of West Virginia. But, after his funeral last spring, I felt as if I understood him more than ever before. It’s ironic how that happens sometimes. His brother’s stories of humor, love and baseball painted a picture of a young “Dr. J” that seemed almost impossible for me to imagine. During the funeral service, we laughed and shed tears for our friend. In the end, those of us who traveled to his final resting place had the honor of bidding him adieu under the comforting skies of a chilly West Virginia spring day.

As an alumna, I was asked to provide some reflection on Art’s life and his legacy to the School. In my opinion, he leaves behind a tradition of service and knowledge. To know Art and his wonderful bride Linda is to understand what the word “mitzvah” means in the clearest sense of the word. A commandment to provide acts of kindness and charity. As I think of Art, I think of his many acts of kindness to our students, alumni, faculty, staff, University and greater Morgantown community. Whether he was visiting the ailing husband of a School of Pharmacy alumna or hosting students at his home, he embraced the goodness of life, and he loved to share his goodwill with others.

He advocated not only for the pharmacy profession but also for the arts. Just as his first name would imply, he was a proud

docent of the WVU Art Museum, where he was always keen to share information about its newest installation. During a pharmacy alumni weekend dinner at the museum, Art proudly walked attendees through gallery after gallery, pausing to provide insight into works that may otherwise have gone unseen. In that sense, Art was doing what he loved best. He was bringing attention and knowledge to people about places and things that brought him joy, and he was conveying that joy and knowledge to those who were lucky enough to stand in his shadow.

Art was not afraid to ask tough or essential questions. I can still hear him asking faculty candidates during their job interviews,

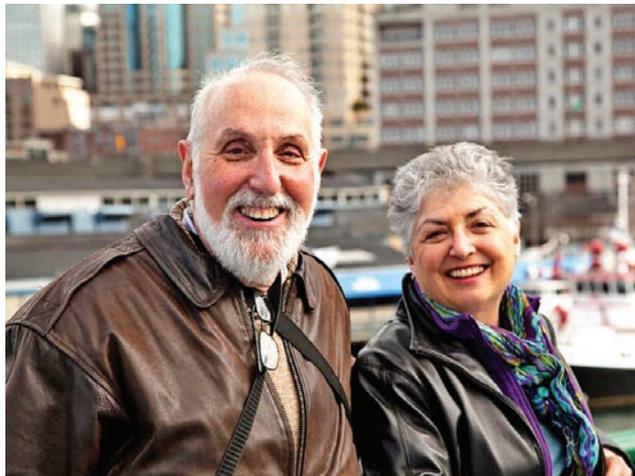
“What brought you to West Virginia?” and “What makes you the best person for the job?” He asked these questions because he cared more about them, and about all of us than their accomplishments on paper. Today, it’s rare to have colleagues who take such interest in us on a personal level. However, Art took an interest in all of us. All of the time.

During those times when you found yourself struggling, Art knew it before you even mentioned it. When my father was dying of cancer, most people would shy away from asking me about him — but not Art. He approached everything in life

with concern and compassion. During one of my last conversations with him, he said, “I wish I had more time.” I often think about what Art would want us to do with the time we have left. I believe that he’d tell us to live life fully and to savor every moment. I think he’d want us to take that vacation we’ve been putting off because of work or other excuses. I know he’d tell us to look out for one another in the good times and the bad. I believe he would ask us to remember what brought us to the hallways and corridors of the West Virginia University School of Pharmacy and not to give up on our dreams. After all, if a boy from Brooklyn can come to Morgantown and find his home among the hills, it’s on our shoulders to keep these West Virginia hills alive with Art’s memory and legacy. On game day, he would say to cheer loudly for the Mountaineers. So, in honor of Art, I give a resounding, “Let’s GO ...” 🦋

The School of Pharmacy held a memorial for Dr. Jacknowitz at the Health Sciences Center on June 7. To listen to the memorial in its entirety, scan the QR code with your smartphone or type the following link in to your browser

[bit.ly/jacknowitzmemorial](https://bit.ly/jacknowitzmemorial). In November, a generous donor created a scholarship in Dr. Jacknowitz’s name. The scholarship will be presented to a student who demonstrates leadership through mentorship to others. Please contact the School’s Director of Development Kevin Tephabock at [kevin.tephabock@hsc.wvu.edu](mailto:kevin.tephabock@hsc.wvu.edu) or call 304-293-7731 for more information.



▲ Art and Linda Jacknowitz.



# Future *Pharmacists*



Dominic Stephen Falci was born September 26, 2019, to Shannon (Bilyeu) Falci ('13) and her husband Nicholas.



Jayden Omari Hartgrove was born on May 27, 2019, to Bettina Hartgrove ('11) and her husband Rafael.



Michaela LaMothe was born on August 11, to Courtney (Morgan) LaMothe ('13) and her husband Shawn.



Brynlee Rose Massart was born February 21, 2019, to Cory and Chelsea (Smolko) Massart ('14).



Colton Lee True was born on October 5, 2018, to Danny and Amanda True ('10).



Ember Smith was born on June 23, 2019, to Cody and Barbara (Pritt) Smith ('03).

Calling all new moms, dads and grandparents! Have you recently had a little bundle of joy arrive at your home? The WVU School of Pharmacy wants to know!

Please send an e-mail with news about your baby or grandchild to Christa Currey at [christa.currey@hsc.wvu.edu](mailto:christa.currey@hsc.wvu.edu) to receive a "Future Pharmacist" baby shirt (shirt is only available in size 6 months). In exchange, we ask that you send a photo of your new "Future Pharmacist" to include in the next issue.





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**COMING SOON ...**



West Virginia University  
SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

**SKILLS DEVELOPMENT CENTER**

**See page 20 for details!**

*Be A Part ... Build a Part*