

WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF PHARMACY · WINTER 2025

SHOWGLOBE



Years of Pharmacy Education



IN THIS ISSUE

Meet the newest
School of Pharmacy
Hall of Fame Inductees

NIH funds groundbreaking
stroke research at
the School of Pharmacy

School of Pharmacy
program takes the lead
on new WV ADHD guidelines

A message **from the Dean**

Celebrating 110 Years of Pharmacy Education

Dear alumni and friends,

I have found that some of the most rewarding aspects of serving as dean of the School are experiencing the drive of our students, the impact of our alumni, the dedication of our faculty, and the generosity of our donors. All of these are well represented in this edition of Showglobe.

One of the highlights of this edition is a story surrounding our 110th-year celebration of pharmacy education at WVU. At this summer's annual alumni dinner, we inducted the first cohort since the inaugural group of distinguished alumni into our School of Pharmacy Hall of Fame.

The committee of alumni and faculty who selected these individuals had an extremely arduous task, given there were many others also deserving recognition (who will likely achieve such on the next round). The inspirational 27 who make up this cohort represent multiple areas of professional excellence and exemplify how the School's alumni have influenced the evolution of what a pharmacy education can inspire as they have excelled in health systems, pharmacy chains, professional organizations, the federal government, the advancement of science and, of course, service to their communities.



On the cover:

110 years of pharmacy at WVU, from its beginnings in the basement of Woodburn Hall to its current home at the Health Sciences Center.

Living with a pharmacist who practices in an intensive care unit setting leads me to frequently reflect on how pharmacists are often the unsung heroes of healthcare. This occurs in many practice settings, often unbeknownst to patients, in areas such as preventing adverse patient outcomes, optimizing therapeutic choices, or making prescriptions more affordable to improve compliance. Lack of self- or others' recognition of pharmacists' impact can lead to burnout. When facing signs of such, it may be beneficial

to refer to one of my favorite quotes from the book "Wonder Drug." Trzeciak and Mazzaelli write, "The evidenced-based way to fulfillment isn't chasing passions or dreams. It's finding the greatest need you possibly can, then fulfilling that need in service to others."

Thanks for all you do for those you serve, lead and inspire.



William P. Petros,
B.S., PharmD, FCCP
Dean and Gates Wigner Endowed Chair

SHOWGLOBE

WINTER 2024-25

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Part of the WVU Cook-Hayman Pharmacy Museum's vintage show globe collection.



2014 and 2024 SoP Hall of Fame inductees gather in the Mountaineer Courtyard at the Erickson Alumni Center.

110 Years of Education & Service

SoP honors leaders past and present

As members of the School of Pharmacy honored 110 years of pharmacy education at West Virginia University this summer, it wasn't just an evening of celebration — it was a testament to the School's profound influence on the healthcare landscape. Nearly 200 alumni and friends gathered at the Erickson Alumni Center in Morgantown on June 1 to acknowledge milestones and the legacy of leadership and service that the School's graduates continue to embody.

The evening was a tapestry of activities highlighted by the 2024 Hall of Fame induction ceremony, where 27 alumni were honored for their significant contributions to the fields of clinical practice, research, academia, and the pharmaceutical industry. These individuals (along with those inducted

in 2014) represent less than 5% of the School's alumni base, underscoring their exceptional accomplishments and leadership.

"The inductees exemplify the spirit of innovation and service that has been at the heart of the WVU School of Pharmacy since its inception," said Dean William Petros. "Their work has transformed communities, advanced healthcare and inspired future generations of pharmacists."

This year's honorees, ranging from innovators in research to leaders in community pharmacy, have significantly impacted patient care and health systems worldwide. Among them are LeeAnne Miller, recognized for her excellence in health systems pharmacy; James Smith, a trailblazer in community pharmacy innovation; Carella Evans-Molina for her impactful biomedical research; and Timothy Whitten, for his leadership in the pharmaceutical industry.

The Hall of Fame, established in 2014, serves as a permanent reminder of the School's commitment to shaping leaders who not only excel in their professional endeavors but also contribute meaningfully



Dean William Petros presents James Smith with his Hall of Fame induction award.



2024 Hall of Fame inductee bios displayed at the Erickson Alumni Center.

to society. Since the inaugural induction, over 150 alumni have been honored, with their names displayed proudly at the School as a lasting tribute to their achievements.

This year's event also saw the presentation of special awards from the WVU School of Pharmacy Alumni Association, recognizing alumni and faculty for their remarkable contributions to the profession. Douglas Slain, past chair of the Clinical Pharmacy Department, was honored with the Outstanding Service, Non-Alumnus Award for his dedication to advancing clinical pharmacy education. Randel "Randy" Gum, former owner of The Prescription Shop in Bridgeport, West Virginia, received the Outstanding Community Service Award for his service to local healthcare. Ashleigh Barrickman, associate dean of admissions, earned the Outstanding Alumna of the Year Award for her leadership and commitment to shaping future pharmacists.

The anniversary celebration served as a powerful reminder of the School's longstanding role in preparing pharmacists to meet the evolving demands of healthcare. For 110 years, the WVU School of Pharmacy has been producing graduates who are not only leaders in their field but also agents of change in their communities.

As the School looks to the future, the legacy of its alumni continues to inspire, propelling the next generation of pharmacists to push boundaries, serve with compassion and lead with purpose.



Dr. Ginger Scott (center) receives recognition from Dr. Mary Stamatakis (left) and Dean William Petros (right) for her 30 years of service to the SoP.



2024 Hall of Fame inductee Joseph Filipek (left) talks with Larry Richardson (center) and Jeff Shoenherr (right) before the ceremony.



Classmates from 1983 (L-R) Dean William Petros, Darrel Morris, Phil Samples, Gregory Ianello, Patsy Lamp and Eric Evans.

Congratulations to Our 2024 Inductees



For achievement of service in pharmacy practice/healthcare at large:

Erik E. Abel (Class of 2006)
 Mary Ann (Schwarz) Bell (Class of 1965)
 Carroll Martin Clark (Class of 1952)
 Aaron Cumpston (Class of 2001)
 Robert M. Gill (Class of 1966)
 Drew Massey (Class of 2002)
 Jenna M. Merandi (Class of 2010)
 John E. Miller (Class of 1961)
 Karla M. Miller (Class of 2002)
 Wanda Kellison Rogers (Class of 1963)
 Joanna L. Stollings (Class of 2003)

For achievement of innovations in research:

Mayur M. Amonkar (Class of 1997)
 Neelam Azad (Class of 2007)
 Carmella Evans-Molina (Class of 1996)
 Xin Gao (Class of 2001)
 Khalid M. Kamal (Class of 2005)
 Stephen S. Leonard (Class of 2002)
 Jennifer Means Stephens (Class of 1990)

For outstanding leadership:

Joseph J. Filipek, Jr. (Class of 1979)
 Niesha L. Griffith (Class of 1989)
 Ben Lopez (Class of (Class of 2008)
 LeeAnn Miller (Class of 2002)
 Tami Rodriguez (Class of 2006)
 James F. Smith (Class of 1971)
 George S. Sokos (Class of 1994)
 Timothy Gibson Whitten (Class of 1980)
 Lisa W. Zannoni (Class of 1984)

What does being inducted into the SoP Hall of Fame mean to you?

WANDA ROGERS

Being inducted into the WVU Pharmacy Hall of Fame for my dedication to many years in home infusion is the highest honor one can receive. I am grateful to the School of Pharmacy for recognizing my contributions to the pharmacy profession. My successes could not have been achieved without the grounded education and guidance provided during my formative years at the WVU School of Pharmacy.

NEELAM AZAD

Induction into the 2024 WVU School of Pharmacy Hall of Fame is a profound honor that acknowledges the impact of my work in advancing the field and inspiring future leaders. It fills me with immense gratitude and reflection on the journey that brought me here — a tribute not only to my achievements but also to the mentors, colleagues and students who have played a pivotal role. I am deeply humbled and inspired to continue making meaningful contributions to healthcare.

TIMOTHY WHITTEN

WVU and the School of Pharmacy are part of my core history and life, so I'm incredibly grateful for the recognition and for the WVU education and direction that started me on a career journey that turned into a purpose-based career focused primarily on patients who have serious diseases such as cancer. The recognition gave me a jolt of energy that validated what I've been doing with the help and guidance of many others along the way and encouraged me to continue living a purpose-based career focused on others. Stay compassionate and stay kind.

JAMES SMITH

The strong clinical and management foundation I gained as a student at the West Virginia University School of Pharmacy enabled me to have a successful career as CEO of two different companies. That strong beginning and many experiences ultimately led to this humbling Hall of Fame recognition.

INSPIRED TO LEAD

A Student Pharmacist's Pursuit of Excellence

Professors often ignite a passion in students that guides them toward fulfilling careers. For third-year student pharmacist Maegan Casimir, that inspiration has translated into remarkable achievements, including her recent selection as one of only 28 students nationwide for the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) Aspiring Academics Program.

The program aims to inspire future educators by offering insights into academic pharmacy through mentorship, networking and collaborative projects. Casimir, a native of Falling Waters, West Virginia, will gain a deeper understanding of faculty roles, career pathways and professional expectations, supported by a dual mentorship structure. Her primary mentor will be Clinical Assistant Professor Heather Johnson, who encouraged Casimir to apply.

"When I was a student pharmacist, I participated in a similar program through AACP, so I knew Casimir would be a good candidate," Johnson said. "I know she will learn new information and make connections that will be invaluable in her career."

In addition to the Aspiring Academics Program, Casimir will contribute to a group project and present a poster at the AACP Annual Meeting in Chicago in 2025, collaborating with pharmacy students from across the country.

Casimir's dedication extends

Casimir's dedication extends far beyond the classroom. She was recently awarded the American Interprofessional Health Collaborative (AIHC) Individual Student Award, a national honor recognizing her commitment to interprofessional engagement within clinical, classroom and community settings.



far beyond the classroom. She was recently awarded the American Interprofessional Health Collaborative (AIHC) Individual Student Award, a national honor recognizing her commitment to interprofessional engagement within clinical, classroom and community settings. As a Medication History intern at WVU Hospitals, she applies her clinical skills to patient interactions. Her role as president of the Student Society of Health-System Pharmacy (SSHSP) allows her to advocate for health-system pharmacy and her work as historian for the Rho Chi Honor Society and Luzzi Lecture Chair for Phi Lambda Sigma highlights her dedication to professional growth.



Casimir's community service includes her position as reproductive health co-chair for the American Pharmacists Association – Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP), where she supports health education and as a Project MUSHROOM leader, fostering mentorship and outreach.

"The professors at the School of Pharmacy are always pushing us to grow and seize new opportunities," said Casimir. "Not only do they support me in the classroom, but also outside of it, and that is why I'm able to pursue these incredible experiences."

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT    

Highlights From the Year

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, Instagram and LinkedIn. Who knows, maybe you'll find that long-lost classmate you've been wondering about.

Here is the kind of content we share on social media:

- Alumni and School-sponsored events
- School of Pharmacy and WVU news
- Professional organization and industry-related news
- Student and alumni stories

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

Mountaineer rolls up buckskins for a cause

On October 2, WVU Mountaineer Mascot Branden Adkins rolled up his buckskins to get his flu shot, administered by WVU student pharmacist Hanna Jandrain. The event, sponsored by the American Pharmacists Association-Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP), is part of a more extensive campaign to raise



Dressed in his signature buckskins, WVU Mountaineer Mascot Branden Adkins set a powerful example for Mountaineers everywhere as he received his flu shot from student pharmacist Hanna Jandrain.

awareness about the importance of flu vaccinations and encourage the WVU community to protect themselves this flu season. Leading by example, Adkins and the student pharmacists are spreading the message: Protect yourself and others – get your flu shot today!

Next-gen pharmacy

The West Virginia University School of Pharmacy welcomed 64 new students during a ceremony at the WVU Health Sciences Center on August 17. First-year students tried on their white coats for the first time in public. Loved ones, faculty, staff, alumni, student pharmacists and friends of the School donated the coats and left notes of encouragement in the pockets as a personal touch. The Class of 2028 comprises 31 students from West Virginia, 32 from Delaware, Maryland, Massachusetts, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Virginia collectively and one international student from Iraq. Nineteen students already have bachelor's degrees, and one has a master's degree. A number of those degrees came with cum laude, magna cum laude, or summa cum laude Latin Honors designations. Alumni Association President Lisa Pitrolo (PharmD, '06) welcomed the students –

The Class of 2028 group photo in the Pylons Lobby of the Health Sciences Center.





Top: WVU APHA-ASP hosts a School-wide Oktober-Phest social at Short Story Brewing in Morgantown. **Bottom:** Dr. Tami Rodriguez discusses the critical role pharmacists play within the U.S. Public Health Service during American Pharmacists Month.

reflecting on her time at the School, the lifelong friendships she forged, her mentors and the necessary tools she acquired for a fulfilling career. She encouraged students to connect and network with fellow alumni.

WVU's pharmaceutical fraternity earns two national awards

Members of Beta Eta, the WVU School of Pharmacy's chapter of Kappa Psi Pharmaceutical Fraternity, earned two national awards at the Grand Council Convention in Cleveland, Ohio, in July. They received the Pinnacle Award for Outstanding Chapter and the Innovation in New Member Enrollment Award. Kappa Psi has 10 collegiate chapters, 76 graduate chapters and 70k+ members worldwide. It is the largest professional pharmaceutical fraternity in the world.

Celebrating 20 years of American Pharmacists Month

October is American Pharmacists Month, a time to celebrate pharmacists' invaluable contributions to healthcare. The WVU School of Pharmacy and WVU ASHP-ASP marked the occasion with a kick-off brunch, group photo, and an OktoberPhest mixer. Dr. Tami Rodriguez (PharmD, '06), Director of Pharmacy Programs for the Federal Bureau of Prisons, returned to campus for Dean's Hour to share her presentation, "Pharmacy, Justice, and the U.S. Public Health Service: My Career Journey." She told student pharmacists what a U.S. public health pharmacist does and discussed career and student opportunities during her talk. This year marks the 20th anniversary of American Pharmacists Month.

SoP Introduces Dual PharmD-MHA Program to Shape Future Health Leaders

In response to the growing demand for healthcare professionals who can bridge clinical expertise with administrative leadership, the WVU Schools of Pharmacy and Public Health are collaborating to offer a new Dual PharmD-Master of Health Administration (MHA) program.

The first cohort of students entered the program this fall. They have the unique opportunity to graduate with two degrees within the traditional four-year PharmD timeline, positioning them as well-rounded professionals ready to lead in various healthcare settings.

By combining the clinical expertise of a PharmD with the strategic insight of an MHA, graduates of the dual-degree program will be equipped to enhance patient care, streamline healthcare operations, and contribute to policy development, with career opportunities spanning hospital administration, health system management, healthcare consulting, and independent pharmacy ownership.

To be eligible, students must have a minimum GPA of 3.2, be enrolled in the WVU PharmD program, and complete one year of full-time PharmD coursework.

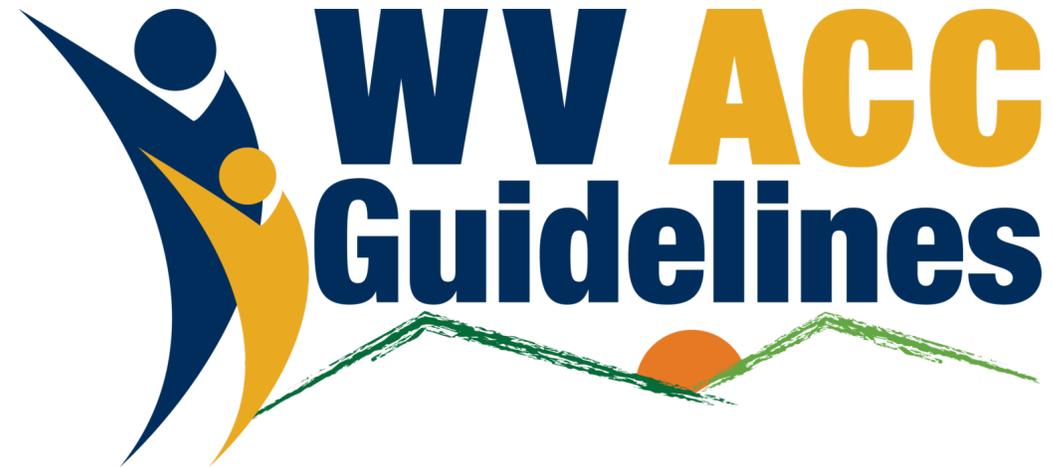
The MHA component is online and asynchronous. Students complete 23 credit hours between fall P2 and spring P4 semesters, typically taking one or two classes per semester with their PharmD courses. Up to eight MHA credits count toward PharmD electives. Students can apply the summer before their fall semester.

Tackling ADHD in West Virginia: New Guidelines Aim to Improve Treatment

West Virginia reports higher-than-average rates of Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), 10% nationally vs. 14% in West Virginia, with certain counties showing an alarming pattern in stimulant prescriptions. While it's unclear whether these elevated rates reflect actual ADHD prevalence due to elevated risk factors in West Virginia (prenatal substance exposure, adverse childhood experiences, etc.) or an increase in off-label stimulant use, the risks of prescription stimulant misuse leave no room for complacency.

In response, the Rational Drug Therapy Program (RDTP) at the West Virginia University School of Pharmacy is spearheading an initiative to optimize ADHD diagnosis and treatment while carefully managing the risks tied to stimulant medications. RDTP Director Dr. Angela Wowczuk (PharmD '08) says the lack of comprehensive guidelines was challenging. "There wasn't one go-to resource that addressed the complexities of ADHD, including co-morbid conditions, evaluation and treatment, so we set out to create our own," said Dr. Wowczuk.

In collaboration with the West Virginia Department of Health and funding from Title V and the CDC, they assembled a multidisciplinary



iplinary panel of experts, including pediatricians, psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, and more to develop comprehensive ADHD guidelines, inclusive of consideration of co-existing/alternative diagnosis, thorough evaluation, evidence-based treatment and various risk reduction strategies for safer stimulant prescribing practices.

"We want to ensure that only patients who are accurately diagnosed with ADHD are prescribed stimulants and that clinicians follow proper protocols to monitor and reduce risks," said Program Coordinator Alesha Heil.

RDTP's program is unique because it addresses education and prevention. The team actively shares its guidelines, released in January 2024, with healthcare providers via clinical education or "Academic Detailing" at

offices throughout the state via a team of four pharmacists. They've also provided virtual sessions, live conferences and Continuing Education. Dr. Heil says the response so far has been positive.

"Physician assistants and nurse practitioners, who have only recently been allowed to prescribe ADHD medications, have been most receptive," said Dr. Heil. "Many of these healthcare professionals never expected to write prescriptions for stimulants and are eager to learn more."

Still, challenges remain, particularly in rural areas with limited resources. For example, experts recommend parent behavior management training for children under five, but not all communities can access this service. The RDTP team works to connect providers with available re-

sources and offers support wherever possible.

Drs. Wowczuk and Heil say this initiative is a nod to Jim Jefferies, former director of the Office of Maternal Child and Family Health. "Jim, who recently retired, was instrumental in bringing attention to county stimulant prescribing trends," said Dr. Heil. He wanted to ensure children with ADHD symptoms are being properly evaluated and not just prescribed stimulant medications.

Since 1995, RDTP has been dedicated to safe, rational, cost-effective and patient outcome-oriented drug therapy. It is part of the School of Pharmacy's Department of Pharmaceutical Systems and Policy and is supported through contracts with various state entities. To learn more about the programs at RDTP, visit pharmacy.hsc.wvu.edu/rdtp/.

SoP Researchers Pioneer Stroke Therapies Inspired by Personal Loss, NIH Support

For two West Virginia University School of Pharmacy researchers, the loss of beloved grandparents to strokes inspired a shared purpose: to find better treatments and bring new hope to stroke patients. This personal motivation fuels their commitment to unravel the mysteries of stroke recovery.

Now, with funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), they are one step closer to their goal.

Stroke is one of the leading causes of death and disability worldwide. During a stroke, a blood clot blocks the brain's access to essential oxygen and glucose, damaging brain cells. While treatments exist to address clots, few solutions are available to help restore injured brain cells. This is where the research of Professors Werner Geldenhuys and Jason Huber comes in.

Dr. Huber has been an NIH-funded stroke researcher since 2008 and has helped push the field forward through his advocacy of using aged animals and clinically relevant approaches to model ischemic stroke in humans. For over a decade.

Dr. Geldenhuys has been exploring how mitoNEET, a protein that regulates energy use in cells, could serve as a therapeutic target for

metabolic-based diseases.

Building on this research, Drs. Huber and Geldenhuys began experimenting with a first-in-class compound called NL-1, a derivative of the antidiabetic drug pioglitazone by documenting its interactions with mitoNEET. They have found that it stabilizes energy use in nerve cells affected by stroke, resulting in less cell loss, reduced ischemic brain damage and improved functional outcomes.

This promising breakthrough earned Drs. Geldenhuys and Huber a five-year, \$3.25 million award from the NIH to further study mitoNEET's biology as a stroke therapeutic.

"If successful, mitoNEET-targeted therapies could redefine stroke care by administering treatment as soon as a suspected stroke patient arrives in the emergency room," said Dr. Geldenhuys. "This idea of early intervention could dramatically change patient outcomes."

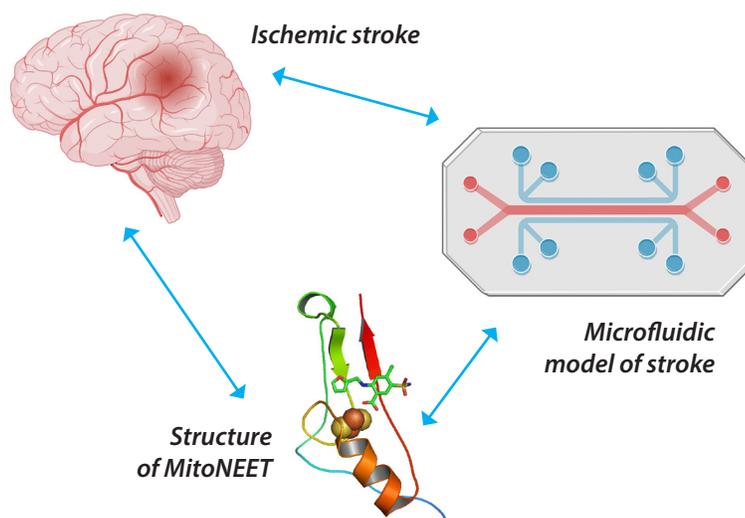
A highlight of this project is its interdisciplinary collaboration. The team works closely with Dr. Moriah Katt, an assistant professor in the Department of Chemical and Biomedical Engineering at the WVU Statler College of Engineering and

Mineral Resources, who brings expertise in microfluidic device technology to model stroke conditions in the lab. This partnership not only strengthens their research but also enhances WVU's reputation in neurological and pharmaceutical sciences.

"Stroke involves changes in blood flow within the

affects stroke recovery is complex, and the team is designing experiments with older animal models to capture the unique needs of elderly stroke patients.

"We are optimistic that as we deepen our understanding of mitoNEET, we'll eventually reach clinical trials with compounds that specifically target mito-



brain's complex network of blood vessels," said Dr. Katt. "By incorporating the cylindrical shape of blood vessels and simulating fluid flow in an artificial microfluidic vessel, we can create more accurate models of the human brain in stroke. This approach allows us to observe how mitoNEET biology changes in aged animal models and human cell-based stroke models."

Their progress has not come without challenges. Understanding how aging

chondrial function," said Dr. Huber. "Every insight we gain brings us closer to treatments that could improve recovery outcomes for countless stroke patients."

Drs. Geldenhuys and Huber hope to inspire the next generation of pharmacists at WVU. They see this research as an opportunity to push the boundaries of stroke care while demonstrating to current and future pharmacy students what's possible in neurological research.

NEW FACES AROUND CAMPUS

The West Virginia University School of Pharmacy recently welcomed three new faculty members. Two of these individuals are WVU School of Pharmacy alumni who bring a wealth of expertise and solid dedication to advancing pharmacy education and research to their alma mater.

Dr. Rachel L. Cruickshank



(PharmD, '22) is the new director of the West Virginia Poison Center (WVPC) and assistant professor in the School's department of clinical pharmacy. She succeeded Dr. Elizabeth Scharman, who retired this summer after 32 years. Dr. Cruickshank previously completed a fellowship at the WVPC, gaining invaluable experience under Dr. Scharman's guidance. Her background includes post-graduate residencies in acute and critical care pharmacy at the Charleston Area Medical Center. Dr. Cruickshank's goals as director include bolstering educational initiatives, increasing the center's social media presence, and building partnerships throughout West Virginia. She is also dedicated to upholding the center's strong focus on disaster preparedness. Established in 1979 on WVU's Charleston campus, the WVPC became a

Certified Regional Poison Center in 1986, one of only 55 nationwide. The center's team, including nurses, pharmacists and doctors, offers 24/7 assessment and emergency advice for exposures to medications, household substances, plants, insect bites and chemical incidents. It provides continuing education related to its mission for healthcare professionals statewide.



Dr. Taylor Christine Thompson

(PharmD, '22) joined the School as a clinical assistant professor in the Department of Clinical Pharmacy, with a secondary appointment in the WVU School of Medicine's Department of Family Medicine. She completed a post-graduate residency in ambulatory care at UPMC St. Margaret in Pittsburgh and a faculty development fellowship at the University of Pittsburgh and UPMC St. Margaret. Dr. Thompson is passionate

about interactive teaching, inter-professional education and expanding the role of clinical pharmacists in primary care.



Dr. Martha Abraham

Dr. Martha Abraham joined the School of Pharmacy as a clinical assistant professor, with a secondary appointment in the WVU School of Medicine's Department of Family Medicine. Before coming to WVU, Dr. Abraham served as an ambulatory clinical pharmacist at Rocking Horse Community Health Center in Springfield, Ohio, where she provided comprehensive medication management for a wide variety of patients with chronic conditions. In addition, she was an instructor of pharmacy practice at her alma mater, Cedarville University, in Cedarville, Ohio and a community pharmacy fellow at Cedar Care Village Pharmacy, also located in Cedarville.

Professors earn emeritus status

Five esteemed professors retired this summer, each earning the honorable title of Emeritus. These educators, who have collectively devoted 133 years of service to our institution, leave a legacy of excellence and commitment.

Dr. Gerald Higa

Professor of Clinical Pharmacy
35 Years of Service

Dr. Elizabeth Scharman

Professor of Clinical Pharmacy,
Executive Director,
West Virginia Poison Center
32 Years of Service

Dr. Virginia (Ginger) Scott

Professor of Pharmaceutical
Systems and Policy
30 Years of Service

Dr. Grazyna Szklarz

Associate Professor of
Pharmaceutical Sciences
26 Years of Service

Dr. Mary Euler

Professor of Clinical Pharmacy,
Associate Dean for Admissions
and Student Affairs
10 Years of Service

FACULTY AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Dr. Krista Capehart was named the inaugural Mary L. Euler Lifetime Leadership awardee by Phi Lambda Sigma.

Dr. Marina Galvez is the chair-elect for the Pharmacogenomics SIG for the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy. She earned the Biological Sciences Section Innovation in Teaching Award for integrating sciences and therapeutics in an escape room for cardiology courses, a collaboration with her WVU colleagues Dr. Ashleigh Barrickman and Dr. Ashlee McMillian.

Dr. Gretchen Garofoli's alma mater, the University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy, honored her with a Rising Star Award.

Dr. Khalid Kamal received the International Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research (ISPOR) Distinguished Service Award.

Dr. Kazuhiko Kido was honored with the Junior Investigator Award from the American College of Clinical Pharmacy Cardiology Practice and Research Networks and was inducted as a Fellow of the Heart Failure Society of America.

Dr. Sabina Nduaguba received the WVU Health Sciences Women in Science and Health (WISH) Award for the early-career category.

Dr. Angela Goodhart received the 2024 Arbogast Award from the WVU Department of Family Medicine for outstanding service and dedication to residency and the WVU Health Sciences Women in Science and Health (WISH) Award for the early-career category.

Dr. Elizabeth Scharman was honored by the American Board of Applied Toxicology with the Exceptional Service Award and received the Distinguished Mountaineer Award — the highest honor the governor can bestow upon a non-native West Virginian.



Dr. Capehart



Dr. Galvez



Dr. Garofoli



Dr. Kamal



Dr. Kido



Dr. Nduaguba



Dr. Goodhart



Dr. Scharman

2024-25 SoP Student Scholarships and Awards

The Anido Family Pharmacy Scholarship

Tyler Trayter

The Nancy Teeman Anido Memorial Scholarship

Amy Hughes

The Louis A. Barker PhD APPE Rural Rotation Scholarship

Madison Richard

The Bernabei Independent Pharmacy Scholarship

Connor Combs

The Thomas L. and Mary M. Biery Scholarship

Cody Pasden

The Honorable Larry Border Memorial Scholarship

Samantha Toler

The Thelma M. Boyers Trust School of Pharmacy Scholarships

Adam Bruner

Seth Stilgenbauer

Chase Wilson

The Tom and Ben Carson Pharmacy Scholarship

Paeton Hartmann

The Pat and Jim Chase Pharmacy Endowed Scholarship

Celine Blon

The Michael P. Clay Scholarship

Hannah Mace

The Clutter-Rhoades Scholarship

Rhianna Benton

The Roger S. Cole Memorial Pharmacy Scholarship

David Graebe

The D. Stephen Crawford Pharmacy Scholarship

Hailey Rose

The CVS Caremark Charitable Trust Scholarship

Rama Hammami

The Ann Dinardi Scholarship

Allison Dunn

The Exley Memorial Scholarship

Allyson Sudduth

The Fruth Family Scholarship

Cameron Miller

The Herbert Gottlieb Memorial Pharmacy Scholarship

Amelia Elias

Farhaan Syed

Hunter Whiteman

Dustin Workman

The Anthony S. and Mary D. Guido Family Scholarship

Hanna Jandrain

The Nona Fay and CM Hamlett Scholarship

Damon Greenwald

The Kent C. Hunter Pharmacy Scholarship

Rylee Laya

The Art Jacknowitz AMEN Award (Advise, Mentor, Empower, Nurture)

Sarah Long

The Arthur I. and Linda M. Jacknowitz Endowed Scholarship

Samuel Newcomer

The Ralph S. Johnson Scholarship

Justin Dombrosky

The Harold M. Johnston School of Pharmacy Scholarships

Madison Maynard

Fareeha Syed

The Steven C. Judy Memorial Scholarships

Tyler Frashure

Kaitlyn Hoover

Mary Taylor

The Justice-Lindstrom Pharmacy Compounding Award

Justin Dombrosky

The Leading Change in Pharmacy Scholarship

Leah Dykstra

The Dr. Carl J. Malanga Pharmacy Endowed Scholarship

Justin Dombrosky

The James A. Mauro Family Memorial Scholarship

Rylee Laya

The Kline McMann Family Pharmacy Scholarship

Jiyun Lim

Merck Awards

Justin Dombrosky

Maegan Casimir

The Miller Advocacy Scholarship

Anna Lumadue

The Rebecca Smith Monti Memorial Pharmacy Scholarship

Samantha Toler

The Ohio/Marshall County Pharmacists Association Scholarship

Cody Pasden

Governor Okey L. Patten Health Sciences Loyalty Permanent Endowment Scholarships

Tyler Frashure

Keana McManus

The Mary Ann Pavlick and Helen Pavlech Scholarship

Olivia Lackovic

The Karen and William Petros Endowed Pharmacy Scholarship

Keana McManus

The Romeo and Elizabeth M. Rega Memorial Scholarship

Hunter Whiteman

2024-25 SoP Student Scholarships and Awards

The Rite Aid James Kyle Harman Memorial Scholarships

Jack Barnett
Aaliyah Echard-Moorey
Megan Mann
Farrah Sturges

The Edward W. Rockis Memorial Scholarship

Jonathan Prince

The Sidney A. and Gwen S. Rosenbluth Pharmacy Scholarship

Emma Sines

The Robert and Stephany Ruffolo School of Pharmacy Graduate Fellowship

Krystal Hughes

The Robert and Stephany Ruffolo School of Pharmacy Scholarships

Karel Abi Karam
Brianna Hinchee

The Harry D. Schiff Scholarship

Hunter Nash

The School of Pharmacy Annual Achievement Scholarships

Chrissa Balsley
Matthew Davis
Taryn Fantozzi
Virginia Granese
Valerie Jakubec-Malinsky
Madison Llewellyn
Michaela Mahan
Talbot Maruca
Ryan O'Leary
Alexandria Swafford
Julia Webb

Newly Established in 2024

The Brian E. Lawson Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Scholarship

Fatemeh Bazaei

The Charles D. Ponte Academic Clinical Pharmacy Scholarship

Samantha Toler

The Corleen Barker Patterson Endowed Pharmacy Scholarship

Sarah Long

The George W. Zundell Pharmacy Scholarship

Keana McManus

The Janet L. and Douglas P. Toth Pharmacy Scholarship

Jordan Terrizzi

The Norma DeMary Hammons Class of 1960 Pharmacy Scholarship

Joseph Lundquist

The Dr. S. Suresh Madhavan Award

Safalta Khadka

The School of Pharmacy Centennial Class Scholarship

Bradley Schoeller

The Jack H. Smith Family Pharmacy Scholarship

Madison Henderson

The James F. Smith Scholarships

Hannah Shrewsbury
Sina Samadi
Emily Seamans
Zachary Sheppard

The Gerald L. Sprowls Pharmacy Scholarship

Hunter Nash

The Robert E. Stitzel Graduate Student Awards

Bisha Misra
Saina Prabhu
Cullen Wolford

The Charles Stump Memorial and Marvin C. Wilson Community Service Award

Abigail Murray

The Terry Taylor and Ellen Burchett Taylor Pharmacy Scholarship

Jacqueline Rosiek

The Edward A. Toompas Memorial Scholarship

Cheyenne Taylor

The George A. and Lurania K. Topakas Pharmacy Scholarships

Maegan Casimir
Laurel Sanders

The Autumn Grace Trent Memorial Scholarship

Bailey Riddle

The U.S. Public Health Service Excellence in Public Health Pharmacy Award

Michelle Grose

The Irvin and Benita VanMeter Pharmacy Scholarship

Logan Howard

The Frank W. Vigneault Memorial Scholarships

Taylor Ekis
Jordan McMillen
Angelique Morante

The Walgreens Diversity and Inclusion Excellence Scholarship

Michaela Mahan

The Walgreens Multilingual Scholarship

Andrés Luna Beato

The West Virginia University Alumni Association Loyalty Permanent Endowment Scholarship

Hanna Jandrain

The WVU School of Pharmacy Alumni Association Leadership Scholarship

Jacqueline Rosiek

The Whitten Family Scholarships

Paige Lang
Bailey Riddle

The WVU School of Pharmacy Outstanding Graduate Student Awards

Ki Jin Jeun
Bishal Misra

DONOR PROFILE

Alumnus to Leave Legacy for Future Students

Michael Clay (BS Pharm, '77) recently committed a planned gift of \$200,000 in his will. In addition, previous donations made to his name-sake scholarship have provided financial support to ten School of Pharmacy students.

A native of Charles Town, West Virginia, Clay chose pharmacy after positive experiences with pharmacists during his high school job at Peoples Drug Store. Following graduating from WVU, he moved to the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area to continue his retail pharmacy career with CVS.

During his time with the company, Clay realized his passion for the customer service and scientific aspects of pharmacy. A former preceptor recommended



Michael Clay

he transition to hospital pharmacy at Inova Health System, where he worked until his retirement in 2020.

Clay attributes his successful career to financial support and

scholarships he received from WVU. Growing up with two siblings close in age, it was a financial challenge for his family to simultaneously support three children in college.

“I’ve received so many professional benefits from attending WVU. If I hadn’t gone to school there and discovered pharmacy, I wouldn’t be where I am today,” Clay said. “Since I gained so much, I felt the need to give back in gratitude. I know others may lack the same opportunities, and this gift will help make it possible for some.”

Clay’s gift was made through the WVU Foundation, the non-profit organization that receives and administers private donations on behalf of the University.

Gifts made through wills have a profound, lasting impact. They enable us to:

- Provide scholarships that make our first-class education accessible to deserving students.
- Invest in cutting-edge research to solve today’s most pressing health challenges.
- Build upon the WVU School of Pharmacy’s

110-year legacy of excellence.

To learn more about leaving a legacy gift, please contact Kevin Tephabock, Senior Director of Development for WVU Health Sciences, at kevin.tephabock@wvuf.org.

Thank you for considering this impactful way to support the WVU School of Pharmacy.

Supporting the next generation of pharmacists requires a community dedicated to creating opportunities and fostering excellence. In 2024, the School of Pharmacy saw a significant increase in alumni and donor support. Thank you.

8 New scholarships awarded

261 Gifts to the SoP on the WVU Day of Giving in the last three years

132 Total SoP-specific scholarships awarded

36 New living donors with formally planned gifts to the SoP

ALUMNI NEWS

SoP Homecoming traditions live on

More than 100 alumni, plus their families and friends, attended the School of Pharmacy Homecoming festivities this year. We had excellent weather and a nice turnout for our annual Homecoming Parade Watch at the Iron Horse Tavern on High Street and the football tailgate tent overlooking the Blue Lot at Milan Puskar Stadium. Who traveled the farthest this year? Judy Thompson (PharmD, '02) won the travel award having journeyed from Anchorage, Alaska.



Judy Thompson (right) with Betsy Elswick (PharmD, '01)

2024-25 Alumni Association Officers

President:

Lisa Pitrolo, '06

Secretary:

Susan Meredith, '67

Treasurer:

Scot Anderson, '68

Members at large:

Julie Austin and Abbi Blevins, '16

Student representatives:

Anna Lumadue and Michaela Mahan



2024-25 SoP Alumni Association President Lisa Pitrolo with her son.

A Message from the School of Pharmacy Alumni President

It is an honor to address you as the WVU School of Pharmacy Alumni Association president. Serving in this role has allowed me to connect with alumni of all ages and reflect on my exceptional education at WVU. Our network of over 3,500 graduates continues to significantly impact the pharmacy profession across various settings, including hospitals, community pharmacies, academia, managed care, public health, industry and leadership settings. I am proud of the accomplishments of our alumni and your dedication to the profession and patient care.

This year, we held our 110th Anniversary Celebration and Alumni Day. In addition to fantastic food, music and fellowship, we inducted 27 distinguished graduates into the WVU School of Pharmacy Hall of Fame. Our reunion classes were recognized, and awards for Outstanding Service (Alum and Non-Alum) and Outstanding Alumni of the Year were distributed. Five new emeritus faculty were honored. For those who attended the Alumni Day Dinner and Program, it was wonderful to recon-

nect and hear about all of your success. I look forward to seeing all of you next year at Alumni Day.

Fall is always a special time in Morgantown as we watch the leaves change to a beautiful array of colors and cheer on our Mountaineers. Country roads recently led many of you to your collegiate home for Homecoming. The weather was perfect for this event. It was great seeing so many alumni while enjoying top-notch hospitality at the School of Pharmacy tailgating tent.

Whether you graduated in 1924 or 2024, I encourage all of you to join our wonderful network as a member of the Alumni Association. With your membership and contributions, funding for student scholarships, homecoming activities and other alumni and student outreach is possible. Thank you for the opportunity to serve this esteemed group. I wish you and your families a happy and healthy holiday season. Take care, and Let's Go, Mountaineers!

Lisa Pitrolo
Class of 2006

ALUMNI UPDATES

1980s

Niesha Griffith ('89) is the executive director of cancer services for the Charleston Area Medical Center, Vandalia Health.

1990s

Sherri (Hughart) Faber ('93) is the president and founder of Pharmacy Consultants, Inc., DBA 340B Compliance Partners. She is moving back to West Virginia and expanding her company.

2000s

Dr. Mark Cordle II ('21) is a pharmacist at Alaska Native Medical Center in Anchorage, Alaska.

Dr. Elaine (Perkins) Cruise ('03) is a pharmacist at St. Mary's Medical Center in Huntington, West Virginia.

Dr. Ian Gladwell ('18) is the owner and PIC of Cornerstone Family Pharmacy in Richwood, West Virginia. He and his wife welcomed their daughter,

Ella Grace Gladwell, in July 2024.

Dr. Maressa (Cunningham) Hedger ('10) is a senior clinical account executive at Cigna.

Dr. Lindsay Hoke-Dolan ('22) is a primary care clinical pharmacy practitioner at the Gainesville VA Health System in Gainesville, Florida. She and her husband, Dr. Nicholas Dolan, were married in 2022.

Dr. Rachel Jenkins ('17) is a staff and consulting pharmacist at the PharmCare Network. She is trained in various pharmacy services, including institutional, infusion and long-term care consulting services.

Dr. Taylor Maynard ('24) is a pharmacy resident at Louis A. Johnson VA Medical Center in Clarksburg, West Virginia.

Dr. Stephanie (Arrington) Phillips ('12) is the director of pharmacy

authorization and revenue cycle services at Appalachian Regional Healthcare in Lexington, Kentucky.

Dr. Kristen Findley Sobata ('06) is a professor of pharmacy practice at Ohio Northern University. She received the 2024 Outstanding Faculty Award from the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists (ASCP).

Dr. Seneca Williams ('23) completed a PGY-1 acute care residency at the Charleston Area Medical Center in Charleston, West Virginia, after graduation. She is now a PGY-2 critical care pharmacy resident at Prisma Health Richland/University in Columbia South Carolina.

Dr. Angela (Pepe) Wowczuk ('07) is director of SoP's Rational Drug Therapy Program, which is supported through a contract with the West Virginia Bureau for Medical Services (WVBMS), and a service assistant professor at the SoP.

IN MEMORIAM

Honoring those alumni who passed away between January 2023 and October 31, 2024.

1930s

Edward Bennett
Thomas Tor
Dorothy Walker
Durward Funk
Elreane Iselin
John Myers
Edwin Craig

1940s

Rose Badzek-Stuck

1950s

Thomas Carson
Edward Fazenbaker
Thomas Traubert
Francis Judy
Robert Davis
Donald Douglas
Robert Festog
Thomas Gerkin
David Harman
Glenn Birkitt
Keith Wolford
John Buck

James Furbee
Ernest Gregg
Barbara Brown
Charles Snyder

1960s

Norma Hammons
J. Stephen Carter
Darrel Cullop
Paul Manzuk
Freddy Reese
Larry Webb
Luigi DeBoni

Charles Frasher
Barbara Camp

1970s

Paul Arthur
Robert Pedley
Don Pullin
John Carney
Jerry Johnston
Charles Marshall
Bonnie Holmes
Robert Hockenberry
Amadee Merbedone

Robert Yost
Byron Udy
William Reynolds
Darlene Capito
Margo Fotos

1980s

Thomas McCune
Tammy DeGraff

1990s

Everett Hartshorn
Michael Trimble

WVU School of Pharmacy Hall of Fame Inductees 2024

“Our 2024 Hall of Fame inductees exemplify the spirit of innovation and service that has been at the heart of the WVU School of Pharmacy since its inception. Their work has transformed communities, advanced healthcare and inspired future generations of pharmacists.” ~ Dean William Petros



Erik E. Abel



Mayur M. Amonkar



Neelam Azad



Mary Ann (Schwarz) Bell



Carroll Martin Clark



Aaron Cumpston



Carmella Evans-Molina



Joseph J. Filipek, Jr.



Xin Gao



Robert M. Gill



Niesha L. Griffith



Khalid M. Kamal



Stephen S. Leonard



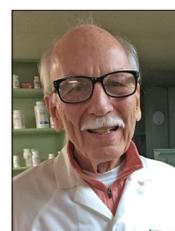
Ben Lopez



Drew Massey



Jenna M. Merandi



John E. Miller



Karla M. Miller



LeeAnn Miller



Tami Rodriguez



Wanda Kellison Rogers



James F. Smith



George S. Sokos



Jennifer Means Stephens



Joanna L. Stollings



Timothy Gibson Whitten



Lisa W. Zannoni

1142 HSC North
P.O. Box 9500
Morgantown, WV 26506-9500

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

pharmacy.hsc.wvu.edu

WVU is an EEO/Affirmative Action Employer – Minority/Female/Disability/Veteran. The WVU Board of Governors is the governing body of WVU. The Higher Education Policy Commission in West Virginia is responsible for developing, establishing and overseeing the implementation of a public policy agenda for the state's four-year colleges and universities. WVU is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission. Many WVU programs hold specialized accreditation.



Save the Date

*WVU School of Pharmacy
Alumni Day
May 31, 2025*

Morning

Engage in enriching continuing education sessions.

Evening

Join us for an all-years reunion dinner at the Erickson Alumni Center.

Reconnect, celebrate and learn with fellow alumni!

We'll honor milestone classes, including:

**1955, 1960, 1965, 1970,
1975, 1980, 1985, 1990,
1995, 2000, 2005, 2010,
2015 and 2020.**

Stay tuned for more details this spring! Follow us on Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn for updates!

