ADMINISTRATION

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July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010

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William D. Underwood, J.D.

Senior Vice President for Marketing Communications and Chief of Staff
Larry D. Brumley, M.A.

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Brian F. Dalton, M.A.

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Officers of the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010

Dean
Hewitt W. Matthews, Ph.D.

Senior Associate Dean
Candace W. Barnett, Ph.D.

Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Admissions
James W. Bartling, Pharm.D.

Assistant Dean for Administration
Lisa M. Lundquist, Pharm.D., BCPS

Senior Director for Finance and Administration
C.P.A.C. Reynolds, B.A.

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The ongoing national discourse on health care reminds us of the profound importance of a quality health care delivery system with skilled and able teams of health care providers. From physicians and physician assistants to pharmacists and nurses to physical therapists and public health professionals, an integrated health care delivery system has become the norm both in this country and abroad.

With three academic units charged with training outstanding health care providers, Mercer University has positioned itself as one of the state’s most valuable assets in the effort to address the pressing health care needs in Georgia, the United States and across the world. Indeed, our students are providing medical services both near and far, addressing the needs of communities stricken by acute health care despair. And they are doing exceedingly well.

The College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences is a leader in this effort. In fiscal year 2009-10, its faculty secured nearly $2 million in sponsored-research funding, exploring everything from cancer and diabetes to more efficient delivery methods for vaccines. The College’s students continue to earn national awards and recognition, and travel the world on medical missions. And last year, the College instituted a valuable addition to its offerings: the Doctor of Physical Therapy degree program, which has already earned national recognition.

So I congratulate Dean H.W. “Ted” Matthews, the faculty, staff and students of the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences for their commitment to excellence. The College continues to epitomize what’s great at Mercer University.

William D. Underwood
President, Mercer University
The 2009-2010 academic year was filled with new initiatives and exciting activities for the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. Our programs continue to excel and attract the brightest faculty and students.

Most recently, we added physical therapy to our catalog of health science programs. In September 2009, we committed to establishing a doctor of physical therapy program for a class matriculating in August 2010. The Physical Therapy Residency Program in Orthopaedics was started and is one of only three in the Southeast. The addition of this program will broaden our reach into the health sciences and offer opportunity for more interprofessional education to our students, which is one of our major goals. The College implemented a Clinical Scientist Track for Pharm.D./Ph.D. students with a specialization in experimental pharmacotherapeutics. Also, we offered our first global medical missions program for 22 pharmacy students.

Our faculty and students have raised the bar through their outstanding achievements and recognitions. Pharmacy practice faculty had 20 pedagogical abstracts accepted for poster presentation at the annual meeting of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy. This is the highest number of all colleges of pharmacy in the nation. Dr. Ajay K. Banga, chair of the department of pharmaceutical sciences, was named the inaugural holder of the newly endowed T.P. Haines Endowed Chair in Transdermal Delivery Systems. Dr. Michael W. Jann, chair of the department of pharmacy practice, was elected as Secretary to the American College of Clinical Pharmacology.

Our students continue to reap the rewards of hard work and dedication with numerous awards. Representing our pharmacy program was Bobby Price as the national president of the Student National Pharmaceutical Association, while student Juan Lopez was installed as the national vice president of the same association. The COPHS Academy of Student Pharmacists chapter won the National Division “A” Chapter Achievement Award at the 2010 American Pharmacists Association annual meeting, and Soranarom “Belle” Kumsaitong was awarded the American Society of Hospital Pharmacists 2010 Student Leadership Award.

Our physician assistant students are making their mark with elections to positions in the Student Association of the American Academy of Physician Assistants (SAAAPA). PA Class of 2011 member Annise Williams-Narin was elected as SAAAPA Director of Diversity, and Lindsay Watters, Class of 2010, served as the SAAAPA Director of External Affairs. Lindsay also earned a coveted spot in the postgraduate surgical residency program for physician assistants at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland. These are remarkable achievements for a program less than five years old.

Also noteworthy is that three of our graduate students were awarded 2010 American Foundation for Pharmaceutical Education pre-doctoral fellowships, the largest concentration of fellows from one institution in the Southeast. Among private institutions, the concentration is the largest in the nation. Our students Delaram Moshkelani, Rebecca L. Neal and David Turner were among 59 fellowship recipients from across the nation.

Finally, this edition report marks the end of our traditional annual report. We will soon transition to a semi-annual publication. This will enable us to provide more current information on our activities.

Sincerely,

H. W. “Ted” Matthews
Dean and Vice President for the Health Sciences
MISSION STATEMENT

THE COLLEGE OF PHARMACY AND HEALTH SCIENCES OF MERCER UNIVERSITY SEEKS TO PREPARE ITS PROFESSIONAL AND POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS TO EFFECTIVELY CONTRIBUTE TO AND IMPROVE HEALTHCARE THROUGH EXCELLENCE IN PATIENT-CENTERED CARE AND RESEARCH.

To achieve this mission, the College pursues the following goals:

• Education that is effective, innovative and comprehensive.
• Foster an environment that is caring and responsive toward all constituents.
• Ensure quality of programs through continuous evaluation and improvement.
• Encourage diversity and adhere to the values of the University’s Judeo-Christian heritage while respecting the pluralistic values of our society.
• Provide an environment where students participate in active learning and develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills.
• Foster personal and professional growth and a commitment to lifelong learning.
• Support a highly qualified faculty in their pursuit of teaching, scholarly activity, and service in recognition that these activities are integral components of continuing professional growth.
• Conduct basic and applied research emphasizing scientific advancement, educational methods, and improving healthcare outcomes.
• Prepare graduates to assume leadership roles in their communities and profession.
• Provide postgraduate education including graduate programs, residencies, fellowships, and, certificate programs.
• Participate with other stakeholders in the development of new and improved practice models.
The Pharmacy Board of Visitors serves an advisory group to the Dean and is comprised of members of the pharmaceutical industry, hospital practice, pharmacy associations and the private pharmacy business community.

During the 2009-2010 semi-annual meetings, the Board discussed ways the College could gain a competitive edge in the recruitment of students; strategies to maintain and develop new institutional advanced pharmacy practice experiences (APPEs); ways the College could increase the demand among community pharmacy owners to sponsor community pharmacy residencies; strategies the College could use to strengthen/maintain and/or expand hospital training sites for students; and how the College can assist students in being selected for industry APPEs.

Using their input, Dean Matthews and faculty make decisions to improve the quality of education and experiences provided to students. The Board of Visitors provides invaluable services and is essential in providing input to the College regarding changes in the professional environment.

**BOARD OF VISITORS**

**2009 – 2010 Pharmacy Board of Visitors**

James R. Bracewell, Georgia Pharmacy Association
John J. Brennan, Ph.D., Abbott Laboratories
Anthony L. Compton, Pharm.D., The Medicines Company
Evan Demestihas, M.D., R.Ph., The Medical Affairs Company
Judy L. Gardner, Pharm.D., Northside Hospital
Herbert W. Hatton, R.Ph., Publix Pharmacy
Michael W. Howe, UCB. Inc.
Rondell Jaggers, Pharm.D., Grady Health System
Kenneth G. Jozefczyk, Memorial University Medical Center
Scott McAuley, M.S., R.Ph., DeKalb Medical Center
Valerie NeeSmith, Pharm.D., The Kroger Co.
Barry Patel, Pharm.D., Total Therapeutic Management, Inc.
Curtis L. Pickels, R.Ph., Lee & Pickels Drugs, Inc.
Brian Robinson, Pharm.D., Walgreens
Curtis Sell, McKesson
D. Steven Wilson, Pharm.D., Carter’s Pharmacy
ROBERT J. ANDERSON, Therapy, University of Indianapolis. 
JEANNETTE R. ANDERSON, Drug Information Residency, Mercer University. 

Biochemistry, University of Wisconsin; Ph.D., Pharmaceutical and Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences. B.S., Chemistry, Clark College. 

MARTIN J. D’BOUA, Co-Director of Center for Drug Delivery Research, Doctoral of Clinical Laboratory, Director of Graduate Program, and Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences. B.S., Pharmacy, University of Bombay; Pharm.D., Université de Paris; Board Certified Pharmaceutical Scientist. 

ROBERT J. ANDERSON, Professor Emeritus of Pharmacy Practice. B.S., Pharmacy, Temple University; M.D., Temple University; Board Certified Orthopedic Specialist. 

VANTHIDA HUANG, Biology, University of Massachusetts Amherst; Ph.D., Cell and Molecular Biology, New York University; Board Certified Pharmacotherapy Specialist. 

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VANTHIDA HUANG, Biology, University of Massachusetts Amherst; Ph.D., Cell and Molecular Biology, New York University; Board Certified Pharmacotherapy Specialist. 

JEANNETTE R. ANDERSON, Drug Information Residency, Mercer University. 

Biochemistry, University of Wisconsin; Ph.D., Pharmaceutical and Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences. B.S., Chemistry, Clark College.
**FACULTY ROSTER**

RAVI PALANIPPAN, Assistant Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences. B.S., Pharmacy, University of Madras, Madras, India; M.S., Pharmacy, Medical University, Madras, India; Ph.D., University of Madras, Madras, India; Postdoctoral Fellow, Morehouse School of Medicine.

SHALONDA D. PETTIS, Clinical Assistant Professor of Health Professions. B.S., Biology, Alabama State University; M.M.Sc., Physician Assistant, Emory University; Board Certified Physician Assistant.

J. GRADY STROM, JR., Vice Chair of the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Director of the Center for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning, and Associate Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences. B.S., Pharmacy, M.S., Pharmacology, University of Georgia; Ph.D., Pharmacology, University of Georgia.

CHALET TAN, Assistant Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences. B.S., Pharmacy, Shanghai Medical Center; Ph.D., Pharmacokinetics, University of Georgia; Postdoctoral Fellow, Cancer Biology, National Cancer Institute.

**RECOGNITIONS**

Ashish A. Advani
Appointment to Advocacy in Pharmacy Practice Task Force, American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy.

Appointment to the Georgia Society of Health-System Pharmacists Student and Academic Affairs Standing Committee.

Ajay K. Banga
Named inaugural holder of the T.P. Haines Endowed Chair in Transdermal Delivery Systems.

**FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS**

Chair, Session on Recent Advances in Drug and Gene Delivery, 7th Annual Conference of International Drug Discovery Science and Technology.

Co-Chair, Session I, First International Conference on Microneedles.

Associate Editor, Therapeutic Delivery.

Editorial Advisory Board Member: Biomedical Engineering – Applications, Basis and Communications; Critical Reviews in Pharmaceutical Research; Journal of Drug Targeting; Journal of Bioavailability; Journal of Drug Delivery Science & Technology; The Open Medical Devices Journal; Pharmaceutical Development & Technology; Recent Patents on Drug Delivery & Formulation; Transdermal Magazine.


John D. Bauer
Reviewer: Burger's Medicinal Chemistry, Drug Discovery and Development (Book); Medicinal Chemistry Research.

Joseph M. Donnelly
American Physical Therapy Association Expert Member Panel on Quality Measures.

House of Delegates Member, Orthopaedic Section, American Physical Therapy Association.

Martin J. D’Souza

Angela Dunaway
Inducted into the Pi Alpha National Honor Society for Physican Assistants.

Karla T. Foster
Awards Board of Certified Pharmacotherapy Specialist (BCPS) from the Board of Pharmaceutical Specialties.

Marsha N. Gilbreath
American Pharmacists Association Hybrid Reference Committee, 2009-2010.

American Pharmacists Association Policy Committee, 2009-2010.

Vanthida Huang
Chair, Elections Committee for the Society of Infectious Diseases Pharmacists, 2009-2010.

Chair-elect, Infectious Diseases PRN (Practice and Research Networks), American College of Clinical Pharmacy for 2009-2010.
FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS

Bobby Jacob
Georgia Pharmacy Foundation 2010 New Practitioner Leadership Selection.

Michael W. Jann
Elected Secretary of American College of Clinical Pharmacology, 2010-2012.

Patricia Kelly
Inducted into the Pi Alpha National Honor Society for Physican Assistants.

W. Klugh Kennedy
Fellow, American Society of Health-system Pharmacy.

Bradford W. Schwarz
Inducted into the Pi Alpha National Honor Society for Physician Assistants.

Angela O. Shogbon
Awarded Board of Certified Pharmacotherapy Specialist (BCPS) from the Board of Pharmaceutical Specialties. Appointed to the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists New Practitioners Forum Professional Practice Advisory Group for 2010-2011.

Joseph T. Dye
Evaluating outcomes of long-acting antipsychotics in a rural health care setting. Funded by Ortho-McNeil-Janssen. $120,600

Reene L. Hayslett
Characterization of GPR30 in female rat brain. Mercer University Seed Grant. $3,500

Vanitha Huang
Pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic evaluation of donepezim in critically ill trauma patients with sepsis at Grady

Christine Klein
2010 American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy Walmart Scholars Program Award.

Diane F. Matesic
2010 Award for Excellence in Research, Mercer College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences.

Hewitt W. Matthews
Appointment to Piedmont Hospital Board of Directors. Chair Emeritus, National Pharmaceutical Association Foundation.

Nicole L. Metzger
Appointed to the American Society for Health-System Pharmacists New Practitioners Forum Membership and Outreach Advisory Group for 2010-2011.

Nader H. Moniri
Chapter Reviewer: Biochemical Pharmacology; Journal of Medicinal Chemistry; Journal of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics.

Pamela M. Moye
American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy appointment to Nominations Committee of Teachers of Pharmacy Practice Section.

Michell B. Redding
Georgia Pharmacy Foundation 2010 New Practitioner Leadership Selection.

J. Grady Strom, Jr.
Reviewer: The Annals of Pharmacotherapy; Molecular Pharmaceutics.

Leslie F. Taylor
Board of Directors, Georgia Chapter Arthritis Foundation.

Hailing Zhang
Vice President, Sigma Xi - Mercer University.

GRANTS AND CONTRACTS

Ashish A. Advani
The role of picture-based patient education pamphlets for enhancement of patient comprehension of prescription medication information. Community Pharmacy Foundation. $6,000

Drug Information Residency. Alaven Pharmaceuticals, LLC. $50,678

Ajay K. Banga
Strategies to increase and measure dermal levels of Cosmeceuticals. Skin Medica Inc. $60,000

Enhancement strategies for delivery of Cosmeceuticals. Skin Medica Inc. $17,500

Martin J. D’Souza
Immunopotentiation of pneumococcal capsular polysaccharide vaccine using albumin and β-cyclodextrin encapsulation. Georgia Research Alliance. $100,000

Health System (Co-Investigator). Ortho-McNeil Pharmaceutical, Inc. $68,000


Michael W. Jann
A Pharmacokinetic Drug-Drug interaction Study of Verapamil XR (Efferon-XR) and Indinavir and Verapamil XR (Prinivil/Indinavir in Healthy Volunteers. Pfizer. $127,416

W. Klugh Kennedy
CNS IIS Trial: R66260/NAP4002. A rapid titration and initiation of paliperdone palmitate long acting injection. Johnson and Johnson (Janssen). $275,000

Annual Psychiatric Memorial-Health University Medical Center. Astra Zeneca. $2,500

Pre-Doctoral Fellowship. American Heart Association. $40,000

Memorial Health and Mercer University Medical School to MUMC Graduate Medical Education in behavioral medicine. $5,000 and $10,000

Christine M. Klein
Medication knowledge and adherence of older adults in a fall prevention program. Mercer University Seed Grant. $3,000

Lisa M. Lundquist
Medication knowledge and adherence of older adults in a fall prevention program. Mercer University Seed Grant. $3,000

GPR120 mediated ERK1/2 phosphorylation. Mercer University Seed Grant. $3,500

Pamela M. Moye
Quantiﬁ, a clinical documentation and ﬁnancial outcomes interface, for the therapeutic and economic value of faculty precepted 4th year students on APPE rotations at practice sites in metropolitan Atlanta. Pharmacy OneSource, Inc. $10,000

Phillip S. Owen
Hot Topics in the ICU: Sedation & Delirium Assessments and Therapies. Hospira Educational Grant. $6,102.

Stanley H. Pollock
Further evaluation of the potential anti-inﬂammatory activity of APAA-Oma PCAKX microparticles. Georgia Institute of Technology. $5,000

Michell B. Redding
Developing a Pediatric Medication Treatment Management Program. Community Pharmacy Foundation. $14,300

Gina J. Ryan
Achieving inpatient antiagulation initiatives and project destination: what it means for your future. Ortho-McNeil. $5,685

Chalet Tan
Controlled release micellar nanocarriers for cancer therapy. Mercer University Seed Grant. $3,500

Leslie F. Taylor
Medication knowledge and adherence of older adults in a fall prevention program. Mercer University Seed Grant. $3,000
A randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, crossover study, evaluating the effects of sustained release caffeine, immediate release caffeine, and placebo on vigilance and reaction time. Funded by Cognitive Research Corporation. $6,125

**FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS**

**A Phase I, Single-Dose, Randomized, Open-Label, Two-Period, Cross-Over, Fed and Fasted Pharmacokinetic Study of CX157 Modified Release Tablet, 175mg in Healthy Volunteers. CeReRx Biopharma, Inc. $90,510**

Changes in the pupillary light reflex in response to duloxetine. Eli Lilly and Co. $15,252

Changes in the pupillary light reflex in response to ingestion of immediate-release and extended-release caffeine formulations. The Beverage Institute for Health and Wellness, LLC. $21,216

Solvay/Mercer Fellowship in Clinical Drug Development. Solvay Pharmaceuticals. $63,350


**Ajay K. Banga**

John D. Bauer


**Candace W. Barnett**


**Synergism in survival to endotoxic shock in rats given microencapsulated CNI-1493 and antitense oligomers to NF-B. Journal of Microencapsulation. 2010; 27:372-376.**


**G. Ray Green**


**A methodology for quantitation and characterization of oligonucleotides in albumin microspheres. Analyst. 2009;134:1483-1489.**


**G. Ray Green**


**Hailing Zhang**

Evaluation of physiologically-based mathematical models to quantify food effects on bioavailability. American Foundation for Pharmaceutical Education Pre-Doctoral Fellowship. $6,000

Intestinal lymphatic transport of lopinavir by novel lipid-based formulation. Mercer University Seed Grant. $3,500

**PUBLICATIONS**

**Ashish A. Advani**


**MERCER UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF PHARMACY AND HEALTH SCIENCES**

MERCER UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF PHARMACY AND HEALTH SCIENCES July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010 | Annual Report | 19
Leisa L. Marshall

Hewitt W. Matthews

Nicole L. Metzger

Vanthida Huang

HIGHLIGHTS


Nader H. Moniri
Agonism with the omega-3 fatty acids alpha-linolenic acid and docosahexaenoic acid mediates phosphorylation of both the short and long isoforms of the human GPR120 receptor. Biochemical and Biophysical Research Communications. 2010; 396:1030-1035.


Nader H. Moniri
Agonism with the omega-3 fatty acids alpha-linolenic acid and docosahexaenoic acid mediates phosphorylation of both the short and long isoforms of the human GPR120 receptor. Biochemical and Biophysical Research Communications. 2010; 396:1030-1035.


J. Grady Strom

With the name change, the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences (COPHS) conducted a review of health sciences programs to add to the current program offerings. After an environmental scan and needs assessment were performed, the College and University leadership actively pursued the development of a physical therapy program. A new Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) Program was approved by the Mercer University Educational Policy Committee in September 2009. In a special meeting, the Mercer University Board of Trustees gave their approval as well for the development of the PT program followed by approval from the Graduate Council. The organization of the physical therapy program will be based on a comprehensive vision of education progression, from student to intern to resident and, finally, fellow.

Leslie Taylor, PT, Ph.D. joined the program as its director in September 2009, and was joined shortly after by Joseph Donnelly, PT, DHS, OCS, who was appointed Director of Post-Professional Education and to serve as the Interim Director of Clinical Education. Dean Ted Matthews, Dr. Taylor and Dr. Donnelly attended the Commission on the Accreditation of Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) New Program Workshop held at the headquarters of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA). Requirements for submitting an application for candidacy were reviewed and the team agreed to the application cycle that would require an application submission on December 1, 2009. This would maximize the likelihood on an inaugural class matriculating in August 2010.

The DPT program will span eight consecutive semesters and include three, 12-week clinical internships and will be the only DPT program in Georgia offered in an eight semester format. At its maximum capacity, the program will have three cohorts of 36 students, for a total of 108 students. In addition to having a post-professional program, an operational physical therapy clinic was planned to provide state-of-the-art physical therapy services on-site and support the educational and research agendas of the program.

The program will be housed on the Atlanta campus in new facilities, including a state-of-the-art human anatomy lab, two large clinical teaching laboratories, two research teaching/clinical labs (pediatrics and neuro/biomechanics), and a PT clinic, directed by a core faculty member.

In concert with Mercer’s strategic plan, and the mission of the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences to “prepare its professional and post-graduate students to effectively contribute to and improve healthcare through excellence in patient-centered care and research,” the physical therapy program will attract, retain, and graduate outstanding students who will become doctors of physical therapy. The faculty will consist of educators with established lines of clinical practice, service, and research. The program delivery will center on challenging and transformational learning experiences, incorporating community engagement and service learning into didactic and clinical education. The program shares Mercer’s desire for continued growth and improvement of its programs, through shared values of transparency and excellence and through its provision of innovative and cutting-edge post-professional offerings.

In June 2010, Jeannette Anderson, PT, DHS joined the DPT faculty as director of clinical education and clinical assistant professor. Two staff members, Tiffany Davenport and Maxine Caruth, were hired to assist with the implementation and support of the program.

Post-Professional Program

The post-professional arm of the physical therapy program is compatible with the COPHS mission of developing healthcare providers who are dedicated to clinical excellence, life-long learning, and social responsibility. The addition of a post-professional physical therapy program will further the reputation of the College as a center of excellence in the southeast and nation. Mercer University is the only academic institution in the state with a post-professional residency program in physical therapy.

The Residency in Orthopaedic Physical Therapy program was developed to support the APTA mission of establishing Orthopaedic Manual Physical Therapy residencies and continuing education opportunities for practicing clinicians. The mission of the 12-month, physical therapy post-professional Orthopaedic Manual Physical Therapy Residency is to further develop physical therapists who demonstrate advanced competencies and clinical skills in this specialty area of clinical practice, to assist their ability to develop as master clinicians, and to serve as consultants, preceptors, educators, and patient and professional advocates. An additional expectation of the residency is that the residents will have the skills necessary to sit for the Orthopaedic Clinical Specialist (OCS) examination administered by the American Board of Physical Therapy.

The post-professional non-degree program will be a center of excellence for advanced clinical training for licensed practitioners which will build upon the clinical education component for the entry level DPT program. Applicants will be attracted to the program because of the unique learning opportunities afforded them through the nationally-known faculty and partnerships with top clinicians in the area of orthopaedic manual physical therapy. The clinical mentors will consist of clinicians who are master clinicians in the specialty area of orthopaedic manual therapy. The expected outcome of the residency program is an advanced-practice clinician with knowledge and clinical reasoning skills which will lead to improved care and optimal outcomes for patients/clients with orthopaedic dysfunctions and movement impairments resulting in activity limitations or participation restrictions. The hallmark of the residency program centers on required clinical mentoring to achieve eligibility to sit for the Orthopaedic Certification Specialty Examination.
The inaugural class of 26 physician assistant (PA) students “stayed the course” through 28 months of rigorous didactic and clinical training culminating in their receipt of the master of medical science degree during the commencement exercise May 8, 2010. The evening prior to graduation, the PA program initiated its first formal Hooding Ceremony.

Several students and adjunct faculty received awards during the Ceremony. Quentin Farmer

As a result of the increasing class size and expanding programs, several faculty changes were strategically made during the year. Patricia Kelly was promoted to the position of Associate Program Director/Director of Curriculum; Sally Pigott to Clinical Coordinator; Jill Matlingly to Academic Coordinator, and Donna Crawford was hired as the new Associate Clinical Coordinator. An additional four faculty members are expected to be hired during the 2010-2011 academic year.

Several students and adjunct faculty received awards during the Ceremony. Shawn Pinto PA-C (Clinical Preceptor of the Year), Jeffery Green, Quentin Farmer, William Baumgarten, respectively were inducted into the Pi Alpha National Honor Society for Physician Assistants.

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The PA program is currently working on a collaborative agreement with the Piedmont Heart Institute to establish the first post-graduate residency program for physician assistants in cardiology. The PA cardiology residency program would include twelve months of didactic and clinical training emphasizing a multidisciplinary approach to patient care in a complex and evolving health care environment. Clinical rotations will include Nuclear/Echo-cardiology, Heart Failure/Transplant, Hospital Consult Service, Cardiac Critical Care, Cardiac Catheterization, Electrophysiology, and Cardiology Clinic.

Faculty notables for the year include the election of Bradford Schwarz to the American Academy of Physician Assistants (AAPA) House of Delegates as a Georgia representative. Patricia Kelly completed requirements to receive the Ph.D. degree in Educational Leadership and has been working with pharmacy practice faculty to establish several new inter-professional education (IPE) initiatives between the programs. Dr. Philip Brachman, Medical Director of the PA program, was awarded the 2009 Georgia Association of Physician Assistants Faculty Achievement Award.

Faculty in the PA program look to continue working closely with their colleagues in other COPHS departments to expand new pedagogical strategies and initiatives. It is the goal of the faculty to prioritize interdisciplinary training and service learning into the culture and thinking of the physician assistant program.

First year PA students are assigned to a practicing PA "mentor" for supervised patient encounters. Currently, there are over 50 mentors participating with plans to expand the mentor base to 100 practicing PAs. Preceptor availability increased from 70 practitioners to 120 providers at the end of the graduating class rotations. To acknowledge the commitment of the clinical preceptors, the first annual Preceptor Recognition Dinner was held in October 2009.

The students’ didactic knowledge is assessed utilizing the Physician Assistant Clinical Knowledge Rating and Assessment Tool (PACKRAT) Examination before they enter into the clinical phase of the program. The results are utilized to identify student weaknesses in topic areas and to provide a baseline assessment. Students also participate in a Summative Evaluation during the clinical phase after the eighth core rotation. A PACKRAT exam is again administered to assess students for improvement since the initial PACKRAT exam. In addition, ExamMaster specialty examinations, consisting of 150 question each, in Cardiology/Pulmonary, Neurology/Endocrinology/Dermatology/Pediatrics, Orthopedics/Rheumatology/Hematology and Oncology, and Gastroenterology/Genitourinary/ObGyn/Psych, are administered.

Students also participate in an Observed Structured Clinical Evaluation (OSCE), which includes eliciting a history, performing a physical examination, deciding which diagnostic tests to order, interpreting diagnostic results that are supplied to the student, developing an appropriate management plan and implementing the plan that includes ordering further diagnostic tests, referring the patient, writing prescriptions and performing treatment plan.

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Utilizing the results of the second PACKRAT, specialty examinations, procedural and diagnostic interpretation testing, student and program areas of weakness are identified. Students are instructed to utilize this information to assist them in focusing their study for the Physician Assistant National Certifying Exam (PANCE). If students receive an unsatisfactory mark for a procedural test, they are remediated during an end-of-rotation session or the two weeks of the capstone project.

Determining class weaknesses are addressed during review sessions. If a student is documented to be markedly deficient, the program reserves the right to place the student in an elective rotation of that specialty area. Since the Summative Evaluation has only utilized once since the inception of the program, there is currently no data to compare multiple years. In the future, the Summative Evaluation data can be utilized to establish benchmarks for student performance and determine the results of curricular changes that have been implemented.
During the 2009-2010 academic year, 21 APPE students and four IPPE students were placed in experiential rotations in the Drug Information Center. Peer review by Drs. Candace Barnett and Renee Hayeslett in Fall 2010 resulted in an overall rating of “effective” and in some areas “extremely effective” in other areas to provide a meaningful learning experience.

The Advanced Clinical Track (ACT) Program completed its second-year with nine fourth-year students. The ACT Program expanded participation to eight facilities with 11 fourth-year students. Student research projects from the ACT Program were presented at the annual American College of Clinical Pharmacy and American Society of Health-System Pharmacists midyear meetings.

A service project titled “Trends in Internet Technology in the Pharmacotherapy Curriculum” was completed by two fourth-year students. The project was presented at the 2010 American Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) annual meeting.

The DPP faculty had 16 grants funded and received a total of $1,034,724 in funding support along with postdoctoral residency program support totaling $202,529 for a total of $1,237,253. Fifteen of the faculty (65 percent) are board-certified or certified in their respective specialty areas.

ACT Program were presented at the annual American College of Clinical Pharmacy and American Society of Health-System Pharmacists midyear meetings.

The Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experiences added 40 new preceptors and 46 APPE offerings. Seventeen fourth-year students participated in international rotations in Australia, London, Jordan, Denmark, Manchester and Scotland. Two fourth-year students participated in the University global mission trip to Kenya. This was the first time COPHS students travelled with this group as a part of an APPE rotation. There were a total of 1,022 fourth-year rotations, including International and the Indian Health Service sites.

The Pharm.D./M.B.A. program had 36 students actively taking classes. Five students completed the program and were awarded the MBA degree. In the certificate program offerings, 34 students received training in Genathor Supply Chain Management, 14 students received certificates in Contemporary Compounding, 69 students in Community Practice Ownership, and seven students completed the certificate program in Diabetes. The department completed its initial Pharmacy Teaching Certificate Program where 22 of these were 22 students from several metro Atlanta hospitals and eight COPHS Ph.D. graduate students participated.

The Pharm.D./Ph.D. program in Experimental Pharmacotherapy was approved and key DPP faculty were providing elective courses (e.g. pharmacogenomics), laboratory and clinical research activities in the graduate program.

As a feedback mechanism, surveys are included with every written response. Of the five surveys returned, four indicated “consistently high quality” service; the remaining survey indicated “generally good” service. All survey respondents indicated the particular Drug Information response was answered appropriately and rated the quality as “good-excellent.”

Pharmacy Practice

Under the supervision of Dr. Christine Klein, 14 students participated in the Educational Medication Therapy Management (EMTM) program at assisted-care facilities. The COPHS also trained second-year students to administer immunizations according to the American Pharmacists Association National Certificate Program for Pharmacists. Immunization training became a required component of the POP PHA 474 course. Coordinated by Dr. Laurent Ashworth, a 24-hour IPPE capstone activity comprised of key components learned in prior POP courses was developed for P3 students. Dr. Michell Redding initiated a pediatric medication therapy management (MTM) program where third-year students reviewed patient charts and made therapeutic recommendations at the DeKalb Children’s Medical Services. A comprehensive Clinical Skills Practicum was held where each third-year student rotates through four different clinical skills demonstration stations (e.g., blood pressure monitoring).

The COPHS has approximately 400 active practice sites with 110 sites at hospital or health systems. Students completed 87 percent of their Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experiences in Georgia with the majority of the sites in metro Atlanta (68.6 percent). Fourth-year students were also assigned to other sites in Georgia (Columbus: 5, Macon: 9, and Savannah: 9) for the entire 2009-2010 academic year.

Dr. Michell Redding serves as director of the Community Residency Program, which received a two-year accreditation from American Society of Health-System Pharmacists. The Drug Information Center (DIC) hosted three Columbus Regional PGY1 residents to complete a Drug Information (DI) rotation, and three University Community Practice residents to complete a basic training and review of DI. A cooperative agreement with Alaven Pharmaceuticals, LLC was established to support a DI residency program.

In August 2009, the DIC partnered with “RX Truth Squad,” a subsidiary of the Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy, to include in the 58 presentations were 19 abstracts accepted for poster presentations at the 2010 AACP Annual Meeting. This is the highest number of pedagogy poster presentations produced by the department and the most number of pharmacy school or college in the nation at one annual meeting.

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Faculty produced 36 peer-reviewed publications and gave 58 scholarly presentations of which 32 were at international and national meetings. Faculty had nine posters accepted for presentations at the 2009 American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) annual meeting. NotABLE.
The mission of the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences (DPS) is to make scholarly contributions to the discipline of pharmaceutical sciences and related fields.

DPS had a fulfilling year with all faculty contributing to the three traditional areas of academic life - teaching, research and service. The department consists of 14 tenure-track faculty, 40 graduate students, one post-doctoral researcher, and three administrative staff people. John D. Bauer, the first graduate from the Pharm.D./Ph.D. Program of Mercer University College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, joined the faculty as an assistant professor. Dr. Bauer’s training has focused on the design, synthesis, and pharmacological evaluation of novel anti-inflammatory medicinal. He also has extensive experience accessing and culturing organisms, followed by the isolation, characterization, and pharmacological evaluation of their bioactive natural products.

Dr. Ray Green and Dr. Ravi Palaniappan were both promoted to the rank of associate professor. Dr. Palaniappan was named Director of the Research Vivarium and Dr. Renee Hayslett was appointed assistant director.

The search process for two additional faculty in the department began this year. This process will continue during the coming year and concentrate on identifying an individual with expertise in pharmacology. Faculty and graduate students had 28 original research and five review articles published in scholarly journals, and gave 43 presentations at regional, national, and international scientific meetings. Faculty continue to be very active in preparing and submitting proposals to funding agencies and organizations. During the year, department faculty received $450,315 in new funding for research programs from 12 newly funded grants and/or contracts. A number of organizations supported the research of the department, including the National Institutes of Health and the Diabetes Action Research and Education Foundation. Grants were received in

Pharmaceutical Education (AFPE). This is an outstanding accomplishment – to have three graduate students from one school receive AFPE awards.

Graduate students attended local, regional and national meetings, including the annual meetings of the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists and the Controlled Release Society. Students continue to be very active in the Graduate Research Association of Students of Pharmacy (GRASP) meeting held June 2010. This yearly meeting provides an opportunity for networking and sharing of research activities being conducted at other colleges of pharmacy.

Three students received awards at the GRASP meeting. The Best Podium Award was received by Vishal Sachdeva for his presentation titled “Novel Agarose Gel Release Model for High Throughput Screening of Formulations for Iontophoresis.” Prathap Shastri won second place for his poster, “Quantification and Characterization of Microencapsulated Polysaccharide Antigen for Pneumonia Vaccine,” and the third place award was given to Haripriya Kalluri for the poster titled “Pore Closure as a Function of Time: Calcein Flux Studies.” Dr. Ajay Banga serves as the advisor for Vishal Sachdeva and Haripriya Kalluri. Prathap Shastri’s project was developed with his advisor, Dr. Martin D’Souza.

Graduate Program

The department continues to produce pharmaceutical scientists through the Ph.D. Program and the Pharm.D./Ph.D. Dual Degree Program. Assessment of the program is ongoing to provide continuous quality improvement. During the 2009-2010 academic year, a total of 38 graduate students were enrolled in the Ph.D. Program with two additional students enrolled in the Pharm.D./Ph.D. Dual Degree Program. Four students completed the requirements of the Ph.D. Program and received their degree during the Commencement Ceremony on May 8, 2010. Along with the College, the department provides partial or full stipend support to graduate students during the year. Several students received funds from external sources. Rebecca N. Burns, Delaram Moshkelani and David C. Turner were awarded Pre-Doctoral Fellowships from the American Foundation for

2010 Ph.D. Graduates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Dissertation Title</th>
<th>Advisor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sahitya Katikaneni</td>
<td>Enabling Technologies for the Skin Transport</td>
<td>A.K. Banga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Satya Surya Shankar Lanke</td>
<td>Oral and Transdermal Delivery of Low Molecular Weight Heparin</td>
<td>J.G. Strom, Jr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guohua Li</td>
<td>Transdermal Delivery of Human IgG as a Model Macromolecule by Physical Enhancement Techniques</td>
<td>A.K. Banga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jyotana Paturi</td>
<td>Iontophoresis Mediated Topical Delivery of Dermatologically Relevant Small Molecules</td>
<td>A.K. Banga</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Office of Academic Affairs was established to assess the academic program with a multiplicity of methods to gauge educational outcomes. The mission of the Office of Academic Affairs is to promote a dynamic, effective learning environment.

### Physician Assistant Program

Following the completion of the physician assistant program, all 26 graduates sat for the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA) licensure examination. The first-time pass rate for the inaugural class was 92 percent. One student, Quentin Farmer, was distinguished by the NCCPA for placing in the top 2 percent of examinees in the nation.

**2010 PA Graduates Career Choices**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Career Choice</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Medicine</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surgery</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orthopedics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cardiology</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internal Medicine</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical Care</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Practice</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infectious Disease</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupational Health</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radiology</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residency</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rheumatology</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women's Health</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total: 26

The curriculum begins in January of each year with a new class of students. Faculty were evaluated in the nation.

**PA Student Evaluations of Teaching**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty Evaluation Topic</th>
<th>Averages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Good Organization of Lecture Material</td>
<td>4.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knowledge about Subject Matter</td>
<td>4.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awareness of Class Comprehension of Material</td>
<td>4.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good Overall Effectiveness</td>
<td>4.75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Based on a 5.0 Likert scale

An accreditation team from the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistants, Inc. (ARC-PA) will conduct a Continuing Accreditation site visit on July 8-9, 2010. The ARC-PA will review the application for continuing accreditation, along with other evaluations, during its September 2010 meeting. COPHS should be notified of its decision shortly thereafter.

### Doctor of Pharmacy Program

First-time candidates, who took the 2010 Multistate Pharmacy Jurisprudence Examination (MPJE) between May and August, included 176 Doctor of Pharmacy graduates. The passing rate for COPHS Pharm.D. graduates was 94.9 percent. For the testing period of May through August 2010, first-time candidates who took the North American Pharmacists Licensure Examination (NAPLEX) included 131 graduates. Our school passing rate was 92.4 percent.

For the seventh consecutive year, the College administered computer-based, cumulative knowledge exams at the conclusion of the first, second and third professional years of the Doctor of Pharmacy program. Progression to the next professional year requires completion of year-end examination requirements. Students who fail the examination have an opportunity to retake it. Students who failed the second attempt addressed deficiencies through written portfolio entries. The first-time pass rates were 100 percent for first professional year students, 99 percent for second-year students, and 97 percent for third-year students.

Scores from student evaluations of teaching in the Doctor of Pharmacy curriculum continued to receive high marks. For all areas evaluated, school-wide ratings were between 4 (more than adequate) and 5 (excellent). Items that were consistently rated among the highest in both Fall and Spring semesters included knowledge of the instructor in the content area(s), willingness of instructor to discuss content areas outside of class, instructor’s concern about the students’ comprehension of the content area(s), organization of the content areas, and overall teaching ability of the instructor.

### Doctor of Physical Therapy Program

Upon approval from the Board of Trustees, Educational Policy Committee and Graduate Council, Dean Ted Matthews, Dr. Leslie Taylor and Dr. Joseph Donnelly attended the Commission on the Accreditation of Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) New Program Workshop. Drs. Taylor and Donnelly worked tirelessly to submit the application document by December 1. This maximized the likelihood of an inaugural class matriculating in August 2010.

After review by CAPTE, a site visit was conducted February 2010. The Commission awarded pre-accreditation status to the program on April 29, 2010. The next site visit, for full accreditation, will occur during spring semester of 2013.

Several new online courses were introduced during the year. Medical Ethics, Community Pharmacy Ownership, and two courses - Basic Management Principles and Basic Marketing Principles, which serve as pre-requisites for entering the Pharm.D./MBA program, are four electives now being offered entirely online for the Doctor of Pharmacy program. The format has the potential to foster interdisciplinary education by allowing students and faculty from other programs opportunity to participate.

### Academic Affairs

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An interdisciplinary online global health elective was developed by pharmacy and nursing faculty for inclusion in the course offerings of the Doctor of Pharmacy and nursing programs. Many additional courses within the Doctor of Pharmacy program have distance-learning components such as podcasted lectures and online chats to enhance learning.

The renovation of the two large classroom spaces, used primarily in the Doctor of Pharmacy program, was completed in Summer 2009, and resulted in an increase of seating capacity to 160 per room. Both rooms now have sufficient wireless Internet access points and table-top electrical outlets to accommodate the full seating capacity. Effective with the class entering in Fall 2009, all Doctor of Pharmacy students were required to have laptop computers. The computers have helped “green” the College by facilitating paperless classroom activities including test-taking.
For the coming year, journal club facilitation will continue and Learning Journal Club meets every other month. Colloquies were presented quarterly and the Teaching and Learning Development Grant Program (T&LDGP) recently changed to require at least three years of teaching experience. Quarterly Teaching and Learning Development Grant Program (T&LDGP) meetings are conducted. Additionally, CATAL continues to promote the T&LDGP and is investigating ways to help faculty better understand the program and what is required in a grant for pedagogical research.

There were no nominations received for the Distinguished Educator Award. The criteria were recently changed to require at least three years of teaching experience. Quarterly Teaching and Learning Colloquies were presented quarterly and the Teaching and Learning Journal Club meets every other month. For the coming year, journal club facilitation will become a required component of The Faculty College.

The Let’s Think About It! newsletter is published three times per year. Beginning with the Fall 2010 issue, the newsletter will resume quarterly publication. The teaching and learning initiatives with other colleges/schools on the Atlanta campus. The CATAL blog and a presence on Facebook® have been implemented to promote the services of CATAL to faculty. Time will be allowed to discuss CATAL services and programs during COPHS department meetings.

The Center for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning (CATAL) was established August 2001 to support and promote effective and innovative teaching that enhances learning at Mercer University College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. CATAL facilitates The Faculty College, a faculty development program, a requirement for new faculty. Results from the annual assessment and evaluation feedback are used to enhance and modify this program.

The CATAL plans to investigate ways to collaborate on teaching and learning initiatives with other colleges/schools on the Atlanta campus.

Center for Clinical Outcomes Research and Education

The mission for the Center for Clinical Outcomes Research and Education (CCORE) is to improve quality and outcomes in health care by providing pharmacy professionals the information and tools necessary to influence health care practice through research, education, and professional growth.

CCORE received its first major award, a $120,800 contract with Ortho-McNeill Janssen, to evaluate the outcomes of long-acting antipsychotics in rural health care setting. This project is being conducted with our strategic partner, Total Therapeutic Management, and has the unique features of collecting detailed chart-level data in a remote rural setting.

CCORE conducted a survey of managed care pharmacy and therapeutic committee members. As a result, an abstract titled, “Assessment of Factors Influencing Decision Making for Managed Care Formularies,” was accepted for presentation at the 2010 Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy Educational Conference. The center was represented on an expert panel examining adherence issues that resulted in a white paper produced by Pfizer titled, “Local Insights: Adherence Perspective in Georgia.”

CCORE was invited to participate in the joint Piedmont/Mercer Congestive Heart Failure Project to enhance patient outcomes after discharge from the hospital.

CCORE is involved in developing a number of exciting potential projects including an NIH proposal to study Nuisance Bleeding - Patient Decision-making and Practice Experience elective with a five-week rotation at the CCR. In addition, the CCR, in partnership with Solvay Pharmaceuticals, Inc., has recently completed the training of a clinical research fellow.

The CCR continues to recruit numerous industry-sponsored Phase I through III clinical trials, and several investigator initiated studies. Currently studies include investigations of drug-drug interactions, and the effect of various antidepressants on the pupillary reflex to determine central noradrenergic effects. The CCR is also participating in a global study investigating the effects of a novel treatment for patients with Alzheimer’s disease.

Center for Drug Delivery Research

The Center for Drug Delivery Research consists of six faculty with Dean Ted Matthews serving as advisor. Center faculty received new funding for research programs of $190,500 during the 2009-2010 academic year. A number of organizations supported the research of the department, including the Georgia Research Alliance, the American Foundation for Pharmaceutical Educational, Skin Medica, Inc., and Mercer University.

Center faculty and graduate students published 24 original peer-reviewed research papers and six review articles. Faculty also presented 36 research posters/presentations as well as three invited presentations and workshops. Three graduate students assigned to center faculty completed the requirements of the Ph.D. Program and received their degree during the 2010 commencement.

Center for Clinical Research (CCR)

The mission of the Center for Clinical Research (CCR) is to optimize health outcomes for the general population through performing high-quality, clinically relevant research of new drugs, dosage forms, and devices. Early last year, the CCR moved to a new 6,000+ square foot building adjacent to the Atlanta campus. Since moving, the CCR has successfully recruited several Phase I and Phase II clinical studies with funding over $600,000.

The center prepares students for careers in clinical research within the pharmaceutical industry or academia. Over the past year, four pharmacy students have chosen to fulfill their Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience elective with a five-week rotation at the CCR. In addition, the CCR, in partnership with Solvay Pharmaceuticals, Inc., has recently completed the training of a clinical research fellow.

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CENTERS

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Over 564 applicants applied for the 39 seats in the Physician Assistant (PA) class that entered January 2010. Eighty-six percent of the class members are female, the majority (67 percent) is from Georgia, and 15 percent represent minority populations. The average entering grade-point average was 3.42. Average Graduate Record Examination (GRE) combined score was 1128. The incoming students had an average of 1,464 hours of direct patient care experience before enrolling in the PA Program.

At the conclusion of the 2009-2010 academic year, the Physician Assistant program had 69 students enrolled in both the didactic and clinical phases of training. The PA program is on track to receive over 500 applications for the incoming class with an expected enrollment of 44 students in the spring semester of 2011 and will mark the first time that the program will have over 100 students enrolled concurrently.

Competition to obtain admission to the Doctor of Pharmacy degree program continues to be strong both at Mercer and nationally. For the August 2010 entering class, our applicant pool consisted of 1,821 applicants. The Doctor of Pharmacy Admissions Committee seeks and selects highly qualified students for the program. The Doctor of Pharmacy Class of 2014 enrolled with 148 students, an applicant-to-matriculant ratio of 12:1, an overall undergraduate grade-point average of 3.40, and an average PCAT composite percentile score of 75.

During the 2009-2010 academic year, the SSA had the pleasure of assisting the inaugural class of Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) students as they began their studies at Mercer. Seventy-four prospective students applied for the 28 seats in the DPT Class of 2013. Sixty-eight percent of the class members are female, the majority (93 percent) is from Georgia, and 32.1 percent represent minority populations. The average entering grade-point average was 3.20 and the average Graduate Record Examination (GRE) combined score was 1130.

The annual Honors Luncheon, held each October, recognized 217 pharmacy students for their academic success and leadership qualities. Over 235 guests attended, including students, faculty, administration, scholarship donors. Special award recipients, Brian Robinson and Walgreens, were recognized for their commitment to pharmacy education and for their dedication to the enhancement of the pharmacy profession.

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Student Recognitions

- Lindsay Watters, Physician Assistant (PA) Class of 2010, earned a coveted spot in the postgraduate surgical residency program for physician assistants at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland.
- PA Class of 2011 member Annisie Williams-Nairn was elected to serve as the Student Association of the American Academy of Physician Assistants (SAAAPA) Director of Diversity.
- Lindsay Watters served as the SAAAPA Director of External Affairs.
- PA students Quentin Farmer and Doug Eastham were commissioned into the Christian Medical and Dental Society.
- PA student Stephanie Opila was awarded the 2009 Georgia Association of Physician Assistants (GAPA) Student Achievement Award.
- Chhaya Gandhi, PA Class of 2010, was the recipient of the 2009 GAPA Student Scholarship Award.
- Stephanie Opila received the 2009 Georgia Association of Physician Assistants Student Achievement Award.
- Graduate students from the COPHS Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences had more American Foundation for Pharmaceutical Education (AFPE) awards than any private school in the nation and more than any public or private school in the Southeast.
- Third-year Pharm.D. students Melissa Denno and Destin Sampson were selected for a specialized summer internship program in health outcomes sponsored by the Foundation for Managed Care Pharmacy, the Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy and Allergan Inc. pharmaceutical company.
- Fourth-year pharmacy student Bobby Price served as President for the Student National Pharmaceutical Association (SNPhA).
- Juan Lopez, a third-year Pharm.D. student, was elected to serve as the National Vice President of the SNPhA for the 2010-2011 year.
- Second-year pharmacy student Shannon Proctor is a 2010 recipient of an AACP/Walmart Scholarship.
- Hillary Volstead, pharmacy Class of 2010, received a National Community Pharmacists Association (NCPA) presidential scholarship and was named NCPA Student Chapter Outstanding Member of the Year.
- The Gamma Psi Chapter of the Kappa Psi Pharmaceutical Fraternity earned the International Chapter of the Year Award for the 2009-2010 year as the #1 internationally ranked chapter. This is the second consecutive year that the Gamma Psi chapter has won this very prestigious and sought after award. The chapter was once again ranked the Most Outstanding Chapter in the Province.
- First-year pharmacy students Tamar Neumann and Denise Ross received scholarships to attend the Utah School of Alcohol and Drug Dependency.
- Second-year pharmacy student Brian Nelson was selected for an internship with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.
- PharmD. student Ashley Khan was selected for an internship with the Indian Health Service in Nebraska.
- Ph.D. student Shankar Lanke was accepted as a Joint Industry-Academia Post Doctoral Research Fellow. His first year will be at the University of Buffalo and the second year at Novartis.
- The CPHS American Pharmacists Association Academy of Student Pharmacists chapter won the National Division “A” Chapter Achievement Award at the 2010 APHA annual meeting.
- Second-year pharmacy student Soranarom “Belle” Kumsaitong was awarded the American Society of Hospital Pharmacists 2010 Student Achievement Award.
- Second-year pharmacy student Brandon Proctor is a 2010 recipient of an AACP/Walmart Scholarship.
- Second-year pharmacy student Drev Cortney was selected as a finalist for the 2010 Student Research Award and received the Pharm.D. Student/Resident Award at the College of Psychiatric & Neurologic Pharmacists Annual Meeting in April 2010.
The 2010 Mercer University College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences (COPHS) commencement marked the first time the Master of Medical Science degree was awarded for the physician assistant program. Twenty-six degrees were conferred to physician assistant students as well as 145 Doctor of Pharmacy students and four Doctor of Philosophy candidates.

For the second year, members of the COPHS Half Century Club participated in the processional and were recognized during the ceremony. Members from the Class of 1960 were Charles Burke, Jerry Green, Bob Grizzle, Don Hadden, and Ed Jenkins. This tradition began last year and has been well received and anticipated by upcoming Half Century Club members.

The featured speaker, Otis W. Brawley, M.D., Chief Medical Officer of The American Cancer Society, was awarded the honorary Doctor of Science degree by Mercer University President William D. Underwood. Dr. Brawley told the graduates to “always remember that it is an honor and a privilege to be asked by another human being to help them. There is tremendous challenge before you and I urge you to accept that challenge. Go forth and do good work.”

For the 2010 commencement, two pharmacy students were honored with the College’s highest scholastic honor, the Reuben C. Hood Award. Matt Duff and Vivian Yun-Thayer received the award for earning a perfect 4.0 grade-point average during their four years of pharmacy education.

Dr. Diane F. Matosic, associate professor of pharmaceutical sciences, received the Award for Excellence in Research. During the last three years, Dr. Matosic has received over $250,000 in research funding including a National Institutes of Health grant. She published five research abstracts and three research papers in prestigious peer reviewed journals. Under Dr. Matosic’s leadership, her graduate student received an award at the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientist National Biotechnology Conference.

COMMENCEMENT

Doctor of Pharmacy
Linsi E. Adams 15, Summa Cum Laude
Terry Michael Aldridge
Leena Amine†, Magna Cum Laude
Carrie L. Ashley
Jennifer Rhea Ausenbaugh
Justin D Austin
Allyson Marie Berg†5, Summa Cum Laude
Matthew Forbes Duff†5, Summa Cum Laude
Pierre-Alex Duivvier, Cum Laude
Justin Todd Eason
Ebony N. Ervin
Carolyn Ekawudsi Eze
David Michael Farino
Brannon Scott Flores†5, Summa Cum Laude
Raena Colleen Garcia

CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

Master of Medical Science
Christopher Wayne Allen
Erin Michele Baker†2
Sara Bakhtiarnejad
Kevin Franklin Bourquin
Ava Bianca Cooper

Doctor of Pharmacy
Linsi E. Adams 15, Summa Cum Laude
Terry Michael Aldridge
Leena Amine†, Magna Cum Laude
Carrie L. Ashley
Jennifer Rhea Ausenbaugh
Justin D Austin
Allyson Marie Berg†5, Summa Cum Laude
Matthew Forbes Duff†5, Summa Cum Laude
Pierre-Alex Duivvier, Cum Laude
Justin Todd Eason
Ebony N. Ervin
Carolyn Ekawudsi Eze
David Michael Farino
Brannon Scott Flores†5, Summa Cum Laude
Raena Colleen Garcia

Jasminder Singh Dev
Douglas Alan Eastham
Christina Khalil Eid
Vanessa Chentell Ekundayo
Quentin Boyles Faculty, III†
Chhaya J Gandhi
Jeffrey Lee Greene†
Lisa W. Hill
Jean Marie Matthew
Lindsay Perry McCracken†2
Stephanie L. Miller
Malatrice RaShaun Montgomery
Diane Nididamaik Ofili
Stephanie April Opila
Tejal Nanu Patel
William Bruce Rice†4
Heather Danielle Stover†4
Nancy Rockwell Tyler
Sara Lyn Waters
Lindsay Kathryn Watters
Timantha Dannelyelle Wilcox

Shacey Lynn Bishop, magna Cum Laude
Brian Gregory Blanar
Akosua Kumiwa Boateng†, magna Cum Laude
Randi Lynette Bridges†5, magna Cum Laude
Ginger Sanders Brown
Mary Katherine Brown, Cum Laude
Sarah Larae Brown†5, Cum Laude
Holly Elizabeth Cagle
Laverne A. Cameron
Melody Crystalle Castro, Cum Laude
Melissa Litchfield Cayce†5, magna Cum Laude
Omolola Cole†5, magna Cum Laude
Charles Cordaro
Honeylit Katje CuecoØ
Tejal Nanu Patel
William Bruce Rice†4
Heather Danielle Stover†4
Nancy Rockwell Tyler
Sara Lyn Waters
Lindsay Kathryn Watters
Timantha Dannelyelle Wilcox

Kevin Wayne Garrett
Andrea Rose Gauld†4, magna Cum Laude
Katherine Park Gillette
Ria Lynn Gober†5, magna Cum Laude
Eric Jeffrey Goldstein, Cum Laude
Brandi Fannon Gregg, Cum Laude
April Faith Griner
Asmerom Mosazghi Hagos
Lyndrick Lee Hamilton†5, magna Cum Laude
Johnathan Wyndell Hamrick†5
Chloe Rebecca Hanson
Jancie S. Hatcher†5, magna Cum Laude
Katherine Park Gillette
Megan Brock Jacobs†5, magna Cum Laude
Benjamin James Higley, Cum Laude
Pathick L. Holt
Chase Mahon Hyer
Megan Brock Jacobs†5, magna Cum Laude
Mark C. Jeris, Cum Laude
Anthony John
Jacob Allen Jolly
The Young Alumni Award recognizes the accomplishments and commitment of an alumnus who graduated within the past 10 years and contributed in a significant manner to the College and/or the Alumni Association. The 2010 Young Alumni Award was given to Josh Kinsey, Pharm.D. Dr. Kinsey is a 2005 graduate who opened an "old-fashion" pharmacy in his hometown of Cleveland, Georgia. He has been active with the Georgia Pharmacy Association (GPhA) since pharmacy school and is a recent graduate of the GPhA New Practitioner Leadership Conference. Dr. Kinsey was honored as the 2008 GPhA-AEP Pharmacist of the Year and serves on the GPhA Board of Directors and as the GPhA-AEP Chairman.

The Alumni Meritorious Service Award is presented to an alumnus of the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences who has served the profession of pharmacy and the Alumni Association in an outstanding manner. The 2010 recipient was Brian Robinson, Pharm.D. A 1993 doctor of pharmacy graduate, Dr. Robinson is currently employed with the Walgreens Company as a pharmacy supervisor for the Atlanta North district, where he is responsible for 38 pharmacy locations including retail sites, employer work pharmacies, and on-site clinical locations. He is the Walgreens Market Leader for Healthcare Integration for Atlanta and a key contact and liaison for COPHS. Dr. Robinson has supported the College in numerous ways including helping to secure funds for classroom renovations, support of our annual Pinning Ceremony and student scholarships. He is a valuable member of the COPHS Board of Visitors and the recipient of the 2010 Dean’s Award.

The Meritorious Service Award recognizes an individual who has contributed in some outstanding way to the enhancement of the College of Pharmacy. Evan Demestithas, M.D., R.Ph., a member of the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences Board of Visitors, has been instrumental in helping the College through his insight and advice to bring the real world of business into the world of pharmacy education. A 20-plus year veteran of the pharmaceutical industry, Dr. Demestithas is currently the CEO of The Medical Affairs Company, the pharmaceutical industry’s leading Contract Medical Organization (CMO). In 1997, he established Science Oriented Solutions, the industry’s first CMO.

The Carlton Henderson Award recognizes an individual who has contributed to the reputation and enhancement of the profession of pharmacy in the state of Georgia. Eddie Madden, R.Ph., is the founder of Madden's Pharmacy in Elberton, Georgia. Active in public service since 1976, he has served four consecutive terms on the Georgia State Senate. Mr. Madden went on to serve on the Georgia Board of Pharmacy for six years and recently served as president of the Georgia Pharmacy Association. In March 2009, he was awarded the Hubert H. Humphrey Award from the American Pharmacists Association.

The Alumni Highlights section of the report provides a detailed overview of the College’s achievements, including the Professional Curriculum Program (PCP), the PhD in Pharmacy, and the Continuing Education (CE) office. The CE office is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) and offers a variety of programs, including Certificate of Pharmaceutical Care, Contemporary Compounding, and Geriatric Pharmaceutical Care. The CE office also administers a scholarship program to support students.

The Golf Classic section describes the event, which was held on May 17, 2010, at Plantation Ridge Golf Club in Peachtree City, Georgia. The event was chaired by Tom Roberts, BPharm ’81, Regional Health and Wellness Director for Wal-Mart South Business Unit. Dean Ted Matthews expressed his gratitude to the participants as well as sponsors of the event. The groups enjoyed a day of fun and fellowship on the golf course followed by a dinner and prize presentations. First place was awarded to Team Pharmacist-sponsored team (Hutton Madden, Brannon Flores, Chase Hyer and Doug Wylie). Second place went to Walgreens, third place to Smith Drug Co., and fourth place to Publix Super Markets. During the 20-year history, the golf classic has raised more than $150,000 for scholarships and other programs at the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences.

The Pharmacy Continuing Education section highlights the programs offered by the CE office, including workshops on teaching techniques and academic setting. The one-year program was accredited by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) as a provider of continuing pharmacy education. The CE office is currently accredited through the term, June 2013. From July 2009 through June 2012, twelve ACPE-accredited programs were presented.

The Non-Traditional Doctor of Pharmacy Pathway Program, offered in conjunction with the University of Georgia, graduated its final class May 2010. The program provided pharmacists with a Bachelor of Science the opportunity to earn the Doctor of Pharmacy while continuing to practice pharmacy. The professional curriculum required the same competencies as established by ACPE for the traditional full-time Pharm.D. program. The program was administered by both universities via WebCT, compact disc, and Saturday seminars and testing. The final two students completed their course work Fall 2009.

This Office also issued certificates for Academic Pharmacy, Community Pharmacy Ownership and Management, Contemporary Compounding, Diabetes Pharmaceutical Care, and Geriatric Pharmaceutical Care. In July 2009, Mercer University COPHS Office of Continuing Education invited local-area residents and pharmacy graduate students to participate in the Pharmacy Teaching Certificate Program (PTCP). The primary goal of the PTCP is to develop, through practice, the participants’ skills required to function in an academic setting. The one-year program was a 30-hour continuing pharmacy education program in which the 30 participants attended workshops on teaching techniques, lectured to students, facilitated small-group activities, and precepted students. The first group of participants completed their program in June 2010.
The College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences is a leader in addressing the health care needs of Georgia and beyond.

Pharmacy faculty secured nearly $2 million in sponsored-research funding, exploring everything from cancer and diabetes to more efficient delivery methods for vaccines.

The inaugural class of 26 physician assistant students successfully completed the requirements to receive the master of medical science degree.
CONTRIBUTORS

Pharmacy practice faculty had 20 pedagogical abstracts accepted for poster presentation at the annual meeting of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy. This is the highest number of all colleges of pharmacy in the nation.

The College instituted a valuable addition to its offerings: the Doctor of Physical Therapy degree program, which has already earned national recognition.

The Physical Therapy Residency Program in Orthopaedics was started and is one of only three in the Southeast.
The College implemented a Clinical Scientist Track for Pharm.D./Ph.D. students with a specialization in experimental pharmacotherapeutics.

Our pharmacy and physician assistant students continue to reap the rewards of hard work and dedication with numerous awards and elections to national organization offices.
ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS

American Cyanamid ........................................ 11,000
Endowed Scholarship ........................................ 11,000
Eugene L. Argo Memorial ................................ 17,965
William A. Atkins, Sr. ....................................... 15,000
Buren L. Baldwin ............................................. 24,711
James W. Bartling ............................................ 27,177
J. Wayne Black .................................................. 10,001
James A. Bruno .................................................. 11,886
Shobhna D. Butler .............................................. 18,300
Charles A. Callaway ............................................ 5,709

ENDOWED FUNDS

Concord Pharmacy ............................................. 26,150
Loudelle Cooper ................................................ 20,668
Crescent Community Pharmacy ....................... 63,175
Patrick DeSouza .............................................. 12,478
G. Van and Minta J. Greene ............................. 266,230
Virginia and James Hall .................................. 480,357
Wilmot Harper ............................................... 25,003
Frank E. Hatton ............................................... 1,204
Harriet Jean Hatton ........................................... 72,735
Carlton Henderson ............................................. 85,892
Jolayne Woo Hirano .......................................... 45,826
K. Wayne and Patty Jones ................................ 14,799
Kaiser Permanent ............................................. 100,000
Kentucky Student .............................................. 41,625
Knoll Pharmaceutical ......................................... 5,000
Kroger Pharmacy ............................................... 30,000
Oliver Littlejohn .............................................. 22,122
A. Vincent Lopez .............................................. 44,539
Elton B. Mather ............................................... 5,017
Hevitt W. (Ted) Matthews ................................. 29,798
Gloria and Tony Moye ....................................... 23,217
H. Custer Naylor ............................................... 66,740
Naylor-Hawthorne .......................................... 30,000
Evelyn Payne Peacock ...................................... 46,480
Tom and Elizabeth Perkins .............................. 34,010

Three COPHS graduate students were awarded the 2010 American Foundation for Pharmaceutical Education pre-doctoral fellowships, the largest concentration of fellows from one institution in the Southeast. Among private institutions, the concentration is the largest in the nation.

CONTRIBUTORS

Lynn Woo
Lyndal Hunt
Haling Zhang+
Corporations/ Organizations/ Foundations

American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy
American Foundation for Pharmaceutical Education
Briarcliff Pharmacy
Canongate Golf Club
Cardinal Health Foundation, Inc.
Colonias Chiropractic Center, Inc.
Core Management Resources
CVS Charitable Trust

CVS/pharmacy
El Lilly & Company Foundation
Fred’s, Inc.
Gebauer Company
Georgia Association of Physician Assistants
Georgia Society of Health-System Pharmacists
Hospira, Inc.
Jacob Teitelbaum Family Foundation
Jim Cash Pharmacy, LLC
Kaiser Permanente
Louisville Pharmacy
McKesson Corporation
MedAssets Supply Chain Systems
The Medical Affairs Company
Moye’s Pharmacy, Inc.
National Association of Chain Drug Stores
Neuromuscular Training Center
Northside Drugs, Inc.
Ortho-McNeil Janssen
Penn Mutual Life Insurance Company
Pharmacists Mutual Companies
Publix Super Markets
Rexall Prescription Products
Rite Aid Corporation
Smith Drug Company
UCB, Inc.
Walgreen Company
Val-Mar Corporation

ENDOWED PROFESSORSHIPS

Kroger Co. Professorship in Community Pharmacy (Richard Jackson) .............. 368,719

ENDOWED CHAIRS

Hood-Meyer Alumni Chair (HW Matthews) ........................................ 308,106
Chair in Neuropsychopharmacology (Michael Jann) ..................................... 604,000
T.P. Haines Chair in Transdermal Delivery Systems (Ajay Banga) ............. 750,000

ENDOWED FUND AND LECTURESHIPS

John Campbell Endowed Fund ........................................ 199,513
G. Van Greene Distinguished Lectureship .............................................. 100,000
Oliver M. Littlejohn Endowed Fund ................................................. 35,591
M. David Upshaw .................................................. 94,253
Pharmacy Alumni ................................................. 252,928
Phar-Mor .......................................................... 7,500
Curts L. and Ola C. Pickels ........................................... 28,000
Donald Raines .................................................... 15,150
Joe D. Reger ....................................................... 24,255
S.S.S. Company .................................................. 25,000
Sharp-Edwards ..................................................... 16,810
David J. Simpson, Jr. Memorial ........................................... 53,400
Orin Skolnick ......................................................... 61,494
JM Smith Foundation ............................................... 32,000
Evelyn Thompson ................................................... 20,002
A. Leroy and Linda M. Toliver ........................................... 96,050

TOTAL: $5,906,920

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MERCUER UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF PHARMACY AND HEALTH SCIENCES
The accuracy of this report is important to us and we have made every effort to provide complete and accurate information. If we have made an error or omission, please accept our sincere apologies.