Operation Diabetes wins National Award

Congratulations to Operation Diabetes! The outreach project that has a 15 year history at ISU COP won first place nationally for their 2011 efforts from the American Pharmacists Association. The award was presented at their national meeting in New Orleans in March.

According to the report, in 2011, COP students screened over 900 patients for diabetes. Nearly 88 were referred to their primary care provider. Over 400,000 received education through public relations initiatives.

According to Dr. Kevin Cleveland, faculty coordinator of Operation Diabetes “It is the unique nature of the students outreach to rural areas that made this report stand out. The fact that we are a rural state makes it difficult for our students to travel to smaller communities. This made us utilize a few different mechanisms to identify underserved areas and target these specifically.”

Some of the health fairs took place in cities such as Bear Lake, Fort Hall, Aberdeen and Rockland. “Right now there is a big push to figure out how to best serve these underserved areas, said Cleveland “Because most health care providers do not want to live in a small area because of the low volume of people they would see and the great distances they have to travel – this can make it cost prohibitive for them to practice.”

continued...
Another reason to focus efforts to the most needed areas is that travel and materials are expenses that the students are responsible for. Fundraisers such as the annual Spaghetti Feed Raffle and Auction and private donations are the backbone of outreach efforts.

“Outreach services are offered for free and are paid for by the students through fundraising efforts and donations,” said Dean Paul Cady. “We are grateful for those that recognize the need and donate to these programs.”

The students do receive rewarding feedback from the patients as well. According to the report, “One Initiative participant reported that exercises he was taught have helped keep away leg pains he had been experiencing and another participant stated that it was the best diabetes self-care program he’s done. He especially commended us for the medication workshop, where he learned about generic equivalents to his diabetes medications and now saves $130 a month after discussing recommended changes with his physician.

The history of Operation Diabetes at ISU has been a collaborative effort that began as an elective class taught by Dr. Cindy Wilson. Students in the class became excited about offering health-screening services to the public and organized a health fair. Dr. Thomas Wadsworth, a professor for ISU was a student at the time and wrote and received a grant from the ACPE. It was the only grant given in the U.S. that year to organize a health fair.

Since then, the initiative to continue health screenings has continued. “It is a passion and a mission of faculty and students at this college to serve patients... to provide service and education to all the patients in the area who deal with diabetes.” Said Dr. Wilson.

The service given by College of Pharmacy students, according to the report “is best summed up by one diabetic participant of the 5K Fun Walk/Run for Diabetes, who stated sincerely, ‘I hope you guys know how important what you’re doing is,”

Dan Dean - Director of Development and Alumni Relations leaves for Minnesota

Dan Dean will be leaving the College of Pharmacy to move with his family to St. Peter Minnesota. His wife, Kathy Lund Dean, a professor of business management at ISU has accepted an endowed position at Gustavus Adolphus College as Chair of Leadership and Ethics. Dan will stay home with his two sons Harry who’s 10 and Cooper who’s 8 years old.

Dan has been with the College for 6 years and has worked with Dean Steiner and most recently with Dean Cady. “It has been an honor to work with Joe and Paul and getting to know so many exceptional alumni of the College of Pharmacy,” said Dan. “I would like to give a special thanks to Kathleen Lehman who helped plan over 70 events and coordinate my travel for over 1300 alumni visits,” said Dan.

“Dan has been an incredible development officer for the College,” said Dean Cady “He was able to organize all of our publications, development and alumni relations into one effort. His insight into what is important to the alumni of the College of Pharmacy is evident in how he enhanced their connection to it. Dan will be missed.
$17,600 was raised at this year’s annual Spaghetti Feed Raffle & Auction held February 24th in Pocatello. And, because ISU Pharmacy students see the importance of community outreach, a portion of the proceeds will go to sponsor the wish of a local Make-A-Wish child.

Savanah is this year’s recipient. She is a 7 year-old girl who was born with a congenital heart defect. She has undergone many surgeries and spends much of her time on oxygen. Her wish is to go to Disneyworld with her family. The whole family was able to attend the event and a student committee decorated a special table for them in Savannah’s favorite colors of pink and purple. A highlight of the night was the return of last year’s Make-A-Wish child Tenley who made fast friends with Savanah. “Savanah loved it! It was awesome that she got to meet the make a wish girl from last year.”

Julie Thomas from Make-A-Wish Idaho thanks the College for their donations over the years. Involvement began in 2000. “The College of Pharmacy makes the medicine and we make the magic,” says Julie

The remaining proceeds of the event will pay for the expenses of outreach efforts of the students. Projects like Operation Diabetes, which received national recognition, are costly in the way of travel and materials. Students pay for all of these efforts out of their pocket and events such as the Spaghetti Feed make it possible for them to continue. They also help reimburse the students for traveling to the national APhA meetings.

Some of the items available in the raffle and auction were an Apple iPad, gourmet bagel making with Dean Cady, authentic Basque Bread and Recipe courtesy of Dr. John Erramouspe, a Martin Pro Series Saber Compound Bow donated by Dr. Cathy Cashmore and many more items.
Scenes from the Spaghetti Feed
Cindy Forrer - “I can’t say enough positive things about my experience at ISU in the Non-T program...”

Cindy (Hakim) Forrer was 13 years old when she began working in a pharmacy. It was shortly before Mother’s Day, and she was hired part-time to wrap gifts at Snyder Pharmacy in her hometown of Spring Valley, Minnesota. She loved the atmosphere and got to know the pharmacists and her interest was piqued.

She received her BS in Pharmacy in 1983 at the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis. Beginning work immediately at St. Marys Hospital in Rochester, she eventually moved with her husband to Shreveport, LA.

Working in the Clinical Pharmacology Department at Louisiana State University Medical Center, Cindy knew that she wanted to pursue a PharmD. The clinical degree would benefit her career but she wasn’t sure exactly how she would do it. A mentor, Mark Middlebrooks, a 1997 graduate of the Non Traditional PharmD program at ISU suggested she look into the program.

She had already begun her studies through the NonT program when her husband suddenly passed away, leading her to the decision of moving back to Rochester to raise her two boys, then three and six years old. In Rochester she resumed her connection with the Mayo Clinic, working in the Drug Information and med use policy section of pharmacy practice. However, she was worried about finishing her studies.

“I can’t say enough positive things about my experience at Idaho State University in the Non-T program. Were it not for your caring staff, I would not have completed my degree. I had finished my Advanced Pharmacy Practice rotations and was writing my final paper when I was suddenly widowed with two little boys. The staff worked with me to finish the program on schedule, and I am forever grateful,” says Cindy.

Two of the professors that stand out in Lucinda’s experience with ISU are Dr. Vaughn Culbertson and Dr. Teddie Gould.

“Lucinda is a great example of the type of student-practitioners in our program. Her strong character, determined will to succeed, and enormous desire to provide better pharmaceutical care to her patients is shared by many NTPD students.” Says Dr. Culbertson.

Cindy currently work for Mayo in the Managed Care Pharmacy Department and oversees prescription drug plans for 12 clients in Arizona and Minnesota. Her sons are now 17 and 20. Five years ago, she married Joe Forrer, and the two enjoy hunting, fishing, horseriding, hiking and any type of home improvement projects.

Cindy and her two sons now 17 and 20 years old.

THE IDAHO BOARD OF PHARMACY recently met in Pocatello at the ISU Campus. Minutes from past meetings and quarterly newsletters can be viewed at bop.accessidaho.org.
We are so grateful for your generosity!

You have made it possible for our students to succeed...
...and they want to thank you personally.

On the evening of **Sunday April 22nd**, ISU College of Pharmacy students will be calling you to thank you for all that you have done. **Please Save the Date.**

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Take Time to Join Us:
College of Pharmacy & ISU Events

April 22nd - Donor Thank you phone a thon.
April 27th - Outstanding Student Reception
May 2nd - End of year picnic and golf tournament - Meridian
May 3rd - End of year picnic and golf tournament - Pocatello
May 4th - Professional Achievement Awards Reception
May 4th - Graduation Banquet - Pocatello
May 5th - Commencement - Pocatello
May 6th - Commencement - Meridian

For questions on any of these events call Julie Hillebrant (208) 282-3393