Faculty, staff and alumni, along with members of the local pharmacy profession, joined ISU College of Pharmacy student pharmacists in October for a month-long schedule of events in support of American Pharmacist Month.

Sponsored by the American Pharmacist Association (APhA), the theme of this year’s celebration is “Know Your Medicine Know Your Pharmacist.”

ISU pharmacy students helped coordinate several events during the month including the annual Pharmacy Recruiting Fair, ISU College of Pharmacy Game Day and an open house at Leonard Hall where the public could receive information on the programs and outreach services the College provides.

Students also teamed-up with College faculty members, coauthoring weekly editorials regarding health care issues for the Pocatello Idaho State Journal newspaper.

The following editorial, coauthored by Dean Joseph Steiner and P1 student, Amy Stokes, was the final installment of the five editorials written as part of the month’s activities.

To view each of the editorials, go to the Pharmacy Web site home page at www.pharmacy.isu.edu. The link is located on the site’s home page.

Pharmacy services keep patients in the know by Dean Joseph Steiner & Amy Stokes

The mission of Idaho State University College of Pharmacy is the preparation of pharmacy practitioners and pharmaceutical sciences scholars of tomorrow. In fact, the College’s motto is “Preparing Leaders in Pharmacy.” In the spirit of this vision, each year students are not only provided with advanced pharmaceutical and research education and training, but are given opportunities to enhance pharmaceutical care skills through participation in College of Pharmacy sponsored programs and events. In celebration of American Pharmacists Month “Know your Medicine Know your Pharmacist”, faculty and students would like to highlight some of the services offered to area residents.

Operation Heartburn Awareness

Operation Heartburn Awareness strives to educate as many people as possible about the severity of heartburn and keys to overcoming it. During the last
school year, over 200 people sought counseling and/or screening services provided by College of Pharmacy students and faculty at local retail pharmacies. This year, the organization would like to expand its reach by providing services at local elderly care centers. Heartburn can be managed effectively, dramatically improving the person’s quality of life.

Operation Immunization
Operation Immunization endeavors to increase community awareness of the importance of obtaining appropriate immunizations, and provide the community with information about vaccines and vaccine-preventable diseases, as well as promote pharmacy students’ and practitioners’ roles as healthcare providers. Last year, student pharmacists immunized a total of 1,912 patients with influenza and pneumococcal vaccinations. During the summer, students delivered over 4,000 student-created childhood immunization pamphlets to local and surrounding daycare centers, doctor’s offices, pharmacies and hospitals. Currently, the group plans to expand its program by educating high school students preparing to leave for college about the meningitis vaccine.

Operation Diabetes
The goal of Operation Diabetes is to advocate diabetes control and prevention. An estimated 250 patients

Dr. David Nelson
Lilly Fellow is fall guest lecturer

ISU College of Pharmacy alumnus, Dr. David Nelson, ’71, will be the Fall 2006 Pharmacy Executive-in-Residence guest lecturer at Leonard Hall the week of November 13.

Dr. Nelson, who earned a BS from ISU, is the Lilly Research Fellow for the Eli Lilly and Company. He earned a PhD in Pharmacology in 1976 from the University of Colorado.

Dr. Nelson will speak to pharmacy and graduate students on several topics including career opportunities, processing and drug discovery and drug development - what a new drug cost to get it to market. His general area of expertise is Neurpharmacology.

were screened in seven diabetic health fair events and two campus promotions during the 2005-06 school year. Students and faculty provided educational literature, blood glucose testing, gait analysis, foot checks and blood pressure measurements. Educational presentations were also conducted at selected elementary, high school and college classrooms. Students are presently planning activities for the current school year.

Idaho Drug Information Service
The College also provides answers to drug-related questions through the Idaho Drug Information Service (ID-DIS) located on the third floor of the Oboler Library at Idaho State University. Idaho residents and health care providers can receive answers to drug-related questions from staff that include a resident pharmacist, two faculty members, and undergraduate pharmacy students by calling or completing a secure web form.

Idaho Drug Utilization Review
College of Pharmacy students participate with faculty in providing drug utilization review services for the Idaho Medicaid program. The purpose of the Drug Utilization Review program is to improve patient care and reduce overall drug costs in the State of Idaho.

Clinical Practice
Students also participate in providing direct and indirect patient care. Students can be found in many of the community pharmacies, hospitals and other health care settings throughout Idaho providing direct pharmaceutical care services to patients. Additionally, students indirectly affect patient care by providing education to practicing pharmacists, physicians and other health care practitioners and by developing recommendations for drug formularies and medication selection criteria, all under the watchful eye of their pharmacy preceptor.

Marian Wright Edelman stated: “Education is for improving the lives of others and for leaving your community and world better than you found it.” Faculty and students hope through education we too can give back to the community that has given us so much. The Idaho State University College of Pharmacy faculty and students invite you to watch for these and other public events and hope you will not only “Know your Medicine Know your Pharmacist”, but that we will have an opportunity to meet and get to know you!