

Idaho State
UNIVERSITY

Pharmacy

BULLETIN

Spring 2007 - Annual Report Edition



Pharmacy Leaders

NCPA President and ISU alumnus, John Tilley and Dean Joe Steiner are leading advocates for the future of the pharmacy profession.

Cover Story...

NCPA President, ISU alumnus John Tilley is Spring Executive in Residence

PLUS...

- Pharmacy student, former pro athlete featured in *The New York Times*
- Phonathon raises close to \$95,000 for student scholarships
- College of Pharmacy 2006 Annual Report



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Annual Report cover photo: Class of 2007 students Heather Ruesch, Alisa Stewart and John Holmes.

Cover Photo: Alumnus John Tilley, '77, spoke before several classes as the 2007 Pharmacy Executive in Residence.

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Dean's Message

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the Idaho State University College of Pharmacy 2006 Annual Report! Each year I marvel at the accomplishments we have made and it is always a pleasure to reflect on them. The faculty, staff and students at the College continue to be very active in all the areas that contribute to the high quality pharmacy education expected at the Idaho State University College of Pharmacy.

Our mission has always been to provide an excellent education. We develop pharmacists ready for the rigors of pharmacy practice today and in the future, and pharmaceutical scientists to expand our knowledge of medications. Over the years, the College has distinguished itself by being at the forefront of professional and graduate education.

Four years ago, the College introduced a completely new curriculum for the professional program. At the Idaho State University graduation ceremony in May 2006, the first students to matriculate through this curriculum graduated. Through the efforts of the College's Assessment Committee, it is easy to see that this curricular change has been an overwhelming success. Our graduates are extremely competent and highly sought by employers.

It is important to Idaho and the profession that we are able to offer an ISU pharmacy education to more students. We attract the brightest and best students to the program. We develop a practitioner with the knowledge and skills that will move the profession forward in providing the best patient care activities. With this in mind, we increased the incoming class size from 55 to 60 students, which is an 8 percent increase. We are planning further increases while still maintaining quality.

We have been striving to instill the values of the profession from the first day students enter the program. Many efforts are taking place to accomplish this goal, some being very visible, while others are more subtle running longitudinally throughout the curriculum. In the fall of 2005, the fourth White Coat Ceremony was conducted with great participation from practitioners, alumni and friends of the College to welcome the students into their new profession. The Professional Pharmacy Student Alliance completed its third year with excellent participation and success. This organization promotes professional development and provides leadership opportunities. It allies the existing professional student associations into one organization that involves each student at the College. Students have participated in national competitions, provided service to the community, and contributed to the less fortunate and their new profession. They are a group of which we can all be extremely proud. The graduate program has remained very active in providing leading pharmaceutical sciences education and research. This has been a very active year seeking funds for new research

initiatives. Our faculty members are expected to expand their knowledge; their innovative research projects are documented in this publication.

Pharmacy faculty members continue to participate in a collaborative research effort with other Idaho universities through the IDeA Network for Biomedical Research Excellence (INBRE) grant. Several of our pharmaceutical sciences faculty members have achieved worthy accomplishments this year.



Joe Steiner

Dr. Leslie Devaud has been instrumental in bringing together several multidisciplinary research teams devoted to the study of alcohol addiction and the study of epilepsy. Another exciting new research effort in the department is development of nanotechnology for use in treatment of disease. This effort is coordinated by Drs. Alok Bhushan, Jim Lai and Chris Daniels. Dr. Devaud and several other members of the department fostered the founding of the Snake River Association for Neuroscience and she became its first president.

I am happy to report that we are at a full complement of faculty this year. In this report, there are articles about several highly qualified individuals we have recruited to join us. This is especially noteworthy during this time of unparalleled expansion of new colleges of pharmacy, their unprecedented demands for new faculty members and the subsequent shortage of qualified pharmacy faculty members nationally. The excellent support the College receives from alumni and friends is one area of professionalism and leadership to which we direct students' attention. Students visit with our friends during the annual phonathon, they see their contributions support scholarships and other aspects of their education and, daily on their way to class, they walk past the pictures of those individuals who have established endowments. You will be happy to know that this year the College exceeded its phonathon goal and broke the all-time record for pledge amount of any of the ISU colleges. Each year, we have a few more alumni and friends join us for the White Coat ceremony, emphasizing the importance of professionalism by their presence. Alumni are our best role models of excellence in the practice of our profession.

I hope you enjoy reading this report. As a member of the College, you share in these accomplishments. The tradition of excellence continues with our current students and graduates, something of which I hope you too are proud. It is through your moral and financial support that we continue our goal of excellence in all endeavors. Please feel free to contact me to discuss any of the report contents or any concerns regarding the College.

Best wishes,

Joseph F. Steiner, PharmD
Dean and Professor

NCPA President and 1977 pharmacy graduate *Tilleys share experience in service,*

When College of Pharmacy alumnus John Tilley was offered a golf scholarship at ISU and another university in 1974, it didn't take long for the young pharmacy student to decide Idaho was the best fit for him. Tilley says that ISU and Pocatello community were a place with similar qualities, and residents much like his hometown of Downey, Calif.

Tilley spent much of his time at ISU on the links, in the library and the classrooms of Leonard Hall. Upon graduation in 1977, he returned to Downey to work for



NCPA President and ISU College of Pharmacy alumnus, John Tilley, speaking before a group of independent pharmacy owners during his recent visit to the College of Pharmacy as the 2007 Executive in Residence.

Zweber Apothecary – a career decision that would later earn him a respected place in the health care community of the southern California town, and nationwide.

Tilley stayed with the community pharmacy and in 1983, at the age of 29, he purchased the three-store chain. Tilley often attributes his success as an independent pharmacist to the support of his wife of 27-years, Karen Tilley.

“One of the best things about a community pharmacy is that it can be a family business,” Karen said.

By the late 90's, the Tilleys had the opportunity to expand their business through a deal with the Stater Bros. supermarket chain that had acquired 30 stores

from Alberstons. They would eventually open 16 Super Rx pharmacies within the Stater supermarkets. In 2005, when approached by Stater management to open 50 additional in-store pharmacies, the couple decided to sell the business to the grocery chain.

However, they held on to the Zweber stores where today they oversee operations of the five Tilley Apothecaries, Inc., pharmacies in the southern California region.

Throughout his 30-year career, Tilley has earned numerous honors and served on the boards of several pharmacy organizations. However, his highest achievement in pharmacy service came in 2006 when he was named the 109th president of the National Community Pharmacists Association, (NCPA), an organization he has served for the better part of his career.

John and Karen recently returned to John's alma mater to share their professional and political experiences with faculty, students and local pharmacists as the 2007 Pharmacy Executives in Residence.

“I so very much appreciate John and Karen taking the time from their pharmacies and duties as the NCPA president and first lady to visit Pocatello and the College,” Dean Joe Steiner said. “The local independent pharmacists and the students have told me how much they enjoyed spending time with them. These two exemplify the many great things our alumni have accomplished with their degrees from ISU.”

John joined NCPA in 1986 at a time when there were not a significant number of members from California, or other Western states, he said. As a young pharmacy owner, he recruited other independent pharmacists to join NCPA and other pharmacy organizations.

“We started going to



Karen Tilley shares her experience working with John through the years in their family business, Tilley Apothecaries, Inc.

returns to where his professional career began *community pharmacy with ISU*

meetings, legislative conferences and annual meetings and then were named on committees by the organization,” Tilley said.

Several committees make up the structure of NCPA, often meeting prior to the House of Delegates assembly, discussing issues and proposed recommendations or legislation facing the pharmacy profession.

Tilley also served on the California NCPA Board of Trustees, promoting pharmacy issues on the state level. In 1997, he was elected to the state organization’s leadership positions, serving in the capacity of president-elect and president.

Following a few years of service with NCPA, Tilley was approached to see if he was interested in holding an officer position on the national level. This service would require several more years of duties including six years of service on the association’s executive committee. Eventually this commitment would offer him the opportunity to advance in the organization and eventually serve as its president where he travels extensively promoting the pharmacy profession.

“It is rewarding to be able to go around to the pharmacy schools and different state associations and speak to the students and pharmacists and talk about the issues that effect pharmacy practice,” Tilley said. “I get excited seeing the energy level and sparkle in their eyes (students) and how excited they are about becoming a pharmacist.”

It’s also rewarding to see former students he met with during his years of service become independent pharmacists today.

NCPA is a proactive, legislative association, he said, and members are encouraged to get involved in community organization and the political process effecting pharmacy regulations on the local, state and national levels.

“We have a motto in NCPA, ‘get into politics or get out



Some area pharmacists recently gathered for a dinner in honor of John and Karen Tilley. Pictured are left to right, Richard Allen, Allen Drug, Malad; Dave Gebo, former owner of Super Save Pharmacy; Ed Snell, Snell’s Pharmacy; Paul Cady, associate dean; John and Karen Tilley; Kathy Ramos, Eastgate Pharmacy, Idaho Falls; Dean Joe Steiner; and Greg Magg, Magg Pharmacy.

of pharmacy;” Tilley said. “We feel that everyone should feel that way. Do you want someone to decide your future for you, or do you want to shape your future?”

In addition to his duties serving NCPA, Tilley has held positions on the local and state level. He has served as a member of the Greater Downey Chamber of Commerce; California Pharmacists Association (CPhA) Board of Trustees and a regional director for the American College of Apothecaries.

Tilley was honored by the CPhA in 1994 with the Bowl of Hygeia Award and was named pharmacist of the year by the association in 2001.

He is the 1997 ISU College of Pharmacy Professional Achievement Award recipient and has served on the College’s Dean Advisory Council.

John and Karen are the parents of four children, Alyson, 25; Kirk, 22; Shannon, 8 and Erin, 6.



John Tilley pictured for his 1977 College of Pharmacy graduation.

Annual Phonathon scholarship drive raises record funds to aid students

Pharmacy students, alumni and friends of the College, collectively, made the annual *ConnectionISU* Phonathon 2007 one of the most successful scholarship fundraising events for the study of pharmacy at ISU. Although final numbers are not in yet, donations are expected to be in excess of \$95,000, an increase of about \$14,000 from the previous year, according to Dan Dean, pharmacy director of development.

Pharmacy students gathered the week of January 28-31, calling alumni and friends for donations to pharmacy scholarships, funds for greatest needs and the student-organized Operation Diabetes campaign.

Several students commented that College of Pharmacy alumni are friendly and curious donors--asking many questions about the happenings at the College.

"Being with the students for four straight nights is energizing to me," Dean said, "and to top it off, our alumni give so much and faithfully."

The 2006 Phonathon saw a 22 percent increase in donations to student scholarships and programs, while this year donations increased by about 14 percent.

"Thank you to all the 450 alumni and friends of the College of Pharmacy for your gifts and thoughtfulness," Dean said. "I assure you, your investment in our future pharmacists is worth it. We have amazing

students, faculty and staff."

This year, donors who pledged \$200 or more received an ISU College of Pharmacy poster. This limited edition poster, featuring photographs of Leonard Hall and ISU landmark buildings and sites, is still available. For those who missed the

students' calls, or would like to contribute to the annual scholarship campaign, contact Dan Dean at 208-282-3655 or dandean@otc.isu.edu. The poster is available to see on the College Web site at pharmacy.isu.edu.



Second-year College of Pharmacy student, Josh Gehrke, talks with a prospective donor during the 2007 *ConnectionISU* Phonathon.

Thanks to donors, pledges reach \$95,000 for student scholarships

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PPSA Spaghetti Feed & Auction provides Pocatello boy's wish

Students also earn funds to travel to APhA convention

by Seth Kasunick

The 14th Annual Spaghetti Feed & Auction sponsored by the Professional Pharmacy Student Alliance, or PPSA, went off without a hitch in February, as the event was able to raise \$9,000, according to second-year pharmacy student and event chairperson Jacqueline Brown. Of the total amount raised, \$3,500 benefited 5-year-old Thomas, Pocatello, through the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Idaho™. Thomas is a young boy who lives with Wilm's tumor, a malignant cancer of the kidney that primarily affects young children. It was Thomas' wish to go to Disney World with his family over spring break. Thanks to all those who help organize the event, the sponsors involved, and all who bid on items or otherwise helped, Thomas' wish has been granted. In addition to helping Thomas and his family, funds raised through the event will also benefit PPSA through professional development and community health promotion projects.

Student members hold several free health clinics annually, in addition to volunteering to educate elementary students regarding poison prevention. Events such as the Spaghetti Feed & Auction help pharmacy students learn about community service since a portion of the funds raised went to a charity," Dean Joseph Steiner said. "This is important for students because when they become pharmacists, they will be expected to be active in their communities. This is one of the reasons that pharmacists are one of the most



Thomas was able to meet a Red Power Ranger at Disney World where he received an autograph from the super hero.

respected professionals."

The evening began with a silent auction as live music from pianist/singer Katie Wilson set the mood. College of Pharmacy faculty prepared a feast of Italian food.

"I love it. I'm half Italian and it's in my blood," laughed Steiner when asked how he enjoyed preparing food for the more than 500 in attendance. "The turnout is overwhelmingly more than we expected."

Then things got exciting as Dave Hachey, PharmD, clinical associate professor, auctioneered off more than \$5,000 worth items provided by area and national businesses as well as private donors. Everything from scenic ATV tours with clinical assistant professor Kerry Casperson, PhD, to a custom-built hall table made by first-year pharmacy student Daren Kunz was up for grabs. Kunz's table was the evening's highest selling item at \$740.

The approximately 70 raffle items were also a big help in raising funds and were able to generate more than \$700. Hachey, like many in attendance, was overwhelmed by the large community turnout.

"This is twice as many people as I've ever seen in the eight years I've been involved with the auction," Hachey said.

Steiner attributed a large portion of the events success to the students, particularly organizers Brown and second-year student Nancy Seroski, who were able to attract a number of donations.

A portion of the proceeds also were used to assist students with travel expenses to the APhA convention in Atlanta, GA in March.



The 14th Annual Spaghetti Feed and Auction, sponsored by the Professional Pharmacy Student Alliance, attracted a record number of attendees and students raised approximately \$9,000 for the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Idaho and student activities.

Idaho Drug Information Service

Students, faculty answer drug-related questions from health care professionals

by Seth Kasunick

The Idaho Drug Information Service at Idaho State University's College of Pharmacy is working tirelessly to answer drug-related questions for health care professionals and the general public of Idaho, the nation and world.

This unique service, which is funded completely by the College of Pharmacy, is designed to ensure proper drug information is available free of charge to all of Idaho's health care professionals and the general public, though they answer questions from all over. Located on the top floor of Idaho State University's Eli M. Oboler Library, the staff of the Idaho Drug Information Service, or IDIS, answers five to 20 phone calls per day, in addition to responding to multiple emails, some of which are from overseas. The unique mission of the IDIS is to provide health care professionals with information tailored to a specific patient's needs.

"It's a great service and I'm really impressed with the rapid responses I get," said Dr. Nino Germain, a Pocatello child psychiatrist who frequently uses the service to obtain answers regarding drug interactions and unusual side effects.

According to Dr. Kevin Cleveland, co-director of IDIS and clinical assistant professor with the College of Pharmacy, most users of the service inquire about drug identification or adverse drug reactions. Some less common questions involve anything from pharmacology and kinetics to herbal and complementary medicine. Other questions are completely new to IDIS staff and require further research. IDIS draws on its access to numerous online medical and pharmaceutical databases in addition to standard medical and pharmacy texts to assist with the research involved in answering such questions.

"You get to learn a lot about strange and oddball things you wouldn't otherwise learn in a pharmacy," Dr. Cleveland said. "It's one of the greatest things about working here."

According to Dr. Catherine Heyneman, co-director of IDIS and associate professor of pharmacy at the College of Pharmacy, the IDIS has its busy and slow seasons. "We tend to get more calls in the winter when people are sick or when special interests come up, such as bird flu or the Vioxx® withdrawal from the market," she said. In addition to answering drug-related questions, the service actively contributes to pharmacy journals and is involved in pharmacy research projects and

presentations. Dr. Cleveland and IDIS staff members recently traveled to the American Pharmacists Association's annual convention in Atlanta, GA. to present their findings on which databases are most effective in identifying unknown drug products.

In addition to answering drug questions, IDIS also strives to teach drug information to students of the College of Pharmacy and provide information and articles to the faculty and students.

The service, which began in the late 1950's, is staffed by faculty and students of the College of Pharmacy and also serves as a training site for a residency in drug information.

The Idaho Drug Information Service does not provide physician referrals or answer questions the poison control center would normally handle. Callers with questions regarding potentially life-threatening toxicities or overdoses are referred to the Rocky Mountain Poison Control Center's number at 800-860-0620.

Anyone interested in learning more about the IDIS or in using its services can call 1-208-282-4689 or 1-800-334-7139 within the state of Idaho or submit questions via email to idis@pharmacy.isu.edu.



Fourth-year ISU College of Pharmacy student, Donna Araki, answers drug-related questions at the Idaho Drug Information Service located on the top floor of the Eli M. Oboler Library. The service is provided to Idaho health care professionals by faculty and students of the College of Pharmacy.

Student News

ASP chapter, students and faculty earn awards at annual APhA national convention

ISU College of Pharmacy students have a reputation of being involved in community service projects and student representatives were recently honored for their efforts with several awards from the American Pharmacists Association-Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP) Annual Convention held in Atlanta, GA March 21-24.

The contingent of 16 students who attended the convention returned to campus with the 2007 Operation Immunization award for Region 7, Operation Diabetes certificate of recognition and honors for a greater than 90 percent student membership in the ISU ASP Chapter.

Student involvement in diabetes education began a few years ago when Cindy Wilson, PhD, associate professor of pharmaceutical sciences, implemented the program including a campus health fair aimed at educating the public of the disease. Pharmacy students, along with Wilson dubbed the project "Operation Diabetes."

In addition to diabetes education, students host heartburn awareness, immunization and poison prevention clinics.

To provide continued support for our students, the College of Pharmacy has established the "Operation Diabetes Fund" to which tax-deductible contributions can be made through the College and directed exclusively to supporting this program. Donations may be made by contacting Dan Dean, pharmacy director of development at 208-282-3655.

Fourth-year pharmacy student, Jesse Owen, competed in the APhA-ASP Patient Skills Competition, earning a spot in the top ten among students nationwide for the second consecutive year.

College faculty members also attended the convention, presenting posters on their research findings.

Kevin Cleveland, PharmD, clinical assistant professor and co-director of the College's Idaho Drug Information Service (IDIS), and IDIS staff members presented a poster on their findings on which databases are most effective in identifying unknown drug products.

Paul Cady, PhD, associate dean, along with Vaughn Culbertson, PharmD, chair, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Administrative Sciences and others were awarded an Academy of Pharmacy Practice Management merit award for their poster presentation titled "Pharmacists Perceived Service Quality and Satisfaction with Services Provided by Drug Information Centers."



ISU College of Pharmacy students who attended the APhA-ASP convention in Atlanta include, front row, left to right, Kim Van Wyk, Brittin Mohlman, Marie Schneider, Katie Behrend, back row, left to right, Jacqueline Brown, Jesse Owen, Rena Campbell, Karmen Kemmerer, John Argyle, Jessica Sipe, Suzanne Tegland, Jennifer York, Linda Sullivan and Daren Kunz.



The AACP Interim meeting in Washington, D.C. was a reunion for several faculty members of the College, gathering with colleagues from other institutions and former members of the ISU faculty. Pictured, left to right are Dr. Rod Larson, assistant dean of Ferris State University College of Pharmacy and former ISU Pharmacy faculty member; Dr. Barbara Wells, dean of the University of Mississippi School of Pharmacy and former ISU Pharmacy dean; Dr. Joe Steiner, Dean of the ISU College of Pharmacy; Dr. Paul Tate, former dean of ISU Graduate Studies; Mr. Richard Wells, spouse of Dr. Barbara Wells; Dr. Vaughn Culbertson, chair of the ISU Department of Pharmacy Practice and Administrative Sciences; and Dr. Alok Bhushan, associate professor, ISU Pharmaceutical Sciences.

The New York Times features sports story on The short and happy career of Ron Wright

By LEE JENKINS

POCATELLO, Idaho, April 11 — Five years ago, in an otherwise forgettable baseball game between the Seattle Mariners and the Texas Rangers, a 26-year-old rookie named Ron Wright struck out, hit into a double play and hit into a triple play.

“Best day of my professional life,” Wright said.

He was the designated hitter for the Mariners, batting seventh, making his major league debut. Kenny Rogers pitched and Alex

Rodriguez played shortstop for the Rangers. The afternoon sun beat down on the Ballpark in Arlington.

Wright batted three times. He accounted for six outs. And he never played in the major leagues again.

Today, he lives in Pocatello, attends the Idaho State University College of Pharmacy and is married with four children. He has a goatee and a pickup truck. He gives hitting lessons and hunts coyotes. Some of his friends do not know he was a big-leaguer.

“There are times even I forget,” Wright said.

Baseball has had many one-game wonders, among them Walter Alston, who made the Hall of Fame as a manager of the Brooklyn Dodgers, and Moonlight Graham, who was memorialized in the movie “Field of Dreams.”

The one-and-done club also includes novelty acts like the 3-foot-7 Eddie Gaedel, who batted once for the St. Louis Browns, and Bert Shepard, who pitched for the Washington Senators after losing a leg in World War II.

But Wright was for real — a seventh-round draft choice by the Atlanta Braves in 1994, a three-time minor league all-star, a legitimate prospect. He remembers hitting a 505-foot home run in Charlotte and a 515-foot blast in Macon.

“He hit the ball so high,” Wright’s wife, Annica, said. “It looked like it would go into the lights.”

The Pittsburgh Pirates were so smitten that they traded one of their best pitchers, Denny Neagle, to Atlanta for Wright and Jason Schmidt. The Pirates planned to use Schmidt as a starting pitcher and Wright as a first baseman for about a decade.

In September 1997, the Pirates called Wright to the big leagues. They wanted him to get a taste of his future. But because Wright had a sore wrist, the Pirates did not want him to actually play. They had to protect their investment.

“I wanted to get in a game, but it was no big deal,” Wright said. “I was 21. I had tons of years ahead of me.”

The next spring, the Pirates considered putting Wright on their opening-day roster, but they had another infielder who was out of minor league options. So they sent Wright to Class AAA Nashville, promising him that he would be back in Pittsburgh soon.

In his first week in the minors, while stretching on the outfield grass in Tucson, Wright felt a pain in his back. For a moment, he froze. Then he collapsed.

“It was like I’d been shot,” he said.

An ambulance took him from the field to a hospital behind the left-field wall. Then he flew to Los Angeles to have a disk removed from his back. He missed the 1998 season, and by the beginning of 1999 he still had not fully recovered.

Wright returned to Los Angeles for another examination. Doctors told him that his back was fine. But during the operation, his sciatic nerve had been clipped. For the rest of his life, his right leg would feel numb.



College of Pharmacy student, Ron Wright, P2, and his professional baseball career was a recent feature on *The New York Times* sports page. The article, pictured in the above illustration, is reprinted with permission by the Times. Also included is the lineup card for an April 14, 2002 Mariners/Rangers game where Wright was listed as the designated hitter and some of Wright’s baseball cards.

pharmacy student's former pro ball career

"Everything changed then," Wright said. "I went from hoping to be a star in the big leagues to just hoping to play a game in the big leagues."

The quest took Wright and his wife to all sorts of outposts — Durham, Akron, Greenville, Altoona, Buffalo, Toledo and Calgary. One of their daughters, Sydney, was born in Chattanooga in 2000. Two days later, the family had to move to Louisville.

Wright was still 6 feet 1 inch, 235 pounds, with a broad chest and thick arms. But he could not generate any power from his right leg. While other players were getting stronger, some undoubtedly with steroids, Wright's game was weakening.

"It was a real disadvantage not to do steroids because so many other people were," Wright said. "But I didn't believe in it, and I knew it wouldn't help my nerve."

His right leg was always freshest early in the season, and in April 2002, Wright went on a hitting streak. He was playing in the Mariners' farm system, for Class AAA Tacoma, on a trip through the Midwest.

After a game in Des Moines, Wright got back late to the team hotel. His roommate, Ryan Minor, was waiting with a message. The Tacoma manager, Dan Rohn, wanted to see Wright.

It turned out that Edgar Martinez, the Seattle slugger, had ruptured a hamstring tendon. The Mariners needed a right-handed hitter off the bench. Rohn told Wright to be on the first plane to Dallas the next morning. He was going to play in the big leagues.

Wright instructed his parents not to fly there from Utah. They could see him the next week in Seattle, or the next month at Yankee Stadium. There was no rush.

For the next two days, Wright sat on the bench in Texas. On the third day, April 14, 2002, he checked the lineup card, and again he did not see his name.

But during batting practice, Seattle's Mike Cameron hit a line drive that ricocheted off the pitcher's screen and smacked Jeff Cirillo on the left side of the head. The ball opened a gash that required three stitches.

Wright recalled Gerald Perry, the Mariners' hitting coach, yelling out to him: "Cirillo can't go. You're in there."

Wright did not have time to be nervous. But when he stood in the batter's box against Rogers, he told himself to take the first pitch, just to get acclimated.

"That's my only regret," Wright said. "I should have swung at that first pitch."

It was an 84-mile-an-hour fastball, over the heart of the plate. Wright let it go. He did not see another hittable pitch in that at-bat, striking out meekly.

In his second at-bat, with no outs and runners on first and



Ron Wright with his fellow classmates during the 2005 ISU College of Pharmacy White Coat Ceremony.

third, Wright just wanted to make contact. He hit a chopper up the middle, but Rogers is one of the best-fielding pitchers in baseball, and he threw to Rodriguez at second for the force.

Rubén Sierra, the runner on third, broke late for home plate. Sensing Sierra's indecision, Rodriguez threw home. The Rangers had Sierra in a pickle.

During the rundown, Wright was waved from first base to second. Not only did the Rangers nab Sierra, but they also threw out Wright to complete the triple play.

"I could see it developing," Mariners Manager Lou Piniella told reporters. "Like a thunderstorm on the gulf."

Wright's best at-bat was his third one. He got another fastball from Rogers, and this time he did not let it go. He swung hard. He made solid contact. But the ball went right to Rodriguez, who started a 6-4-3 double play.

In the Mariners' clubhouse after the game, Wright was a source of both comedy and sympathy. Seattle's Bret Boone presented him a lineup card. Even Rodriguez had autographed it.

The Mariners played one more game in Texas, but Wright did not start. When Seattle put runners on first and second base, Piniella walked over to Wright in the dugout. "I'd put you in," Wright remembers Piniella saying. "But I'm afraid you'd hit into a triple play." They both laughed.

The next day, when the Mariners arrived in Oakland, Piniella called Wright into his office before the game. Seattle had burned its bullpen in Texas. Piniella needed an extra reliever from the minors. Someone had to be sent down.

"I wish I could give you another chance up here," Piniella said.

Wright spent one more year looking for that second chance, and looking for that first hit. But after he collided with a catcher at home plate in Richmond, his right leg gave out again. He knew it was time to retire.

"I really would have liked to get a hit in the big leagues," Wright said. "But for me, the dream was just being there."

Wright does not own a tape of the game in Texas. He does not have any pictures. He keeps only the lineup card, tucked away in his briefcase. The briefcase usually stays in the closet. Wright plans to graduate from pharmacy school in two years, but he still acts like a ballplayer. In the morning, he shaves his forearms, part of a minor league superstition. In class, he plays clubhouse pranks with Kenny Jones, another athlete turned student. Even Wright's e-mail address includes the No. 7, which he used to wear on his jersey.

He is not allowed to mope, at least not here. The former mayor of Pocatello passed an ordinance in 1948 making it illegal not to smile within the city limits.

As Wright sat in the middle of town Wednesday, surrounded by the snow-peaked Rocky Mountains, he considered the merits of such a law.

"Maybe I should be bitter because of that one game," he said. "But I feel lucky."

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Wright with the Pirates' Class AAA Nashville team.

Mark and Rachel Mailhot establish scholarship endowment with College

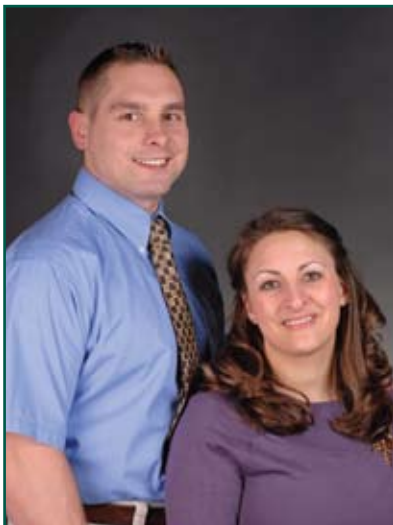
The Mark and Rachel Mailhot Scholarship Endowment

Third-year College of Pharmacy student, Mark Mailhot, and his wife Rachel, recently established the Mark and Rachel Mailhot Scholarship Endowment in the College of Pharmacy.

The couple say this endowment is a way to express their appreciation for all of the support, financially and otherwise, they have received. In particular, they say their blessings come from Mark's commitment to serve in the United States Navy following graduation.

"We expect a lot from our students, so it is not often that I am surprised by the dedication and professionalism they exhibit. However, this is one of those times," said Dean Joseph Steiner. "For a student and his wife to realize the importance of education and wanting to give that opportunity to another through establishing an endowed scholarship is truly remarkable. Mark and Rachel are great people and, even at this early stage, their actions exemplify the

spirit of our profession."



Mark and Rachel Mailhot

Mark, an out-of-state pharmacy student from North Statford, N.H., met Rachel while attending Jefferson College in Rachel's hometown of Hillsboro, Mo. They married in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints St. Louis, Mo. Temple in 2002. Following graduation from Jefferson College, Mark became interested in pursuing a doctorate in pharmacy, and was accepted into the ISU College of Pharmacy program.

Out-of-state tuition waivers, the Pell Grant, several scholarships and loving friends have made it possible for school bills to be paid, Mark said. After two years in the program, Mark accepted a position as a Navy pharmacist; he begins serving following graduation in 2008. Now late in his third year of pharmacy school, both Mark and Rachel say they feel blessed to have been the recipients of such generosity. This endowment is a way to say "thank you," and extend their good fortune to others.

Staff Spotlight: Dan Dean College development director seeks opportunities for student success

Dan Dean, Pharmacy director of development, says his passion for helping students achieve their educational goals is his motivation to cultivate funding for scholarships and other programs at the College.

A former banker, Dan brings a multitude of talent to the College's development office, securing more than \$350,000 in scholarships during his short tenure. He shares his enthusiasm of higher education with his wife, Kathy Lund Dean. Kathy, associate professor with the ISU College of Business, is a successful researcher and author in the field of management theory.

"Dan is a dynamo. He has a great personality, a true interest in helping people and the financial background to do so," Dean Joe Steiner said. "Both Dan and Kathy are dedicated to the success of students at Idaho State University. We were very lucky to have Dan with the College of Pharmacy."

Since joining the College, Dan has

consistently raised the level of annual contributions to student scholarship funds through events such as the *ConnectionISU* Phonathon -- one of his personal favorite development events.

"The opportunity to work with talented pharmacy students who are sharing their educational experiences with alumni is truly rewarding," he said.

Prior to his banking and finance work, Dan was employed as a youth and family counselor in the Seattle and West Michigan areas. He believes this unique blend of work experiences has prepared him well to be attuned to development needs and activities.

The couple are the parents of two sons, Cooper and Harrison. The family moved to the Intermountain West about five years ago where they enjoy spending time as a family skiing, hiking, mountain biking and Dan enjoys hitting the links for a round of golf with friends.



Dan Dean and Kathy Lund Dean

Idaho State UNIVERSITY

College of Pharmacy



Annual Report 2005-2006

Admission remains competitive

Admission into the doctor of pharmacy program continues to be very competitive and interest in the program is holding steady. The College of Pharmacy received 509 applications by the February 1 deadline for the 2006 doctor of pharmacy admissions process. With the 2006 application process, the College created an on-line/web-based application. The response was favorable. While the actual pool of applications considered for admission was 509, there were nearly 1,000 applicants who started the on-line application process. Clearly, admission into the traditional doctor of pharmacy program continues to be highly competitive.

One hundred and twenty-eight of the 509 applicants were invited to the interview process. Of those, 60 accepted an offer for admission into the program. Applicants' performance in the group discussions, interviews, and essays are an important consideration for acceptance into the program. Grade point average, previous degrees, experience and other factors are also included in the decision for acceptance.

Forty-five percent of students in the Class of 2010 hold previous degrees. This is a slight decrease from the previous year which had more associate's and bachelor's degrees overall. The types of degrees held include associate's degrees, bachelor's degrees and one MBA. This is a diverse group academically. Incoming students hold degrees in a variety of areas: biological sciences, business, education, engineering, international relations, psychology and sociology. Average overall and science grade point averages of incoming students are 3.6 and

3.66 respectively. Each of the incoming students has strengths and characteristics that should help them to do very well as they pursue doctor of pharmacy degrees and eventually become practitioners.

During the 2005-2006 academic year, fifty-two students graduated from the traditional doctor of pharmacy program.

The 2006 report from North American Pharmacist Licensing Examination (NAPLEX) indicated that 49 students from the graduating class of 2006 took the NAPLEX between January, 2006 and August 2006. The school average for the overall test score was 113.31, which was higher than last year (110.21), and slightly above the national average of 107.02. Of these, 97.96 percent successfully passed the licensing exam. This is higher than the national pass rate of 90.52 percent.

Beginning in 2006, the graduating class participated in the computer based Multi-State Pharmacy Jurisprudence Exam (MPJE) for licensure. Forty-eight ISU graduates took the MPJE between January 1, 2006 and June 30, 2006. The average for ISU graduates was 81.38 for the first time applicants who took the exam during the 2006 testing period. The state pass rate was 100 percent, compared to a national pass rate of 87.25. Students from ISU had a higher pass rate than the national average on the MPJE. The results indicate the graduating students perform well on the national exam and on the national jurisprudence exam.

Paul Cady, PhD, Associate Dean

Cynthia Culbertson, DA, Director of Admissions



Members of the class of 2009 were inducted into their professional studies during the 4th Annual White Coat Ceremony where they signed the Code of Ethics for Pharmacists.