Cover Story...
White Coat Ceremony welcomes Class of 2010

PLUS...
- Asem Sarameh, P3, talks about his move to ISU from Palestine
- Four alumni from four decades - all at Idaho’s Kootenai Medical Center
- Students rally for several events during American Pharmacists Month
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Cover Photo: P1 class officers, l to r, Katherine Hope, secretary, Daren Kunz, president & Michael Higbee, vice president

Preparation Leaders in Pharmacy
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Dear Friends,

This fall has been a busy time around your College of Pharmacy. We kicked off the semester with the traditional White Coat Ceremony for the incoming class and held Back-to-School picnics in Boise and Pocatello. We were happy to welcome Mike O’Farrell back at the Pocatello Airport in August. Mike is a second-year Pharmacy student who had been serving with the Army National Guard in Iraq.

This past spring, the first class graduated under the new curriculum that was implemented in the fall of 2002. This fall, we received licensing board exam results and are happy to report the students who graduated under the new curriculum did very well on the exam.

In September, the Snake River Alliance for Neuroscience (SRAN) held its inaugural meeting. This regional association of scientists and researchers includes several faculty members of the ISU Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences who were instrumental in its formation. Dr. Leslie Devaud, Associate Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences, is the first SRAN President.

During the second week of October, we held our annual Pharmacy Recruiting Fair with recruiters from 31 companies making the trip to “Poky” to meet and interview students. Several recruiters commented on how well the Idaho State University Pharmacy Fair is organized compared to those they attend at other colleges. The success of our Pharmacy Fair, which is sponsored by the College and the Professional Pharmacy Student Alliance (PPSA), is due to the efforts of student volunteers and College staff. Several months of preparation is required. The student coordinator, Rena Campbell, along with several other PPSA students, did an outstanding job and their efforts were greatly appreciated. The recruiters often comment on how well prepared our students are and the professional manner they display during the interview process. Recruiters know that they can expect a well-educated and prepared pharmacist who will have an excellent work ethic. Planning has already begun on the 2007 Pharmacy Recruiting Fair.

October was also designated American Pharmacists Month by the American Pharmacists Association (APhA) and extra efforts were made at the College to acknowledge the month. Our APhA Student Chapter rallied to host several events and promote our profession. We began by hanging a large banner in front of Leonard Hall to inform the public of the month-long celebration. Students, under the direction of a faculty member, wrote pharmacy-related editorials that were published in the Pocatello Idaho State Journal each of the five Sundays of the month. We encourage you to read the editorials, available at www.pharmacy.isu.edu (click on American Pharmacist Month Editorial under the picture on the main page).

The October 21 Idaho State/Montana State football game was also the College of Pharmacy Game Day. Pharmacy students provided an informational booth at the Bengal Fest activities and formed the traditional “Rx” on the football field before the game (see details inside this Pharmacy Bulletin issue). Distinguished alumnus and supporter of the College, Mr. Bill Eames, ’57, joined me on the field for the coin toss and many other alumni joined us for the game. We also had some lively discussion that morning at a well-attended Dean’s Advisory Council Meeting. Unfortunately, Montana State did not cooperate by losing the game.

Also in October, I was able to attend the National Community Pharmacists Association Annual Convention during which ISU College of Pharmacy alumnus, John Tilley, ’77, was installed as this year’s President. John and his wife, Karen, reside in Downey, California.

In November, Dr. David Nelson, ’71, was in Pocatello as the 2006 Fall Executive-in-Residence guest lecturer. Dr. Nelson is the Lilly Research Senior Fellow with Eli Lilly and Company. In addition to several student presentations, he also met with faculty and staff during his visit. His general area of expertise is neuropharmacology. It was great to have him back on campus.

The first part of December, our students competed in the Clinical Skills Competition during the American Society of Health-Systems Pharmacists Midyear Clinical Meeting where they finished in the top ten. There were 87 schools and colleges of pharmacy represented. Congratulations to Alisa Stewart and Evan Frasure!

Presently, we are identifying the future needs of the College and the budget for the next fiscal year. Of utmost importance is continuing to provide competitive salaries for faculty members. In these days of high demand for faculty and pharmacists, we must continue to strive to retain our current faculty. One way to accomplish this is by offering competitive salaries and funding opportunities to promote their success. We also are addressing issues regarding our physical facilities. Leonard Hall continues to meet the basic needs of the College, but some areas need updating. Additional space continues to be an issue for the College, both in Boise and Pocatello. We also continue to look for ways to assist students with scholarships. The days are long gone where students are able to work during the summer to put themselves through school – it is not possible in general education and certainly not in pharmacy education. The students need additional financial help and we are trying to develop more scholarship funds.

If you would like to discuss any of these issues, or offer suggestions on how we can continue to provide the best pharmacy education to our students, please let us know. Here’s hoping your New Year is one of peace and happiness.

Regards,

Joseph F. Steiner, Pharm.D.
Dean and Professor
Students sign Code of Ethics for a Pharmacist

First-year Doctor of Pharmacy students were inducted into the ISU College of Pharmacy professional program during the 5th Annual White Coat Ceremony held Aug. 17 during P1 Orientation Week.

Dean Joseph Steiner, pharmacy faculty and staff, students and representatives from professional organizations welcomed the students to the study and ultimately, the practice of pharmacy.

The evening ceremony, held at the Pocatello Holiday Inn, included representatives from the Idaho State Pharmacy Association, Idaho Society of Health-Systems Pharmacists, Southeast Idaho Pharmacy Association and Idaho Board of Pharmacy.

During the ceremony, pharmacy students signed the Code of Ethics for a Pharmacist and donned white coats with the assistance of college alumni and faculty – acknowledging entrance into the pharmacy practice and their duty to their patients and colleagues.

Alumni, faculty, staff and friends of the college sponsored students by purchasing a white coat as a symbolic commitment as mentors to the students.

“The White Coat Ceremony provides a mechanism by which values that are key to our profession can be openly articulated and carefully considered in the company of peers, parents, partners and faculty,” Dean Steiner said. “Tonight you will take your first step into the profession of pharmacy. You will don the white coat as a symbol of that step and sign the pharmacist code of ethics. You will be expected to follow that code for your time here with us as a student and, more importantly, for the rest of your life. It is important to realize that once you become a pharmacist, you will always remain part of this profession.”

Thank you to the following donors for their contributions to the ceremony through the purchase of white coats and sponsorship funds for the evening events.

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Dr. John L. Woon  
Denis Russell & Beverly Yost
First-year College of Pharmacy students assemble for the traditional class portrait taken during the 5th Annual White Coat Ceremony.

### P1 students & their hometowns

- James Anderson, Logan, UT
- Larry Ashton, Cedar City, UT
- Shawn Barrow, Pocatello
- Grant Bell, Pocatello
- Whitney Bennett, Meridian
- Matthew Bowen, Idaho Falls
- Blake Buffat, Pocatello
- Heidie Carlson, Bismarck, ND
- Branden Deaton, Charleston, SC
- Jason Ebrahimpour, Spokane, WA
- Jeremy Ebrahimpour, Spokane, WA
- Lana Foster, Heyburn
- Tyson Frodin, Jerome
- Melissa Hall, Boise
- Kelly Hancock, Twin Falls
- Michael Higbee, Twin Falls
- Ginger Hodge, Umatilla, OR
- Katherine Hope, Burley
- Jennifer Horton, Pocatello
- Josie Huerta, Idaho Falls
- Brittany Hunzeker, Twin Falls
- David Iverson, Pocatello
- Jill James, Blackfoot
- John Jemison, Hauser
- Leon Jensen, New Plymouth
- James Jepson, Greeley, CO
- Eric Johnson, Salt Lake City, UT
- William Jordan, Blackfoot
- Neal Kelly, Boise
- Jamie Klucken, Jerome
- Daren Kunz, Preston
- Erick Lawton, Ventura, CA
- Tracy Lee, Idaho Falls
- Mark Lindhardt, Preston
- Jennifer Loo, Mililani, HI
- Ryan Lytle, Boise
- Cara McCoy, Pocatello
- Carmen Medina, Pocatello
- Melissa Mendji, Idaho Falls
- Aaron Meusborn, Pocatello
- Matthew Murray, Boise
- Scott Myers, Meridian
- Michelle Okumura, Sandy, UT
- Morgan Parker, Rupert
- Royce Peterson, Blackfoot
- Aleesha Richman, Chubbuck
- William Roberts, Salt Lake City, UT
- Andrei Rudyi, Boise
- Casey Sayre, Twin Falls
- Kaylee Schultz, Moscow
- Jessica Siddoway, Teton
- Jessica Sipe, Boise
- Amy Stokes, Bancroft
- Suzanne Tegland, Cedar City, UT
- Jason Tominaga, Rupert
- Lyle Trone, Mesa, AZ
- Katie Vuong, Boise
- Matthew Walker, Bellingham, WA
- Todd Wise, Salt Lake City, UT
- Daniel Worland, Newberry Springs, CA

Pharmacy student Jason Tominaga signs the Code of Ethics for a Pharmacist during the College of Pharmacy's 5th Annual White Coat Ceremony.
College hosts several events in support of 2006 American Pharmacists Month

Students, faculty co-author weekly editorials on health-care issues

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, visit the ISU College of Pharmacy Web site 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 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!
Faculty Spotlight:

Dr. Kevin Cleveland

ISU College of Pharmacy Clinical Assistant Professor, Kevin Cleveland, Pharm.D., has been teaching with the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Administrative Sciences since the fall of 2004. Before joining the faculty, the 2003 alumnus completed a specialty residency with the College-affiliated Idaho Drug Information Service.

Dr. Cleveland serves as the Curriculum Coordinator for the Nontraditional Doctor of Pharmacy Program where he is responsible for managing, coordinating, compiling and editing module lecture content. His faculty duties also include the facilitation of case studies for second- and third-year pharmacy students and presenting lectures on various pharmacy-related topics.

Dr. Cleveland’s interest in the health-care profession led him to pursue a bachelor’s degree in microbiology (ISU ’95), and subsequently work as a research technician for the J.R. Simplot Company in Pocatello before entering pharmacy school.

His compassion to help others through the health care profession was encouraged by his parents, he said, along with the personal experience of seeing a family member succumb to HIV in the 1980s.

“My parents instilled into me that helping people and showing compassion towards people is very important,” he said. “By being a pharmacist, I am able to help people with their medical concerns or problems. After working in a microbiology research lab for a few years, I realized that in order to have a greater impact on helping people, I needed to change my career direction.”

And choosing an academic pharmacy career, he says, also allows him the opportunity to help student pharmacists and contribute to the future of the profession.

“For me, this is an incredible opportunity that most people do not have and one that I take very seriously,” he added.

The former student, resident and now colleague among faculty has been a welcome addition to the College, says Dr. Vaughn Culbertson, Chair, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Administrative Sciences.

“When Kevin expressed an interest in teaching, we jumped at the chance to bring him on board,” Dr. Culbertson said. “He is an excellent role model and provides an outstanding example of the opportunities that are available to those students willing to work hard.”

While many students seek employment following pharmacy school, Dr. Cleveland encourages them to find a residency program to further their education in the pharmacy profession.

“Completing a residency program is probably one the best things a pharmacy student can do to further their career,” he said. “Residencies open more doors of opportunity than they close. Pharmacy is more clinical than it ever has been and will continue to grow in that direction. By doing a residency, a student will be able to hone their clinical skills that they developed in pharmacy school which will make them into a better pharmacist and ever more important in the health-care team.”

Dr. Cleveland readily admits that one may become consumed with the rigorous studies while attending pharmacy school, but advises students to avoid this and also pursue outside interests.

“When in pharmacy school it is very easy to lose sight of the important things – the things that make you – you,” he said. “One of the things that helped me the most while going through pharmacy school was doing activities that I enjoyed doing such as spending time with my family, mountain biking or fly fishing. Even though I might have been able to intimately understand the role beta-lactam antibiotics have on the construction of bacterial cell walls; by doing things I enjoyed outside of pharmacy school helped me keep everything in perspective.”

When not teaching students, advising the Professional Pharmacy Student Alliance members, or conducting Nontraditional Doctor of Pharmacy business, Dr. Cleveland spends time with his family.

He and his wife of 13 years, Francoise, are the parents of three children: Kailyn, Harrison and Remington.
**ISU-Boise update:**

**A rodeo clown, hunter, Magic 8 Ball & U.S. Constitution**

by Dr. Barb Mason

When the going gets tough, I’m pleased to say that the ISU College of Pharmacy Boise faculty still knows how to have a good time. With one faculty member on sabbatical, one full-time position vacant and another on maternity leave, we are stretched thin. The VA residents, Drs. Tom Wadsworth, Anna Howell, Elaine Ladd and Penny Melder have been life savers in managing HIV patients, developing an infectious disease lab, teaching case studies and modeling great patient care to introductory pharmacy practice experiences (IPPE).

Dr. Heineman is one of our newest affiliate faculty members and has been great to share her statistics knowledge and a whole lot more with the group.

Student P3 leaders, Tara Miller and Linda Sullivan, have been instrumental in assuring an ISU presence in the community through scheduling P3s in 140 hours of immunization clinics in collaboration with Albertsons in Boise, Caldwell, Nampa, Meridian and Eagle. Dr. Heineman also facilitated some IPPE experience for students through cardiovascular risk factor counseling at the MPC Bowl Game, Ada County Sheriff’s Program and Micron. One of my P4 students, Patrick Hayes, described his experience at MPC as, “the most fun I’ve had in pharmacy,” which is a true testament to student contributions. I hear it frequently verbally, but few MDs take time to put it in writing. Please note the letter in the newsletter that credits the contributions of Shara Holland made under the preceptorship of Dr. Rex Lott (see faculty accomplishments section).

My ambulatory care students, Ben Cook, Eric Schlerf and Hayes, are also to be credited with groundbreaking pharmacy students’ roles in our new VA Resident Teaching Clinics. The Boise VA is a vital teaching affiliation for the pharmacy program and a very dynamic practice site.

One of the interesting aspects of our faculty being affiliated with a federal government agency is keeping abreast of national issues. The U.S. Constitution is one of many “trainings” required of VA-based faculty. I don’t think that I had ever really read the Constitution of the United States and maybe you haven’t either, but you can bet that the ISU VA practitioners are well-versed on this requirement for employment.

Dr. Barb Mason is the ISU College of Pharmacy vice chair for the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Administrative Sciences at our ISU Boise campus.
Five new faces include Four College alumni Five new faces will have joined the ISU College of Pharmacy faculty and staff beginning in the academic fall semester 2006. Four faculty members with the College’s Department of Pharmacy Practice and Administrative Sciences and an administrative assistant for the Idaho Drug Utilization and Review and assessment office, bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to the College team.

**Dr. Joseph R. Ineck**
Joseph R. Ineck, Pharm.D., ’98 ISU alumnus, joins the College as a clinical assistant professor. Ineck, who also is a clinical pharmacy specialist with St. Luke’s Internal Medicine, Meridian, is responsible for teaching clinical practice specialties in the areas of acute/chronic pain management and palliative care and precepting pharmacy students.

Prior to joining the College, Ineck served as an assistant professor of pharmacy practice and sciences with Creighton University School of Pharmacy and Allied Health Professions in Omaha, Nebraska.

Ineck’s postgraduate training includes a pharmacy practice residency with the Albuquerque VAMC and a pain management and palliative care specialty pharmacy residency with the H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center in Tampa, Florida.

Ineck and his wife, Beata, are the parents of two children, Jessica and Joshua. When not attending to professional duties, Ineck enjoys fishing, skiing, hiking, reading and watching baseball and college football.

**Dr. Karen Robison**
Karen Robison, Pharm.D., also an ISU alum, ’01, joins the College faculty as adjunct assistant professor of pediatric experiences at St. Luke’s Regional Medical Center, Boise.

In addition to precepting fourth-year pharmacy students, Robison’s responsibilities include working with the neonatal intensive care unit and adult oncology. She also provides pharmaceutical services via satellite pharmacies which includes drug distribution and dosing consults, drug information, discharge counseling, rounding with physicians, prescribing per protocols and providing nursing and pharmacy in-services. Robison assisted in the development and implementation of the Pediatric, PICU, and Neonatal services provided by pharmacy satellite.

Prior to her tenure with St. Luke’s Medical Center, Robison served as a staff pharmacist with Columbia HCA Wesley Medical Center in Wichita, Kansas.

She and her husband, Scott, a pediatric/neonatal pharmacist at St. Luke’s Medical Center, are the parents of Olivia, Adeline and Will. The couple both received their PharmD degrees through the ISU College of Pharmacy Nontraditional Pharm.D. Program in 2001.

When not attending to career duties, they enjoy spending time with their family in the mountains skiing and river rafting.

**Dr. Eliza Borzadek**
Another 2004 ISU College of Pharmacy alumni joining the faculty is Eliza Borzadek, Pharm.D. Borzadek, clinical assistant professor, serves part-time with the College and the Pocatello Family Medicine Clinic.

**Dr. Brooke Pugmire**
Also joining the College in the capacity of clinical assistant professor is Brooke Pugmire, Pharm.D. Pugmire, also an ISU graduate, ’04, completed an ambulatory care residency with the College and Southeast Idaho VA Outpatient Clinic in 2005. She went on to serve a year pharmacotherapy residency with the Pocatello Family Medicine Clinic.

Pugmire’s primary duties with the College include serving as the liaison for the Idaho Drug Utilization Review (DUR) program. In this capacity she is responsible for the co-coordination and preparation of outcomes, studies and interventions, quarterly board meetings, quarterly newsletter articles and supervision of Pocatello Family Medicine/DUR residents. Pugmire also provides clinical therapeutics lectures to pharmacy and physician’s assistant students, while serving as a co-preceptor for DUR advanced practice experiential students and as a case studies facilitator.

When not seeing to her professional duties, Pugmire enjoys running, hiking, reading, sewing and spending time with her husband, Adam.
Dr. Eliza Borzadek

Her primary duties with Family Medicine include the coordination of pharmacology curriculum, faculty development, journal club, rotation didactic, resident and pharmacy student supervision, and introductory pharmacy practice experiences.

In addition, Borzadek is a case studies facilitator and assists with case studies coordination.

Borzadek completed a pharmacotherapy residency with the Pocatello Family Medicine Clinic in 2006. Prior to pharmacy school, she earned her R.N. degree at ISU in 1998.

When not seeing to her professional duties, Borzadek enjoys hiking, skiing, reading, movies, theater, and spending time with her husband Lukasz and their 5-year-old daughter Sofie.

Jessica Adams

Jessica Adams joins the College staff as an administrative assistant for the Idaho Drug Utilization Review (DUR) program and College of Pharmacy assessment committee.

Her duties include administrative work for the DUR Program where she is responsible for organizing quarterly meetings and billing. In addition, Adams assists with the College admissions committee and student application process.

Before joining the College, she served as the head bank teller with Idaho State University Federal Credit Union. She also has attended classes at ISU with her focus on prerequisite coursework for the radiographic science program – a degree she plans to complete.

Adams and her husband, Spencer, an ISU student, are the parents of a daughter, Gracie. When not attending to work and family duties, Adams enjoys playing volleyball, scrap-booking and shopping.

Kenny L. Alexander, Pharm.D.
Affiliate Clinical Assistant Professor
St. Luke’s Magic Valley Regional Medical Center
Twin Falls, ID

Michael L. Brandt, Pharm.D.
Affiliate Clinical Assistant Professor
St. Joseph’s Medical Center
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Jonathon Paine, M.D.
Affiliate Clinical Assistant Professor
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Pocatello, ID

Susan M. Heineman, Pharm.D.
Affiliate Clinical Assistant Professor
Pfizer, Inc (Clinical Education Consultant)
Boise, ID

These individuals are an essential part of our educational program. In addition to providing advanced practice experiential training, they provide important career counseling, didactic lectures and support for numerous student professional activities.
Dr. David Nelson, 1971 alumnus, returns to alma mater
Pharmacy executive-in-residence
lectures to students and faculty

by Andy Taylor,
University Relations

Idaho State University College of Pharmacy alumnus Dr. David Nelson, who has worked for Eli Lilly for 16 years, shared his experiences and wisdom with pharmacy students, faculty and staff Nov. 13-14.

Nelson, the College of Pharmacy’s fall 2006 executive-in-residence, graduated from ISU in 1971 with a Bachelor of Science degree, and earned a Ph.D. in pharmacology from the University of Colorado in 1976. An expert in neuropharmacology, Nelson is a Lilly Research Fellow.

On Nov. 13, he delivered the lecture “From Bench Top to Bedside: The Hurdles and Costs of Pharmaceuticals” to ISU students in the College of Pharmacy lecture hall that was also broadcast to students in Boise.

“Drug development is an expensive, high-risk endeavor,” Nelson said.

He noted that in 2006 it takes about $1.2 billion and more than 14 years to get a drug from its idea state to the marketplace. Only 30 percent of drugs that make it to the marketplace produce revenues that match or exceed research and development costs.

Nelson said about 20 percent of Eli Lilly’s sales income goes toward research and development. Globally, pharmaceutical companies spend about $50.3 billion dollars on the research and development of new drugs. Nelson said about 53 percent of all drug research done in the world is done in the United States because Nelson said it is “the last free market” for drug developers.

Nelson said there is a greater need for collaboration between academia and industry to produce new drugs.

His talk was well received by students. “I thought it was an excellent lecture,” said Clinton Smith, a third-year pharmacy student. “It was interesting to hear the viewpoint of a representative of a major pharmaceutical company discussing the trends in the industry for developing new drugs.”

In addition to his lecture on developing new drugs, Nelson also spoke to students about “Pharmacist Career Options in the Pharmaceutical Industry” and gave the lecture “The 5-HT 1F Receptor: From Cloning to the Clinic,” during a research seminar with graduate students. Nelson also participated in a variety of informal and formal discussions, and social events, with students, faculty and alumni from a variety of disciplines.

“There is no pharmaceutical drug industry to speak of in Idaho,” said Dr. Paul Cady, associate dean of the College of Pharmacy. “Nelson’s visit gave our students the opportunity to hear about a portion of the pharmaceutical world that doesn’t really exist in Idaho, and introduces them to career options that they might not have been aware of.”
Michael O’Farrell awarded Bronze Star

Student soldier returns from Iraq to resume pharmacy education

Pharmacy student Michael O’Farrell, who has postponed his studies with the College, twice, to serve with the U.S. Army Reserves, returned home this past August following a year deployment with the 872nd Maintenance Company in Mosul, Iraq.

The father of two and husband of Denise O’Farrell, an employee at the Southeastern District Health Department, was greeted by family, friends, fellow students and faculty members at the Pocatello Regional Airport on August 18.

“It doesn’t feel real, not yet,” O’Farrell said when arriving to a large crowd from the University community, friends and his wife and two children. “I thought about it on the plane and I wasn’t sure what to expect.”

O’Farrell began his professional education with the College in 2001, a year after he received a commission in the Army Reserves. He already held a bachelor of science degree in biochemistry, along with about 18 years of enlisted military service, nine of those in the U.S. Navy. Only a few short weeks after entering the PharmD program, the terrorist attacks of 9-11 placed his Army Reserve unit on active duty status.

Since then, the 2nd Lt. in the Medical Service Corps continued his studies, and training with the Army Reserves, earning a 1st Lt. promotion.

In December 2003, he was ordered to Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas where he trained with the Army Reserve Medical Corps graduating from Officer’s Basic School. The assignment required the then P-2 student to miss the spring 2004 semester – setting him back a year in school.

When O’Farrell began pharmacy school, the College was in the process of introducing a new curriculum. His class was the last to use the previous curriculum. Missing a semester of classes and changes in the curriculum placed him behind. Determined to continue with his studies, he accepted the setback and returned to ISU again in the fall as a P2 student.

“He stuck with the pharmacy program when a lot of people would have given up,” Dean Joseph Steiner said.

Since returning from his tour, O’Farrell has been busy catching up on a few classes, but will soon begin his advanced practice experiences. College courses have been recorded on CD or streamlined on the Web site - allowing O’Farrell to continue working on some of his third-year classes while in Texas prior to deployment.

Other pharmacy students have served in the Reserves, and administrators support each student’s circumstances when called for duty, Steiner said.

“The students, faculty and staff are proud that Mike was able to serve his country and we are grateful for his safe return,” Steiner said. “We try to help any of our students to progress toward their degree while they are serving in the military and Mike took advantage of these opportunities. However, this was not easy and it required strong dedication on his part. Mike will now be able to continue his studies and will become an excellent pharmacist.”

The soldier’s dedication to his company was honorable, according to military officials. O’Farrell was awarded the Bronze Star Award for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service.

“1st Lt. O’Farrell’s leadership, self-dedication to the mission of coalition forces and tireless pursuit of freedom, while engaged against the enemies of world peace, are in keeping with the finest traditions of military service and reflect the great credit upon him...,” O’Farrell’s supervisor wrote for the Bronze Star Medal recommendation.
The staff at Kootenai Medical Center (KMC), located in the Idaho panhandle in Coeur d’Alene, play a critical role in the education of ISU pharmacy students. Since January 2006, fourth-year students have served advanced practice experiences here under the direction of Dr. John Woon, clinical associate professor of pharmacy at ISU.

Not only has the KMC been a training ground for pharmacy students’ professional education, but also is the home of several ISU alumni who serve on the pharmacy health care team at the medical center.

Denis Yost, ’63, Jim McDonald, ’74, John Wooldridge, ’96 and Duane Siercke, ’01, are all pharmacists here who contribute to the health care mission of the medical center.

We recently were able to grab a few moments with the alumni, snap a few pictures, and convince a couple of the busy pharmacy professionals, Denis Yost and John Wooldridge, to share their ISU and career experiences with readers of the ISU Pharmacy Bulletin.

Denis Yost

Denis Yost, R.Ph., earned Bachelor of Science degrees in chemistry, ’61, and pharmacy, ’63, at Idaho State University before attending the University of Utah, where he received his MBA in 1967. For more than 30 years, Yost served as the director of pharmacy for St. Peter’s Hospital in Helena, Montana.

In 2002, Yost came to KMC where he serves as director of pharmacy and oversees all the operations of the 24-hour pharmacy and affiliate sites, and the center’s Home Infusion Services (Homelink). In addition, Yost is an instructor with the University of Montana, Missoula, and pharmacy services consultant.

Some of the programs and accomplishments he has participated in at KMC included the development and implementation of a cardiovascular pharmacy program, co-chairman of the hospital’s bar coding implementation committee, co-chairman of medication reconciliation implementation, chairman of the medication safety committee and initiated the therapeutic interchange program.

Yost and his wife, Beverly, a 1963 ISU graduate of nursing, are the parents of two children and six grandchildren. In their free time they enjoy camping, golf, hiking, volunteer work and studying history.

John Wooldridge

John Wooldridge, Pharm.D., graduated from ISU in 1996 before serving a pharmacy practice residency with Sacred Heart Medical Center in Spokane, Washington.

The critical care specialist for KMC holds a host of responsibilities for the center which include providing clinical pharmacy services for a 14-bed medical, surgical and cardiac intensive care unit. He works closely with five pulmonologists/intensivists; participating in daily multidisciplinary rounds, pharmacokinetic services, antibiotic rounds, parenteral nutrition ordering, IV to oral switches, renal/hepatic dosing, drip rounds with the nurses, healthcare provider in-services, order entry and various other activities.

Members of the Kootenai Medical Center pharmacy team include ISU College of Pharmacy alumni, l to r, Dr. John Woodridge, ’96, Denis Yost, ’63, Jim McDonald, ’74 and Dr. Duane Siercke, ’01.

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John Wooldridge were excellent role models, especially Teddy Gould, Rex Force, John Erramouspe and Marilyn Silcock. They provided me with the tools to succeed. They are excellent pharmacists that I have tried to pattern my practice after.

Wooldridge encourages students to find the specialty, or area of interest in the profession they enjoy most to maximize their career goals.

“I suggest students find an area of pharmacy practice they really enjoy,” he said. “There are many years to work and it is better to get paid a little less and have a better career. Job satisfaction goes a long way.”

Wooldridge and his wife, Amy, a pediatric occupational therapist, are the parents of 2-year-old Camryn Elizabeth.
The challenge faced by many students who hope to be admitted into pharmacy school is grueling. The College receives more than 500 applications for the 60 seats available each fall semester. Several factors are considered for admission to the program—with many students applying more than once. For third-year pharmacy student Asem "Sammy" Sarameh, getting accepted to the ISU program wasn’t the first, or most daunting, challenge he faced in fulfilling his dream of becoming a pharmacist.

Born in a Jerusalem hospital and raised in the West Bank town of Deir Debnan, Palestine, Sarameh has faced many life challenges that his peers are unlikely ever to experience. The son of American and Palestinian parents moved to Pocatello in 2002, not knowing anyone. Arriving on the ISU campus without friends is not uncommon for many students. However, Sarameh had only been in the United States for a year when he was enrolled in an intensive English-language program at Sacramento City College. Prior to this training, he spoke Arabic and little English, he said.

The pre-pharmacy student, who held a 4.0 GPA, had successfully passed advanced high school mathematics and science courses in Palestine, but was placed in a lower-level English class when coming to ISU. Acknowledging his limited English skills could be a barrier for his education, Sarameh says he thoroughly applied himself to learning more of the language and excelling in all academics. With the assistance of an electronic language translator, he continued to hone his communication skills to assist with his studies. In addition, he shared his solid math skills with other students, working as a tutor in the ISU math lab.

Proving he could successfully complete the academic requirements at ISU weren’t his only challenge. The Palestinian-Muslim faced cultural differences here and often, comments from other students who he says are misinformed or uneducated about events in the Middle East.

"They were very nice people, but very miseducated about the struggles in the Holy Land," he said.

Students asked if Islam is a country and why Palestinians disrespect women, not allowing them to drive or attend college.

In Palestine, women are allowed to attend college, he said. In fact, women make up a higher percentage of those attending nearby Al-Najah University in Nablus, Palestine. Other misconceptions also needed clarification.

"I’ve talked with people who thought I didn’t eat pig because I worshiped it," Sarameh said with a laugh.

Adapting to his new home, and sharing his experiences, religious beliefs and native culture has proven beneficial to his relationships with fellow students.

"I have made so many friends in Idaho that come from many different religions," he said.

Although Sarameh has strong religious, political and societal beliefs regarding current affairs and the history of war in his country, it is here at ISU where his focus today is to better educate himself to pursue his professional pharmacy career.

During his first year of pharmacy school he was accepted as an intern with the Pocatello Albertsons Sav-on Pharmacy. ISU alumni and director of pharmacy for the Pocatello Sav-on Pharmacy, Dr. Debbie Marchetti, says she only accepts one intern per year—a competitive process for first-year pharmacy students.

"His determination to succeed is to be commended," Marchetti said. "All Sammy ever asked for was a chance, and I had never seen this level of desire to grow in the pharmacy profession in a student. He pursued a position at my pharmacy with a big smile and perseverance."

Following his first two years of study in Pocatello, Sarameh joined other third-year students at the ISU–Boise campus to continue his pharmacy education. Once he completes his advance practice experience and earns his Pharm.D. degree, Sarameh won’t be the first from his family to graduate from the ISU College of Pharmacy. His cousin, Helmi Sarameh, is a 1991 alumnus who went on to also earn his M.D.

Many international students have passed through the halls of the College of Pharmacy, bringing their life experiences and diversity to ISU.

"The College has a long history of supporting and educating international students," Dean Joseph Steiner said. "The reputation for excellence is known worldwide and many international students want to choose the Idaho State University College of Pharmacy for their education. We welcome them as professional colleagues, learn from their diversity and support their professional efforts."
Three-year pharmacy students in Dr. Kerry Casperson’s business management class recently finished their semester-long business plan competition where teams of students develop a detailed pharmacy-related business plan, with the first-, second- and third-place teams earning financial awards.

Pharma-Chi, LLC, a retail pharmacy plan, offering patients and consumers traditional pharmaceutical services, while providing herbal and dietary supplementation and patient educational opportunities, took the first place prize earning $1,000 for Lindsay Black, Cori Bosserman, Erin Palmer and Jane Stroebel.

“Many pharmacy students have desires to own their own business and those who choose to work in investor-owned pharmacies often serve as managers in these pharmacies,” Casperson said. “A business plan is a core component of a successful entrepreneur. This competition is intended to facilitate the development of the business planning process, increase the business acumen of the pharmacist and promote the entrepreneurial skills and desires of pharmacy students,” he said.

In addition, the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) board has identified the need for a core competency education model in business principles taught to pharmacy students.

“The pharmacy management class focuses upon the management principles including planning, organizing, directing, controlling and evaluating, accounting, financial statements, managerial accounting, investment criteria, cost allocation, inventory control, pricing and entrepreneurship,” Casperson said.

The culmination of the course requires each student to participate in the development of a business plan.

According to the Small Business Administration, a business plan precisely defines your business, identifies your goals and serves as your firm’s resume, he said. The basic components include a current and pro forma balance sheet, an income statement and a cash flow analysis to assist business owners to allocate resources properly, handle unforeseen complications and make good business decisions. Because a plan provides specific and organized information about your company and how you will repay borrowed money, a good business plan is a crucial part of any loan application. Additionally, it informs sales personnel, suppliers and others about your operations and goals.

“The overall quality of all business plans in this year’s competition were of a high quality and demonstrated excellent understanding of key business principles and entrepreneurial skills of the third-year pharmacy students,” Casperson said.

In order to promote pharmacists as business leaders, College alumnus, Mr. Bill Eames, has provided the financial incentive in the development of these business plans through the William M. Eames Practice Management College of Pharmacy Scholarship Fund.

Other P3 teams earning awards for business plans were:

- Third, $250 – Pharm Med Rx3 - Ronnie Widdison and Ben Wise
ISU College of Pharmacy Faculty Accomplishments

The following faculty accomplishments are from the reporting period of June 3, 2006 to October 31, 2006.

Publications


Kowitz M, Liday C. Levemir: Comparable to Lantus? Evidence Based Practice 2006 October;9(10);10-11.

Stewart A, Liday C. Apidra: The flexible way of managing mealtine blood glucose? Evidence Based Practice 2006 September;9(9);10-12.

Presentations

Schaefer NB, Gangavarapu KJ, Daniels CK. (2006) MCL-1 Expression in the 7TD1 Murine B Cell Hybridoma is Constitutive in IL6-Dependent and Dexamethasone Resistant Cells. Idaho INBRE 5th Annual Research Conference, August 6-8, 2006, Coeur d’Alene, ID.

Woon JL, December 2, 2006 PharmPrep Live: Infectious Diseases Review for NABPEX, ASHP Midyear Clinical Anaheim CA

Woon JL, November 30, 2006 Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) Toxicology, Kootenai Medical Center, Coeur d’Alene ID


Thomas MW, Gangavarapu KJ, Daniels CK. (2006) The Role of IGF2 in the IL-6 Dependent and Dexamethasone Resistant 7TD1 Murine Hybridoma. Idaho INBRE 5th Annual Research Conference, August 6-8, 2006, Coeur d’Alene, ID.


Together with Dr. Alok Bhushan, Dr. James Lai gave a joint presentation at “Nanotechnology 2006” held on September 25-26, 2006 in Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, NY. Their presentation was entitled: “Drug Resistance and Toxicity Effects of Nanomaterials: Molecular Mechanisms and Potential Applications in Cancer Treatment.”

Dr. James Lai was an invited speaker at the Idaho State University Office of Research Sponsored Research Colloquium, October 11, 2006. His talk was entitled: “Peroxisome Proliferator-Activated Receptors in Neurotumor Cells: Clinical Implications & Effects of Manganese Treatment.”


Hefflinger R, October 6, 2006 - “Pharmacologic Interventions for Parkinson’s Disease” Noon Drug Conference Family Medicine Residency of Idaho.


Poster Presentations


Grants/Contracts

University of Idaho/NSF EPSCoR; 6-1-06 to 5-31-08; “NSF EPSCoR Research Infrastructure Improvement V – Nanotechnology;” ISU Principle Investigator: Christopher K. Daniels; Direct costs: $92,884.

Awards/Other

Drs. Alok Bhushan, James C.K. Lai, and Christopher K. Daniels from College of Pharmacy, and Dr. Solomon W. Leung from College of Engineering were invited to give a presentation, entitled, “Detection of Cell Signaling Processes and Their Parallels in Bioengineering: Potential and Challenges for New Technologies”, at the Special Seminar series on Robotics and Computer Assisted Micro-Surgery, organized by the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, Medical Engineering Board, London, UK on November, 9, 2006. Drs Bhushan and Leung will go to London to give the presentation on behalf of all four authors. Their paper will be published in the Proceedings of that Seminar series.

Dr. Cara Liday completed necessary hours and passed national exam to become a certified diabetes educator (CDE).

Dr. Rex Lott, appointed to Residency Standards Task Force, College of Psychiatric and Neurologic Pharmacists; appointed to Recertification Committee, College of Psychiatric and Neurologic Pharmacists; nominated as candidate for Board Member At Large, College of Psychiatric and Neurologic Pharmacists.

Dr. Roger Hefflinger was appointed to the State of Idaho Health Quality Planning Commission for the term of July 2006 to June 2007 by Governor James E. Risch. The appointment is for the commission to assess health information exchange and quality assessment.

Sam Hoagland, JD, was inaugurated as President of ISHP on Sept 30, 2006 to serve a two-year term.

Woon JL, December 2, 2006, Preliminary round judge, ASHP National Clinical Skills Competition, ASHP Midyear Clinical Anaheim CA.

ISU College of Pharmacy Student Accomplishments

We often receive letters from our preceptors from one of the many advanced practice experience sites and like to share them with readers of the ISU Pharmacy Bulletin.

Dear Dr. Rex Lott:

I am writing this unsolicited letter to commend Shara Holland for an excellent performance during my treatment team meetings, which she has bee attending weekly during her rotation at Sun-Health of Boise. Her grasp of the pharmacologic information, degree of meaningful participation and general professionalism is extraordinary. She has proven herself to be a real asset during these treatment team meetings and I feel that is quite notable.

Thank you for allowing her to participate actively in our patient care programs here at Sun-Health of Boise.

Sincerely,

Richard A. Montgomery, M.D.
In addition to long hours spent in classrooms, pharmacy laboratories and studying, ISU College of Pharmacy students find time to assist area residents each year through fundraising events.

Student members of the ISU Professional Pharmacy Student Alliance (PPSA) will hold the 14th Annual Spaghetti Feed and Auction on Friday, February 23 in the Pond Student Union Building Ballroom at 6 p.m. More than thirty percent of their $20,000 goal will benefit a Pocatello youth through the Make-A-Wish Foundation® of Idaho, with the remainder benefiting PPSA professional development and community health promotion projects.

Thomas is a 5-year-old boy who lives with Wilms’ tumor, a malignant cancer of the kidney that primarily affects young children. Thomas’ wish is to go to Disney World with his family during the March spring break. His mother, Jessica, is an ISU student, pursuing admission into the nursing program. Thomas has a younger brother and his father is a Pocatello police officer.

The benefit includes a feast of Italian food, prepared by College of Pharmacy faculty, and an auction of various items and services donated by area businesses and faculty members.

Jacqueline Brown, chair of the event and second-year pharmacy student said, “In an effort to reach our goal of raising $20,000 this year, PPSA students have taken the fundraiser online. We have approximately 30 really exciting items available on no-risk consignment from our online auction vendor, cMarket.com. The online auction will run February 2-22.”

“Adding a cMarket.com online auction hasn’t replaced our 13-year tradition of holding a live and silent auction, with raffles and our gourmet spaghetti feed,” Nancy Seroski, second-year student and co-chair, added, “We have just added a new dimension with new ways to get the word out, offer exciting auction items, and reach more supporters with our message.”

Additional information, including a catalog of auction items and ways to donate, is available at the online auction website ppsa.cmarket.com. The cost for the meal and benefit auction February 23 is $5 per person, $15 per family, and double at the door to encourage the community to get their tickets early for planning purposes.

Anyone interested in donating items to the benefit auction or tickets may contact Brown or Seroski at sfra@pharmacy.isu.edu.