



## **SWOSU College of Pharmacy**

### **Spring 2012 News Update**

#### **New Dean Named**

Dr. Dennis Thompson was named Dean of the COP in January 2012. He had most recently served as Associate Dean and Chair for the Department of Pharmacy Practice and has been serving as Interim Dean.

#### **Faculty/Staff News**

Dr. Les Ramos was named Chair of the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences this spring. He replaced Dr. Scott Long who was recognized for his excellent service to the department over the last two years.

Dr. Barry Gales is serving as Interim Chair of the Department of Pharmacy Practice.

Dr. Leanne Showman has been hired as Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice and Regional Experiential Coordinator for Eastern Oklahoma.

Dr. Sarah Ramsey has been hired as Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Administration. She is the COP's new Director of Assessment and is overseeing all evaluation efforts in the COP.

Dr. Nancy Williams is serving as the current president of Oklahoma Society of Health System Pharmacists.

Dr. Chelsea Church resigned from her Pharmacy Practice position. She has joined the Oklahoma State Board of Pharmacy as a compliance officer.

Dr. Faruk Khan and Dr. Jaewha Choi both received Oklahoma Idea Network of Biomedical Research Excellence grants, know as INBRE grants. Dr. Khan has received two grants respectively for \$336,254 and \$8,935. Dr. Choi's grant was for \$40,000.

There have been several staff changes. Tara Stamm has moved to Oklahoma City to become the Department of Pharmacy Practice administrative assistant. Ashley Walkup replaced Tara on the Weatherford campus as IPPE administrative assistant. Connie Blakeman is the new dean's administrative assistant.

## **Research/Technology News**

In addition to the INBRE grants, advancement in the COP's research efforts continue. The third floor research lab has been remodeled, and work is well underway to renovate about 1,200 sq feet of space in the basement for laboratory space. The demolition is complete, and the construction phase is moving ahead for a completion time later in 2012.

Dean Thompson and Dr. Khan made a trip around the world to Bangladesh to help develop a fledgling PharmD program as well as investigate the potential for collaborative research in the area of natural product drugs.

Technological advancements have surged ahead in several areas. Five hallway information monitors have been installed in both campus buildings (three in CPP, two in the Annex) to provide news and information updates. Video-conferencing and video-lecturing have become a reality. The seminar room (rm. 307) is the center for video-conferencing, and Rm 312 is the video-lecture site. Other technology includes the installation of two Smartboards and the utilization of the Neehr Perfect electronic medical records system. Work is in progress to place two directory/map touchscreen devices on the third floor of CPP and in the Annex. Dr. Saluja spearheaded the purchase of a \$65,000 Baxa 2400 MR automatic IV preparation machine for Pharm Care Lab 4. The student portfolio system has almost completed a move from a paper to electronic format in conjunction with the utilization of the E-Value record keeping software.

## **Communication News**

In addition to the communication-enhancing technology previously mentioned, the COP website has seen several updates including a new dean's welcome and the new COP newsletter, now in a second issue.

## **Accreditation News**

The COP's ACPE Interim report focusing on strategic planning, assessment, and research was submitted March 1. The next ACPE visit will be spring 2014, and the work on the self-study report for this visit will begin this fall 2012.

## **Program News**

In an effort led by Dr. Virgil VanDusen, the COP and the College of Professional and Graduate Studies have developed a dual degree PharmD/MBA program. Candidates are being recommended to the program and the candidates will begin the first phase of the process this summer 2012.

The next round of the university's strategic planning began near the end of February with the development of focus groups. The COP strategic planning cycle will coincide with this movement as the COP develops our 2013-2020 plan.

### **Profile of the Fall 2011 Class**

Of the 232 qualified applicants, 50 were accepted. The Fall 2011 class is comprised of 27 men (54%) and 23 women (46%) with an overall 3.58 GPA. The average age is 23.73 y/o, and the class had a mean ACT of 25.54 with an overall PCAT of 66.34. Eighty-eight percent of the class were from Oklahoma with the rest from Texas.

### **Profile of the Spring 2012 Class**

From the 108 qualified applicants, 35 were selected. The Spring 2012 class was 63 percent (22) female and 37 percent (13) male. The Spring 2012 class has a 3.49 overall GPA with a mean ACT of 24.34. This Spring 2012 class averages 23.40 y/o on average with an overall PCAT of 65.97.

### **Student-Related News**

Led by a group of Pharmacy Practice faculty that included Dr. Gregory, Dr. Williams, Dr. Morris, Dr. Davis, Dr. Church, and Dr. Brooks, a number of COP students conducted hands-on health screenings during the second annual pharmacy health fair at the 2012 OPHA Legislative Day February 21 in Oklahoma City at the capitol.

A group of thirty students attended the Spring 2012 OPhA Legislative Day reception at the History Center on the capitol grounds in Oklahoma City.

Two COP Kappa Epsilon members, Sandra Souvannachak and Avery Karnes, were awarded the prestigious Zada Cooper Scholarship by the national KE office out of only six scholarships awarded nationally.

