

THE SIG NEWSLETTER

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Homecoming

On October 11th, SWOSU Homecoming day, the SWOSU COP Alumni Recognition Ceremony & Brunch was held in the Memorial Student Center Ballroom. During this ceremony, a number of COP alumni awards were presented to the following: Outstanding Pharmacy Alumnus: Kent and Jalee Abbott of Hydro; Brandy Award: Janet Seratte of Cache; Humanitarian: Dyron Howell, Amarillo (TX); Professional Achievement: Greg Huenergardt of Shattuck; and Young Professional Achievement: Jamie Miller of Chickasha. Also during the ceremony, the 50-year pharmacy graduates were honored. Following the ceremony, COP students, faculty, alumni and friends had an opportunity to visit and tour the COP on the 3rd floor of the CPP building.

The Southwestern Pharmacy Alumni (PAA) supports the SWOSU College of Pharmacy students, alumni, faculty and friends and is currently presided by Tracie Simard. The PAA have various annual activities which aim to promote the interests and welfare of the SWOSU COP and the PAA itself.

Pictured above, L-R: Pharmacy Alumni Association President Tracie Simard, Janet Seratte, Dean Dennis Thompson, Pharmacy Alumni Association President-Elect Sheldon Webb.

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NCPA Fall Communication Update

In October 2014, the SWOSU NCPA chapter attended the Annual NCPA Convention in nearby Austin, TX, where they met with pharmacists and students from across the country. This was a great opportunity to learn more about the exciting possibilities within independent community pharmacy. Upon returning, the chapter hosted the annual NCPA Spaghetti Dinner benefitting the Agape Clinic of Weatherford. With nearly 120 attendees and over \$600 raised, they were thrilled to present the check to long-time faculty member and supporter of Agape, Dr. Steve Pray.



APhA-ASP Welcome Back Cook Out

SWOSU's American Pharmacists Association Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP) hosted their annual 'Welcome Back Cookout' at Means Park last fall for approximately 150 College of Pharmacy (COP) and Pre-Pharmacy students as well as their friends and families. The COP faculty cooked hamburgers and Walgreens Pharmacy District Manager Ryan Walker distributed door prizes.

APhA-ASP promotes professional and ethical advancement of pharmacy students, and provides community service opportunities for members to educate the public on the importance of awareness, prevention, and overall good health practices. Other ASP events include Spirit Week for Homecoming, Pharmacy Week, and the White Coat Ceremony.



ACCP Clinical Pharmacy Challenge

The ACCP Clinical Pharmacy Challenge is a team-based competition, in which students compete in a "quiz bowl"-type format. Schools and colleges of pharmacy are allowed to enter only one team. Preliminary rounds of the national competition were held virtually in September. The quarterfinal, semifinal and final rounds were held live at the ACCP Annual Meeting in Austin, Texas from October 11 to October 13.

SWOSU COP has been participating in this competition every year since it started in 2011. This year, the SWOSU team consisted of **P. Kim Abbott, Enjema Tanifum and Quynh Phi**. The alternate team member was Rekha Patel.

ASHP Clinical Skills Competition

Seven teams participated in the local American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) Clinical Skills Competition this past October. The winning team was **P. Kim Abbott and Morgan Greutman**. They received a "most-expenses" paid trip to Anaheim, CA, to compete on the national level at the ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting in December. The second place team was Jessica Pasquini and Nathan Troester. They each received a \$25 gift card to Wal-Mart. The third place team was Erin Hander and Lauran Randall. They each received a \$10 gift card to Sonic. Drs. Krista Brooks, Edna Patatanian and Nancy Williams judged the competition.

ASHP represents pharmacists who serve as patient care providers in acute and ambulatory settings. For over 70 years, ASHP has been on the forefront of efforts to improve medication use and enhance patient safety.

SCRiPS News

As the SWOSU Center for Research in Pharmaceutical Sciences (SCRiPS) coordinator for the College of Pharmacy (COP), Dr. Faruk Khan, Pharmaceutical Sciences Department Chair and Associate Professor, is helping SWOSU's COP realize one of its Strategic Plan goals: to develop Centers of Excellence which align with the COP mission, goals, and expertise. The mission of SCRiPS is to promote research in the field of pharmaceuticals and provide opportunities for faculty as well as students to engage in research and create a network for exchange and sharing of ideas. Research opportunities provide COP students a dynamic educational environment in which students can develop their intellectual and leadership skills required to become successful in the field of pharmacy. As the SCRiPS coordinator, Dr. Khan mentors student researchers and supervises undergraduate, graduate and postdoctoral research activities.

Additionally, Dr. Khan is currently serving on the Southwestern Oklahoma State University's Research and Scholarly Activity Committee (URSAC). This fall, the URSAC received the Undergraduate Research Program Spotlight Award from the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education. The Spotlight Award is given to honor one exemplary university program for undergraduate research each year. Part of Dr. Khan's role on the URSAC involves developing the research focus. The URSAC provides research funds as well as sponsors opportunities for students to represent SWOSU for research purposes, such as at the annual Research and Scholarly Activity Fair. Serving on the URSAC provides Dr. Khan an opportunity to network and collaborate with researchers on the SWOSU Weatherford campus.

Fellowship of Christian Pharmacists

Fellowship of Christian Pharmacists (FCP) is an active organization on SWOSU's campus that provides fellowship among pre-pharmacy and pharmacy students. Students in FCP join together once a month to challenge and uplift each other in spiritual growth, encourage the advancement of knowledge and ethics, and encourage evangelism and the integration of faith into practice. FCP also provides support and opportunity for service in both home and foreign missions. In the summer of 2014, SWOSU FCP sent three students, **Ashley McMahan, Kortney Meyers, and Erin McGuire** to the Christian Pharmacists Fellowship International (CPFI) Annual Meeting in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. This summer, FCP is looking forward to sending eight FCP students to the CPFI student retreat in Flat Rock, North Carolina.

FCP has also been involved with a project called Sole Hope this semester. Sole Hope's mission is "to offer hope through education, jobs, and medical relief; empowering people to live healthier lives, free of foot-related diseases." FCP hosted a shoe-cutting party and accomplished cutting 20 pairs worth of shoe supplies that will be sent to Uganda to prevent injuries from the jigger epidemic.



Dr. Khan Appointed as Consultant

In October, Dr. Khan, Chair of the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Associate Professor of Medicinal Chemistry, was approved by the Vice Chancellor for the University of Dhaka to be a consultant for the Department of Pharmaceutical Technology, University of Dhaka.

This approval was based on the recommendation by the selection committee of the sub-project (CP-3245) under the Academic Innovation Fund component of the Higher Education Quality Enhancement Project implemented by the University Grants Commission and directed by the Department of Pharmaceutical Technology, University of Dhaka.

As the consultant, Dr. Khan acts as a liaison between SWOSU COP and the Department of Pharmaceutical Technology of University of Dhaka. He is required to expedite project related activities, execute training, workshops and/or seminars for the Faculty members and students of Department of Pharmaceutical Technology, University of Dhaka.



“Sleepers in September”

SWOSU Oklahoma Society of Health-System Pharmacists (sOSHP) organized the “Sleepers in September” on September 26th for the organization, Newborns in Need. This group assembles and provides necessities to agencies and hospitals serving premature, ill or impoverished newborns in the United States. This service aims at making the lives of those babies better by providing the supplies they require at no fee or charge.

Every September, sleepers are collected to help babies during winter months. Winter months can be dangerous to babies who do not have the appropriate clothing for the cold weather. Loose comforters and blankets used in their cribs for warmth can cause suffocation as these infants can burrow into these comforters and blankets. This is a possible cause of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS). The drive was organized to gather some winter supplies to help the Newborns in Need. 15 sleepers, 6 blankets, 12 packages of wipes, 12 packages of diapers and bibs and clothes were collected at the end of this drive. These items were donated to the local Edmond, Oklahoma, chapter.

Kappa Psi Fundraiser

In September, the Delta Beta chapter of Kappa Psi at SWOSU donated \$5,000.00 to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital. This donation was made in memory of Rusty Hartsell.

PLS Chemical Dependency Seminar

On November 17th, Oklahoma Pharmacists Helping Pharmacists (OPHP), Phi Lambda Sigma (PLS) and SWOSU COP hosted guest speaker Kevin McCauley, a nationally recognized physician on the science and psychology of addiction from the Institute for Addiction Study, for the PLS Chemical Dependency Seminar at SWOSU. The seminar was organized by COP student Alex Foster.

New Coordinator for Pharm.D./MBA Dual Degree Program



Dr. Hardeep Saluja, Assistant Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences, was appointed this fall by Dean Thompson as the Coordinator for the dual degree Pharm.D./MBA program. This program is a collaboration between Southwestern Oklahoma State University's (SWOSU) College of Pharmacy (COP) and the Everett Dobson School of Business and Technology. COP Students in their second full semester of the pharmacy program are eligible for consideration to the dual program. Although this program attracts many students every year, only around 4 are selected as the requirements are very challenging and demanding.

The ultimate goal of the SWOSU Pharm.D./MBA program is to provide COP graduates with skills, knowledge, and practical experience needed to enhance their employment options and elevate their employment standing. As alumni, our graduates with dual degrees will have the opportunity to shape the future of pharmacy through their acquired leadership, management, financial, and business skills.



Preceptor Profile - Leonard "Leo" Harms

Leo is a 2003 SWOSU graduate who is originally from western Oklahoma (Ringwood). He completed his APPE rotations in the Tulsa area and has lived there since. Leo currently practices community pharmacy with Target and has also worked for Albertson's. The aspect of his job that Leo enjoys the most is the interaction with patients. He enjoys the opportunity to get to know his patients on a personal level.

Leo was named SWOSU's Preceptor of the Year in 2014. He initially became involved with pharmacy students through Target's preceptor program. He believes that precepting students is a good way to keep his practice up to date and he enjoys working with these "future colleagues". Leo says that interacting with students allows him to view his work from a different perspective and that it is exciting to work with students who are enthusiastic about learning.

In his spare time, Leo enjoys traveling; recent trips include Los Angeles and Hong Kong. In Hong Kong, he was able to meet some of his extended family for the first time.

SWOSU COP 5th Annual Professionalism Dinner

The SWOSU College of Pharmacy held the 5th Annual Professionalism Dinner for first year (P1) pharmacy students earlier this fall. The College's Professionalism committee organizes this event at the beginning of every fall semester. Dr. Hardeep Saluja, Assistant Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences, served as coordinator alongside Colton Danyeur, a third year (P3) COP student. Additional pharmacy faculty and students serving on the committee include faculty members Drs. Nancy Williams, Erin Callen, Virgil VanDusen, Kristin Montarella (Chair), Edna Patatanian, Jacqueline Gregory, and students Jessica Pasquini, Shelby Clark, and Jessica Murphy. The event is held to welcome both the incoming fall class and the incoming class from the prior spring. It is meant to serve as an introduction for students into the professional and ethical standards required for their future practice.

The event was sponsored by CVS Pharmacy, who has sponsored this event for the last four years. The guest speaker was Dr. Joseph P. Bryant, a graduate of SWOSU College of Pharmacy. He began his career as a Pharmacy Practice Resident in the Indian Health Service and has since then held multiple leadership and clinical positions within the Oklahoma City Area Indian Health Service. He is currently the Administrative Officer for the Clinton Service Unit. He is also a Board Certified Pharmacotherapy Specialist (BCPS) and is a Commissioned Corps Officer with the U.S. Public Health Service.



New Instructors Hired



Dr. Aimee Henderson, Pharm.D., joined the COP as a Rural Health Clinical Pharmacist for Medication Therapy Management (MTM). She earned her Pharm.D. from SWOSU in 2001. She worked for Walmart for several years early in her career. Most recently, she has been employed by a long term care company doing MTM.



Dr. Sarah Yount, Pharm.D., joined the COP as a Rural Health Clinical Pharmacist for MTM. She earned her PharmD from SWOSU in 2013 and has spent the last five years working for Salisbury Pharmacy in Clinton, OK. Sarah has dedicated her career to working with patients in a rural setting to improve health outcomes. Her dedication to patient care during the transition of care process is a wonderful addition to the Rural Health program.



Dr. Steve Drinnon, Pharm.D. joined the COP as the Pharm Care Lab 2 Coordinator. He earned his B.S. in Pharmacy from SWOSU in 1993 and then returned to complete the non-traditional Pharm.D. program in 2003. He has been practicing in community pharmacies in the Western Oklahoma area for several years.

Faculty News

Dr. Melanie Claborn passed Board of Pharmacy Specialties (BPS) ambulatory care pharmacy exam. She can now use the designation BCACP (Board Certified Ambulatory Care Pharmacist) in her credentials.

Dr. Nancy Williams was selected as an American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) Academic Leadership Fellow for 2015-2016. She was invited to attend the AACP Academic Leadership Fellows Program, which is designed to develop the nation's most promising individuals to become future leaders in pharmacy and in higher education. The program provides an opportunity for fellows to expand relationships with peers and colleagues in other institutions, as well as within the college and university.

New Staff Hired

Casey Merryman is the new Administrative Assistant to the Coordinator of Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experiences (IPPE). She joined the SWOSU COP in October 2014.

Casey graduated from SWOSU in 2011 with a Bachelor's in Communication Arts with an emphasis in Public Speaking and Theatre. Alongside her job, she is also working on a Masters of Business Administration at SWOSU.

Casey and her husband Patrick have been living in Weatherford for over a year. Patrick is a double major in Finance and Accounting and is a former US Army officer. She is also involved in various activities. She is involved in theatre in the Southwest Playhouse in Clinton, is a Weatherford Rotarian, and volunteers with the Southwest District 4-H program.

Julie Bartel-Biebrich recently joined SWOSU as the Administration Assistant for the Department of Pharmacy Practice in Oklahoma City. She graduated from Oklahoma State University with a degree in Business and Marketing. She moved to Florida after her graduation where she worked for Disney, designing costumes. Julie won some awards along the way and also met her husband on a movie set.

She moved back to Oklahoma in 2007 and has been very active with the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) ever since her son was diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes at the age of 5. Julie serves as a JDRF council member and assists with all aspects of fundraising and awareness campaigns to find a cure. Julie enjoys sewing, hanging out with her husband and son, shoe shopping and travelling.

Faculty Retirement: Dr. Richard (Dick) Stowe

Dr. Richard (Dick) Stowe, Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice, is retiring after almost nine years of service with SWOSU and was presented with a plaque commemorating his dedication. He was also awarded the AACP Teacher of the Year Award for the Pharmacy Practice Department at the Hooding Ceremony; this award is voted on by the pharmacy student body. Dr. Stowe offered a medicine rotation at an Indian Health Services and Tribal Health facility in Tahlequah, OK. He stated that he will miss "interacting with the students [the most]. They keep you on your toes." His advice for future students is "Do not accept mediocrity. Always remain intellectually inquisitive. Know the correct answer, but know why the answer is correct." Dr. Stowe is pictured (right) with Dr. Nancy Williams, and his wife of 40 years, Karen.





Dr. Tom Davis Wins Prestigious Bernhardt Award

Dr. Tom W. Davis, Associate Professor of Pharmacy Practice, was the winner of the Bernhardt Academic Excellence Award for 2015. Dr. Davis was surprised with the prestigious award at the annual Bernhardt Banquet held March 12 in the Memorial Student Center on the SWOSU campus. SWOSU alumni Dr. William and Theta Juan Bernhardt of Midwest City are sponsors of the annual award that goes to an outstanding faculty member who exhibits exceptional achievement in teaching, scholarship and service.

Dr. Davis is a 1970 graduate of SWOSU where he completed a Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy degree. He earned his Doctor of Medicine in 1974 at the University of Oklahoma Health Science Center. Davis has served 27 years in SWOSU's pharmacy practice department. In addition, he serves as medical director for various programs at Saint Anthony Hospital in Oklahoma City. Those areas include Recovery and Treatment Outpatient Program; Pharmacy and Medication Management; and Performance Improvement.

Over the years, Davis has been an inspiring continuing education instructor which has resulted in many invited presentations across the United States. Davis has been selected 10 times as the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) Teacher of the Year for the SWOSU Department of Pharmacy Practice. The award recipient is chosen by SWOSU students in the pharmacy program. He was also selected as Pharmacist of the Year in 2010 by the Oklahoma Society of Health-System Pharmacists.

At SWOSU, Davis has served in Faculty Senate and has been involved with the University's strategic planning committee. He was also part of the University's Centennial Planning Committee from 2000-2002 and the Presidential Inauguration Committee in 2001. In the SWOSU College of Pharmacy, Davis has been active on several committees including Admissions, Assessment, and Dean's Search. He has also been involved on various self-study teams associated with the College of Pharmacy's accreditation process.

Pictured above, L-R: William Bernhardt, Theta Juan Bernhardt, Tom Davis, SWOSU President Randy Beutler

SWOSU APhA-ASP Patient Counseling Competition

SWOSU COP recently held its annual APhA-ASP Patient Counseling Competition and second-year pharmacy student, **Jessica Heiser** (Altus, OK; pictured right) was the winner.

The competition has occurred annually since 1998 and is open to all students of the SWOSU COP professional program. Student pharmacists engage in a role-playing scenario with a volunteer patient. The participants must call upon knowledge and skills to effectively guide the patient in medication decisions and therapeutic management guidelines. Scoring is standardized and based on a series of criteria for proper patient counseling. Thirteen students participated in the competition this year.

Winner: Jessica Heiser

2nd Place: Tara Delonais

3rd Place: Tied: Nissy Skariah and Stephy Sunny

Dr. Sally Drinnon volunteered her time to play the "patient" for the scenario this year. Judges for the competition were Annie Frymeier (Watonga Indian Health Center), Michael Hunt (Clinton Indian Health Center) and Jamie Shaddon (Clinton Indian Health Center).

Jessica received an all-expenses paid trip to San Diego, to compete in the National Patient Counseling Competition held during the American Pharmacists Association annual meetings. The APhA-ASP is a sponsor of the competition.



College of Pharmacy Advisory Council Meets for Strategic Planning

In March 2015, the SWOSU COP Advisory Council met on the Weatherford campus, and the group focused on strategic planning/future opportunities and possible threats in the changing health care environment. The SWOSU College of Pharmacy Dean's Advisory Council is an invited group of regional pharmacy leaders from both the public and private sectors whose purpose is to provide a channel of communication between the professional/business communities and the SWOSU COP. The group assists with advocacy, philanthropy and general advancement of the pharmacy college.

Members of the SWOSU College of Pharmacy Dean's Advisory Council include: Front, L-R: Mary Porter, Yvette Morrison, Tami Moser (COP). Back, L-R: John Foust, Kirk Irby, Ben Welch (COP), Tom Davis (COP), Roger Enix, Dean Dennis Thompson (COP), Randy Curry (COP). Not pictured: Carl Birdsong, Janet Beard, Derek Dennis, Doyle High, James Kirk.

Profile of the Fall 2014 Class

From the 127 qualified applicants, 42 were selected. The fall 2014 class is 43% (18) male and 57% (24) female. The mean age is 22.28 years old. The fall 2014 class has a mean GPA of 3.56, a mean ACT of 26.73, and an average composite PCAT of 63.59%.



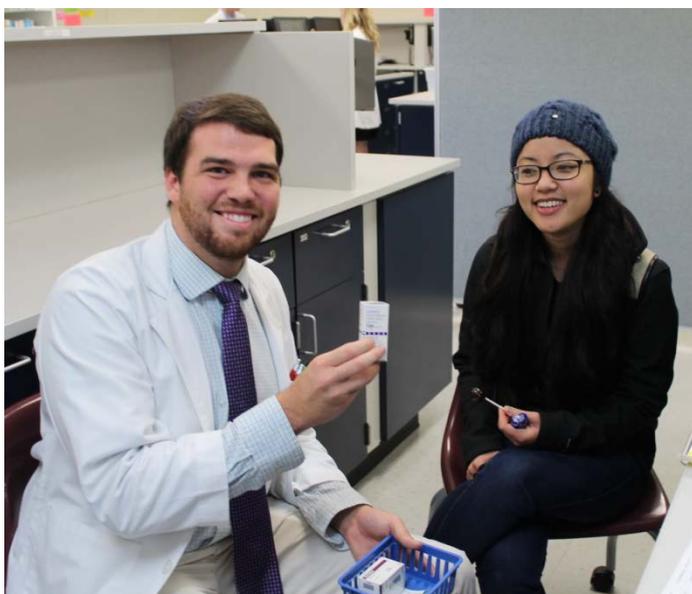
Profile of the Spring 2015 Class

From the 75 qualified applicants, 35 were selected. The spring 2015 class is 51% (18) male and 49% (17) female. The mean age is 23.20 years old. The spring 2015 class has a mean GPA of 3.42, a mean ACT of 24.97, and an average composite PCAT of 57.26%.



Sim Day

On April 17th, the second semester P3 students took part in a simulation of real-world scenarios that may be encountered in both the retail and hospital pharmacy settings. Several P4 students assisted in playing roles as patients.



APhA-ASP Health Fair

APhA-ASP student pharmacists worked in conjunction with members from the SWOSU Rural Health Network to provide services to students, staff, and area residents during the SWOSU Wellness Expo that was held on Wednesday, April 8, 2015 in the Memorial Student Center on the Weatherford campus. During this event services students and pharmacists performed bone density testing, as well as screenings for diabetes, cholesterol, and hypertension.



sOSHP Mentoring Meeting

The SWOSU student chapter of OSHP (sOSHP) hosted a Mentoring Meeting at Southwestern Oklahoma State University on April 16, 2015. At this meeting, students were given the chance to talk one-on-one with two pharmacists in their desired field of health-system practice. The 16 pharmacists and 17 students were matched up in 2 different pairs and given 15 minutes to talk. This gave students the chance to learn more about what health-system pharmacists do, ask any questions they may have about health-system pharmacy, and make lasting connections with health-system pharmacists currently in practice. Afterward, there was a dinner and networking session so that students and pharmacists could continue to make connections and learn more about what health-system pharmacy has to offer.



SWOSU Affiliated PGY1 Pharmacy Residents



***Integris Southwest Medical Center and Southwestern Oklahoma State University
PGY1 Pharmacy Residency Program
Laura Randolph, PharmD***

Dr. Randolph received her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford, Oklahoma, in 2014. Her current area of interest is oncology, and her research project is titled "Impact of pharmacist interventions in an ambulatory cancer center". Following completion of her PGY1 pharmacy residency, Dr. Randolph plans on pursuing a position as a clinical pharmacist.

***Southwestern Oklahoma State University and Walgreen Co.
PGY1 Community Pharmacy Residency Program
Chukwuemezie (Chu) Chimezie, BS, PharmD***

Dr. Chimezie received his Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Science from Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana in 2008. He received his Doctor of Pharmacy degree from Xavier University of Louisiana College of Pharmacy in 2014. His current area of interest is pharmaceutical leadership, and his research project is titled "Implementing Pharmacist-Led Osteoporosis Testing and Education in Community Pharmacies". Following completion of his PGY1 pharmacy residency, Dr. Chimezie plans on pursuing a position as a community and/or hospital pharmacist.



Upcoming Residents

Both of the SWOSU-affiliated residency programs matched with candidates. Integris Southwest Medical Center-SWOSU PGY1 Pharmacy Practice Residency matched with Andrea Rai, who will be graduating from the University of Oklahoma College of Pharmacy. The SWOSU-Walgreen Co. PGY1 Community Pharmacy Residency matched with Brantley Underwood from Harding University College of Pharmacy in Searcy, AR.

COP AWARDS CONVOCATION AND WHITE COAT CEREMONY

The annual Awards Convocation and White Coat Ceremony were held on April 24, 2015. There were 92 P1, P2, and P3 students who received awards totaling \$128,000. The White Coat Ceremony is to celebrate the P3 pharmacy students who are finishing their on-campus didactic coursework and about to begin their advanced pharmacy practice experiences (rotations).



HOODING CEREMONY

The annual Hooding Ceremony was held on May 8, 2015, for the graduating pharmacy students. The SWOSU COP is proud of our graduate's accomplishments and wishes them the best in all their future endeavors.



Keynote Speaker: Paul Moore

Paul Moore (shown left with Dean Thompson) is the Senior Health Policy Advisor for the Office of Rural Health Policy in Rockville, MD. He is an honors graduate of the SWOSU College of Pharmacy (COP) receiving his B.S. in Pharmacy in 1978. Paul was one of the driving forces behind the successful development of SWOSU's rural health program. He laid much of the groundwork and helped build the framework for what has now become an increasingly expansive program.



