The Future of Science at USP Begins Now

Robert L. McNeil, Jr.

SHAPING SCIENCE IN THE 21ST CENTURY
A Consensus on Collaboration

IN SYLVIA’S FOOTSTEPS
Sylvia Averbach Memorial Scholarship

MOVE-IN DAY:
Through the Eyes of a First-Year Student
The unabashed joy that is so evident on Mr. Robert McNeil’s face is a beautiful reflection of the spirit that permeated our campus on the day we dedicated the new McNeil Science and Technology Center. Students, faculty, staff, alumni, friends, and neighbors joined in celebrating this new building and heralding a new era for University of the Sciences in Philadelphia.

It has now been over eight years since we launched the USP name and focused our vision on growing into a university of the future. Over those years, we have met many challenges and had the good fortune of many opportunities in continuing this evolution. The acquisition of the abandoned Breyers ice cream factory; the name change; the implementation of new programs in cutting-edge fields such as bioinformatics, health policy and, now, public health; the revitalization of University City—this confluence of events truly provided the “historic opportunity” to shape our vision and our goals. Living up to the promise of our new name required new thinking, new planning, and new focus on the possibilities that lay before us. Our strategic plans—Vision 2005 and Vision 2010—have guided us through the development of specific goals: from student-centered living and learning to increased research and scholarly activity, from civic engagement to new program development. We have charted the course that will ensure our sustainability and advance USP’s leadership in providing high-quality education and graduating the leaders of tomorrow.

Along with the development of the campus—the construction of the Athletic/Recreation Center, the Campus Quad, the Central Utility Plant, the McNeil Science and Technology Center—has come the development of USP as a university poised to shape the future of science and educate students to be professionals, citizens, and leaders. The continuing development of our physical campus is allowing us to fulfill that promise and to maintain our great heritage and legacy.

But much work remains to be accomplished. Each project completed, each goal realized, propels us onward and presents new challenges. To realize the full potential for student learning and faculty research that is inherent in this sparkling new teaching and research center, we must now turn our attention to upgrading our older facilities. The challenges remain, and your support and encouragement are more critical than ever.

I know that you all share my sense of pride and happiness in seeing University of the Sciences in Philadelphia flourish, and I would like say once again—my sincere thanks to all of you for your commitment to the students and legacy of USP.

PHILIP P. GERBINO  P’69, PharmD’70
President
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Dear Readers,

I recently had the opportunity to attend a breakfast meeting for the Eastern Technology Council. The ETC brings together technology-oriented companies in the region. The meeting was attended by a number of company CEOs and presidents as well as by Senator Arlen Specter.

How impressive it must have been for these industry leaders to walk across the quad on their way to the newly refaced Wilson Hall with the ARC and now the McNeil Science and Technology Center marking that part of campus.

It certainly is an exciting time to be part of the USP family. Though my membership to this family started on August 1, I cannot help but get caught up in the excitement about the transformation the campus has undergone in just a few short years.

We think we captured some of those feelings in this issue of the USP Bulletin, where we focus on the dedication ceremony for the McNeil STC. From the ribbon cutting with Robert L. McNeil, Jr., and his family to the fascinating symposium conducted in the new AstraZeneca Auditorium, it was a wonderful day. Plus, read about move-in day through the eyes of one of our first-year students as well as the creation of a new master of public health program, among many other stories.

Finally, an appeal. I would like to hear from you about the USP Bulletin—the articles you read in these pages, the events that take place at USP, or even about the University itself. We would love to print your letters to the editor in the winter edition. Send them to me via fax, e-mail, or snail mail.

I am already looking forward to the winter USP Bulletin and to hearing from you.

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Clarification: In the recent USP Bulletin story “Students Give Measles Initiative a Shot in the Arm” (Summer 2006, Volume 96, No. 1), we understated the involvement of USP’s Student Government Association (SGA) in the event. SGA not only paid half of each student’s entrance fee ($10 per person) but was responsible for a majority of the participants and donations received.
The Future of Science at USP Begins Now

BY CHERYL SQUADRITO

• Conceptualized eight years ago, it took 18 months to design and only 18 months to construct the building.

• The Hubble Space Telescope could fit through the 14-foot-diameter skylight in the atrium.

• The McNeil STC and the Athletic/Recreation Center (ARC) are each 78,000 square feet.
There were soaring spirits at the dedication of the McNeil Science and Technology Center that not even the threat of rain could dampen. The September 14 event had the campus buzzing with excitement on many levels.

The McNeil STC represents the fruition of many years’ work for faculty and staff, who planned and designed the many details that make the McNeil STC unique and state-of-the-art.

“The dedication of this outstanding building represents and symbolizes the University’s transition to an urban science campus,” said USP President PHILIP P. GERBINO P’69, PharmD’70 in his opening remarks to the over 300 alumni, students, faculty, staff, and guests who had gathered for the occasion. “This is also a campus dedicated to meeting the nation’s need for science education. To continue to be strong as a world leader, we’ll need a new generation of scientists who are innovators to produce the advancements of tomorrow.”

Dr. Gerbino said the University, since its founding in 1821, has been dedicated to education. Now the school possesses advanced research facilities to pioneer new frontiers of science and to improve the health and well-being of mankind.

Located on Woodland Avenue at South 43rd Street, the McNeil STC, a $33 million building, is a modern 78,000-square-foot facility. The three-story building has a commanding presence with its façade made of brick, metal, and glass. The building is now home to the departments of Biological Sciences, Bioinformatics, and Math/Physics/Computer Science.

USP was privileged to welcome honored guest ROBERT L. McNEIL, Jr., P’38, HonDSc’70, an esteemed alumnus, a former USP professor, and the former CEO of McNeil Laboratories to the dedication ceremony. The building was named in his honor for his continued generosity to USP.

Chairman of the board of trustees DELBERT S. PAYNE welcomed Mr. McNeil and his family and detailed McNeil Laboratories’ many accomplishments, including the introduction of Butisol™ and Tylenol™.

“We are grateful to Bob McNeil for his continued interest in and support of this University. Through his benevolence, USP can continue to educate students so that they may achieve rewarding futures in the health sciences.”

* Inside the McNeil STC you will find:
- 20 fume hoods, 38 molded laboratory sinks, and three steel sinks

* Six environmental chambers (two growth rooms, one warm room, three refrigerated rooms)

* 28 deionized water faucets, 16 lab vacuums, and 73 natural gas outlets
Mr. McNeil was joined by five of the six great-grandchildren of his grandfather ROBERT McNEIL who graduated from Philadelphia College of Pharmacy in 1876.

“The students are the future of USP. The institution is in the hands and minds of the students who will be the discoverers of tomorrow. Their discoveries will alleviate pain, but I hope not replace Tylenol,” Mr. McNeil said jokingly, “and generally improve the well-being of our fellow human beings.”

He continued: “I urge you to take full advantage of the many opportunities you have before you to lay the foundation for achieving your personal and professional goals.”

During the ceremony, Mr. McNeil revealed that he was donating a copy of the first pharmacopoeia published in the American colonies (1720), Culpeper’s well-known Pharmacopoeia Londinensis.

The gift to the University’s J.W. England Library is the Holy Grail of pharmacy artifacts.

BARBARA BYRNE, PhD, vice president for academic affairs, told the audience that it was her initial dream that all of the Misher College of Arts and Sciences would some day be housed under one roof. While that dream was too ambitious, with the McNeil STC, the dream of a world-class teaching and research center has become a reality.

“Now, several hundred students are in and out of the building every hour,” said Dr. Byrne. “The research labs are busy already. We envision expanded research opportunities for undergraduates as well as for graduate students and faculty.”

President of Student Government Association LAURA UNGER B’07
see the building become an immediate success with the students and faculty. “The building provides more opportunities to partner with the University,” Barrett said of the corporate sponsors. Now with the building’s high-tech tools and the school’s evolving curriculum, USP has an edge on competing universities, she said. “I give credit to the administration for recognizing the advancements within the industry and responding by changing the curriculum to match today’s needs.”

AstraZeneca, Cephalon, and Teva Pharmaceuticals gave unrestricted gifts to the University for the McNeil STC. In recognition of their generosity, naming rights have been given for spaces within the building.

“In the last 10 years, we’ve seen USP’s major resurgence, and I think this building is a capstone of that resurgence,” said Fritz Bittenbender, senior director of Cephalon, who attended the dedication ceremony. “We thought it was very appropriate to support the school’s tremendous efforts, and this building will be a catalyst for growth for life sciences in the region. The training that will go on in the bioinformatics lab will produce the scientists that will move our company forward for decades to come.”

JAMES C. PIERCE, PhD, director of the bioinformatics program, stated that all of the new bioinformatics classrooms and laboratories have new Apple iMac Core Duo computer workstations loaded with specialized and general-use software. There are also two new servers, including a Mac Pro Quad and over 10 terabytes of local memory storage that power the bioinformatics program’s computational needs. All of these tools are networked so that USP bioinformatics students can process complex problems and store data in a flexible and elegant computing environment.

Bioinformatics, the marriage of biotechnology with computer science, “is the life science degree for the 21st century,” Dr. Pierce said. “We’re trying to understand life on a molecular level and model what goes on in health, disease, and therapeutics.”

Bioinformatics program director JAMES C. PIERCE, PhD, (right) leads guests through a tour.

Five large, built-in display cases in the McNeil STC Atrium contain an attractive display of more than 50 objects directly related to the teaching or history of the disciplines housed in the center. USP’s “Herbarium,” a collection of thousands of botanicals of important scientific value—and the United States’ second-oldest institutional repository of such material—is represented by eight plant samples collected by faculty and students during the second half of the 19th century.
USP students use one of the breakout rooms that are located on each level of the McNeil STC.

BEN STEGER BInf’07 spends most of his day in the McNeil STC—either in the specially designed, state-of-the-art lab or in a student-friendly classroom.

“It’s amazing here. Before this building opened, bioinformatics was in whatever classrooms or lab rooms were left or unused. Now, we have a specific classroom and special computer lab rooms.” Steger said.

The layout of the McNeil STC includes teaching laboratories on the same floor as research laboratories. This enables faculty to integrate cutting-edge technology, such as confocal microscopy, into class exercises. Furthermore, students can walk down the corridor from where they learned the theory of techniques to see them applied in benchtop research.

The McNeil STC’s spacious lobby is a popular gathering spot for students between classes. The “break-out” rooms on all three floors are a hit with students because they can work together and meet in private. The building is wireless, so students can use their portable computers to connect to the Internet in class or between classes. The “break-out” rooms on all three floors are a hit with students because they can work together and meet in private. The building is wireless, so students can use their portable computers to connect to the Internet in class or private. The building is wireless, so students can use their portable computers to connect to the Internet in class or anywhere in the building.

JAYME WILDIN PhC’09 appreciates the amenities and atmosphere of the McNeil STC. “If I met Mr. McNeil, I couldn’t begin to express my gratefulness for what he has done for the students in the school,” said Wildin. “The appearance of the school is better, and it makes us proud about the new look.”

WILLIAM R. LAW, PhD, professor and chair of the Department of Biological Sciences, said that every USP student would attend at least one class in the McNeil STC because introductory biology is a requirement. A great deal of the biology equipment, including the environmental growth chambers, refrigerated rooms, vacuums, and autoclaves, is brand new.

“We now have the biotechnology equipment and procedures for studying biology on a molecular level,” Dr. Law said. “Undergraduate and graduate students will be able to complete more investigative research. Plus those students will have better academic and job potential because of the applied research experience they are able to acquire.”

Among those up-to-date technologies that students and faculty now have access to are confocal microscopy, 2-dimensional micro-HPLC, and liquid chromatograph/mass spectrometry, devices that can identify and measure individual molecules and cellular events.

“We can look at organisms at every level of integration,” Dr. Law said, adding that students will be on the front lines for studying proteomics, genomics, and metabolomics—“three hotbeds of research on the molecular level.”

The McNeil STC’s exciting potential and future reward for USP was best encapsulated by Dr. Gerbino who said, “The advanced technologies, laboratories, and classrooms contained within the McNeil Science and Technology Center serve as a state-of-the-art platform for faculty, and graduate and undergraduate students—all of whom are able to explore new areas, satisfy their curiosity, and solve complex problems in order to embrace the frontiers of innovation.”

What current students are saying about the McNeil STC:

JAYME WILDIN PhC’09 said that she has most of her classes in the McNeil STC: “I have the ability to do more research here. Plus the new physics labs are more high-tech and up to date,” said Wildin who wants a career in developing medications. “The lounge is beautiful and hard to miss. It’s become a meeting spot and a place to sit and study.”

RIDDHI PATEL PT’11 has a few of her classes in the new building: “I really like it here as a place to study. I’m awed by the building, the equipment, and the computers. It’s become an alternative to the library because it’s wireless and you can check your e-mail. I don’t have to go to the library to study anymore.”

BRANDI GARBUITI PharmD’09 works part-time in the physics lab, so she’s in the McNeil STC during the day: “Feels more like a campus now. There’s a comfortable place to study and chat. It’s open and pretty and very warm. It’s always crowded here, even at 8 a.m.; people are eating and meeting here in the lounge.”

BEN STEGER BInf’07, who did research at Clemson University, said the new laboratories are the most sophisticated in which he has worked: “All my classes are here. I never have to leave.”

LAURA UNGER B1’07, president of Student Government Association, said, “I want to thank Mr. Robert McNeil from current students to future students for providing us with not merely a building but a place where we can advance and grow.” Unger was happy that the common area has unique objects on display that were once tucked away, remarking, “Now we can learn from them.”

• The 750 tons of structural steel are weight equivalent to 234 Hummer H2s.
• If it were milk, 7,500 cubic yards of poured concrete would amount to 1.5 million gallons.
• There are approximately 215,000 face bricks on the exterior, plus 3,000 square feet of cast-stone veneer.
• At its standard pumping rate of 750 gallons per minute, the fire pump that feeds the 700 sprinklers could fill 4,800 cups of Starbucks Venti coffee (20 oz.) in one minute.
As part of the dedication ceremonies for the McNeil Science and Technology Center, USP invited five distinguished alumni to hold an interactive panel discussion in the McNeil STC’s new AstraZeneca Auditorium. The symposium discussed the impact of science education and research in the 21st century, including thoughts on what will be necessary to be a leader in 21st century science and what are the critical components of education for scientists of the future.

The symposium had an imposing title: “Shaping Science in the 21st Century: Foundations from the Past, Pillars for the Future.” The scope of the questions was ambitious (see symposium questions sidebar). But as ELINOR H. CANTOR PH’73 fluidly moved the panel through the questions, one theme emerged: If students of the sciences are going to become problem solvers and leaders, they must cross disciplines and learn to collaborate.

The panel of USP alumni (see bios on page 9)—MICHAEL S. WOLFE C’84, SUSAN MORINE BI’98, KENNETH W. KINZLER TX’83, and LEONARD S. JACOB BI’70—were adamant that today’s educational institutions must produce students who are well grounded in a discipline and who are also able to employ the scientific method in any field, in partnership with others. This cross-functionality must be built into the curriculum.

Think Expansively
“You can’t be afraid of moving across disciplines. If you know how to do science in one field, you can figure out how to do it in another field, or at least to interact with the people who know how to do it. And that’s what allows you to do ‘crazy things,’” Dr. Kinzler said, referencing an audience member’s mention of an article in The Scientist where Kinzler’s lab was noted for its unconventional projects and style.

“You need to see beyond your own discipline,” said Dr. Wolfe, “and see connections between different fields. I think that’s where a lot of the cutting-edge science is being done, not in a specific discipline but at the interface of disciplines.” If you’re going to work cross-functionally, you must learn to speak the language of other disciplines. If you can’t speak the language, you won’t be able to ask the right questions, others added.

And once you can ask the right questions, you must decide on the best ways to answer them. “You have to look for the most important questions you want to answer in science, and...not get locked into a certain mode of thinking,” according to Dr. Wolfe. “Choose the best method for the question you have, and often that’s not in the specific area you might have learned as an undergraduate.”

Establish a Strong Foundation
No one discounted the need for a strong foundation in a core discipline. “We have a phenomenal scientific foundation at University of the Sciences in Philadelphia,” said Dr. Jacob. “I think I can speak for all my colleagues here, when you build a pyramid, the most important part is the base, and for all of us, USP was that base.”

DAVID J. KROLL TX’85 (PhD, University of Florida), a research pharmacologist with the nonprofit Research Triangle Institute and an adjunct faculty member at Duke University and University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, was in the audience and concurred with Dr. Jacob: “The curriculum here is so scientifically dense; it really prepares you well for graduate school. Most of my professors thought I had a master’s degree already when I came with my BS.”

Several people suggested the use of a problem-based learning curriculum because it is more integrative. “In a problem-based learning curriculum, the onus is really put on the students. You have to do a lot of independent learning,” said Dr. Morine, describing a benefit of her medical school education. “You do learn more if you have to go out and make your own discoveries.”
Explore Other Areas

Panelists and audience members expressed a concern that education in general, and science education in particular, is becoming so focused on a pure discipline that there isn’t enough room for interdisciplinary studies. Dr. Cantor talked of the graduate school progression and how one’s studies get more and more narrow as you move into PhD programs. “You need to always be thinking about what’s out there in the solar system of your research,” she said.

Everyone agreed there needs to be room in every curriculum for students to choose courses from outside their disciplines. “It’s always tempting to add another requirement [in the core major]. Avoid that temptation,” said Dr. Wolfe. “In the core courses, explain how that core course connects to some other discipline.”

The panelists encouraged current students to take advantage of other courses across disciplines, not only in the sciences but also across completely different disciplines. Many of those skills can be applied as a scientist or combined to enable students to pursue a hybrid career. MAGGIE MURPHY PharmD’11, who transferred to USP from George Washington University where she was an international affairs major, agreed. She hopes to go into public health or the Peace Corps upon graduation, incorporating what she has learned in both disciplines.

Classes in communication were key, said panel and audience members. Scientists need to be able to communicate with not only other professionals but also the public at large. Usually lacking in science curriculums is a course on managing people. But scientists working in a lab and working across disciplines “need to know how to motivate people, to encourage people to form a team and work together, and to draw out the excellence of the people working with them,” said Dr. Cantor.

Look for the Payoff

According to Dr. Morine, “You need to take the core of what you learn in medicine or science and be able to extrapolate that across disciplines. What is becoming increasingly important is translational research, taking what you are finding at the bench and moving that into clinical practice.” Dr. Jacob added the industry perspective: “There’s no scarcity of brilliant scientists in specialty areas. What we look for is people who can translate the bench to the bedside, who can speak both languages.”

“Desire to do something useful not just something interesting,” said Dr. Kinzler. The goal is to see something good come out of the work. Scientists need to ask, “How can we make things better?” They must ground their work in practicality. “What you create must be both easy to use and cost effective,” Dr. Kinzler said.

“The ability to pursue an idea across disciplines is a very good thing and is, in fact, a very good basis for entrepreneurial science,” says Dr. Jacob. “Be able to act on an instinct and go with it.” And in today’s world, that very likely is going to be done in collaboration with others.
Chad Crittenden knows a thing or two about overcoming obstacles. A year and a half before he participated in the CBS hit-show Survivor: Vanuatu, the California native and teacher had to have his right leg amputated below the knee due to a rare and deadly form of cancer.

“Step by step I recovered to get back to my normal life,” Crittenden told the nearly 600 first-year students and their parents who had gathered in the ARC for the fourth annual opening Convocation Ceremony on August 25. “Recovery was difficult, and I persevered. I was able to get back to teaching” as well as other activities.

An active soccer player and amateur athlete, Crittenden decided to throw his hat in the ring for Survivor. He was picked to participate in the show’s ninth season with his goal not only to win but also to raise awareness of what people with disabilities are capable of achieving.

For two days, Crittenden toiled away on Survivor: Vanuatu without telling his co-contestants that he had a prosthetic foot. When he finally revealed to them the secret about his leg, he was hoping that they would accept him as an equal. They did, and Crittenden felt that he had a fresh start. “At the beginning of the University year, you have a fresh start ahead of you. Certainly you are going to have to take things step by step,” he advised the students on their approach to overcoming some of the obstacles they may face.

The first step of the 2006–07 school year was for the first-year students and their parents to line up for Adventure USP: Explore, Experience, Excel. While registration for residence hall room keys began at 9 a.m., by 8:30 a.m. the line already stretched down the length of the ARC. Parking was at a premium as the USP lots overflowed with cars, minivans, and moving trucks (even a limo), all filled to capacity.

After the cars were unloaded (thanks to the tireless efforts of the fraternities and sororities and USP upperclassmen who acted as “luggers and tuggers”) and the dorm rooms filled with the latest in computers, flat screen TVs, and other necessities of college life, the Convocation Ceremony at which Crittenden spoke capped a busy day. The ceremony began with a faculty procession, followed by the students’ entrance to the applause of the assembled faculty, staff, and parents.

“Students, you have already distinguished yourselves by academic achievements that have earned you a place within this class,” said USP President PHILIP P. GERBINO P’69, PharmD’70 at the ceremony. “At USP, we have a tradition of leadership. Parents, you can count on your sons and daughters to be leaders of their generation. We are honored to have them as students.”

While Crittenden preached a step-by-step approach to their college careers, Dean of
Students AMINTA HAWKINS BREAUX, PhD, reminded the assemblage that before they know it, the final step in their USP school experience will be there.

“Very soon you will start identifying yourselves as the class of 2010, 2011, and 2012, because it won’t be long from now that you will be walking across the stage for commencement,” Hawkins Breaux said.

“But I want you to start thinking ahead and start planning what these next few years are going to be like for you…much of what happens here, in these next four-plus years, is up to you.”

…as long as they take it step by step. [NP]
Jacqueline “JC” Lewis is a first-year doctor of physical therapy (DPT) student. She is also looking forward to playing for the USP women’s basketball team. JC and her family allowed the USP Bulletin to follow her around on the first day she arrived on campus.

My first day at USP began at 3:45 a.m. when Mom, Dad, and I departed Lovettsville, Virginia, a distant suburb of Washington, DC, en route to Philadelphia. We were already familiar with mapping out the best route to take because of the day trips this past summer to play basketball with the USP team in the Philadelphia summer league. We had packed the car the day before.

We arrived around 8:20 a.m. Since I slept the whole way, I was at least well rested from the journey. The line had already started to form for check-in. I saw ERIN CHESNAVICH BI/PA’10, my roommate and fellow basketball player, pull up in her SUV—her car looked at least as full as ours—great! I waved her over to join us in line. Erin and I had been communicating throughout the summer through e-mails, phone calls, and summer league to plan our perfect dorm room. We, of course, color coordinated everything, including our sheets, and, remarkably, fit everything into our room. For me, however, the essentials were my feather pillow and computer (“my addiction”). At orientation, we were introduced to Facebook as a way to meet new people and help ease into college life. It has definitely worked.

Despite the initial long line at check-in, the process went extremely well. Everything was very organized, and USP staff members
and volunteers were incredibly helpful and cheerful. My older sisters, Sara and Adrianne, came up the next day with the rest of my school supplies, desk lamp, storage shelves, and, most importantly, my shoes. It was a good visit, especially since Erin and I were also treated to dinner.

I selected USP because I was interested in a career in physical therapy. I worked with special education children at Loudoun Valley High School in Purcellville, Virginia, and volunteered with Virginia Special Olympics. Through these experiences, I found that I especially loved working with the kids and watching their faces as they achieved their personal bests. In addition, I had plenty of opportunity to spend time with physical therapists and sports enthusiasts and to participate in swimming, soccer, and basketball travel teams. It was the latter two sports that over the years got me multiple injuries, causing me to visit the physical therapist.

When I mentioned that I was interested in PT and hoped to play basketball as well, my mom and dad started helping me with my college search. Criteria included a top-notch PT program, a good basketball team, and somewhere within a four-hour drive so that they could watch me play. USP met all three. When I went to the Open House, I interviewed with COACH (NATE) WARE, and he said that he was interested in me. The basketball team and the program seemed even more perfect for me. We managed to come to a couple of games, and I was sold. USP really seemed like the best school to provide the opportunity for reaching my goals.

As for my first year, MARYBETH CHRISTIAN PharmD’10, who is also on the team, helped me a lot during the summer. She wasn’t my real orientation leader, but I talked to her a lot and kept in touch with her. While some of my old high school friends went to their school’s orientations and didn’t get anything out of them, I went to orientation knowing what was in store for me and what I need to do to succeed at USP.

As I look forward to my first year, I know I will miss my family and friends. I know it will be hard; everyone agrees with that. My parents are completely supportive but will not be too sympathetic with my work load and studies since they are also scientists.

I am looking forward to focusing on being an ordinary, hard-working USP student, making lots of friends, and having fun while I am here.
Sylvia Averbach was a pioneer in the worlds of science, teaching, and acting—and an inspiration to all who knew her. A 1943 graduate of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science, she was the original “liberated woman,” recalls her daughter, Rae Zysman. “She believed you should go for whatever you wanted in life, and she didn’t let anyone stand in her way.”

That optimism and enthusiasm was contagious to her family, friends, and associates, including LEONARD JACOB BI’70, MD, PhD, who met her as a young boy growing up in Northeast Philadelphia. “I would not be where I am today without Sylvia’s encouragement,” says Dr. Jacob, who followed in Averbach’s footsteps and graduated from USP in 1970 with a BS in biology. He recently decided to honor her memory with an endowed scholarship—the Sylvia Averbach Memorial Scholarship—to be awarded annually to a financially disadvantaged female biology or microbiology student in good academic standing.

Averbach chose to pursue a career in microbiology at a time when few women were involved in the scientific community. Her father, an immigrant who worked as a window-washer, encouraged her to become a microbiologist after watching the scientists work while he washed windows outside of Abbotts Dairies. She took her father’s advice and enrolled at what was then Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science (PCPS). Following her graduation, Averbach—Sylvia Brener at the time—joined the Navy and worked in a medical technology laboratory, stationed in Annapolis, Maryland. In 1945, she became engaged to and eventually married Louis Averbach, MD, and returned to Philadelphia to continue her scientific pursuits and start a family.
Averbach went on to teach science in the public school system and is credited with developing the first vocational education program in medical technology at Dobbins High School in Philadelphia. Following the sudden death of her husband in 1973, she started acting with community theater groups to fill her free time. This eventually led to her second career—as an actress—under the stage name Billie Brenan.

“After my father died, my mother was torn between continuing her scientific studies by going for her doctorate or doing what she really loved—becoming an actress,” recalls Zysman. At the age of 57, Averbach decided to jump in with both feet and make the career change from scientist and teacher to actress. She moved from Philadelphia to New York City and began taking acting lessons.

“My mother had the courage to do whatever she loved, no matter what the risk,” says Zysman. “Not many middle-aged widows were so brave. She was a very optimistic person who had a positive attitude toward life. She also encouraged others to strive for their personal goals and took pride in their accomplishments.”

Sylvia Averbach’s daughter, Rae Zysman

Dr. Jacob went on to receive a PhD in pharmacology from Temple University School of Medicine and an MD from the Medical College of Pennsylvania (now Drexel University College of Medicine) and worked as an executive in the pharmaceutical industry for more than 25 years. He currently serves as chairman of Life Science Advisors, a health care–related consulting firm based in Punta Gorda, Florida.

“She was a very optimistic person who had a positive attitude toward life. She also encouraged others to strive for their personal goals and took pride in their accomplishments.”

Sylvia Averbach’s daughter, Rae Zysman

others to strive for their personal goals and took pride in their accomplishments.”

As a child, Dr. Jacob says he was impressed by Averbach’s “down to earth” nature and spontaneity. “Sylvia was very smart, kind, and fun to be around,” he recalls. “She functioned as a mentor, encouraged me in my studies, played piano with me when I went to her house to visit her son Sheldon, and felt more like a friend than a parent.”

When Dr. Jacob graduated from North- east High School in the mid-1960s, he was looking for a pathway to a school where he could pursue his scientific and medical studies. He was considering a degree in biology, and Averbach encouraged him to apply to PCPS (now USP). “She stressed that it was a technical, scientific institution with a program where professors cared about their students. Sylvia introduced me to the dean of the school and made arrangements for me to speak with other students attending the University. At her insistence I applied and was accepted.”

Dr. Jacob went on to receive a PhD in pharmacology from Temple University School of Medicine and an MD from the Medical College of Pennsylvania (now Drexel University College of Medicine) and worked as an executive in the pharmaceutical industry for more than 25 years. He currently serves as chairman of Life Science Advisors, a health care–related consulting firm based in Punta Gorda, Florida.

“I am honored to be following in Sylvia Averbach’s footsteps,” says Ferber. “I’m impressed by her story because she didn’t limit herself. She wasn’t just a scientist. She didn’t feel confined to do just one thing with her life. She pursued her artistic side in acting and led a meaningful, fulfilling life. I look forward to doing the same, and maybe one day I can get back to my passion—dancing—as well.”

Adds Zysman, “Our family is very touched by Len Jacob’s memories of my mother and that he was so inspired by her. It is a gift to us that he remembers her in such a positive way and can now encourage others to pursue their own dreams through this scholarship.”

On July 10, 2006, MEGAN FERBER MS’06, a biology major, became the first recipient of the Sylvia Averbach Memorial Scholarship.

“This scholarship has been such a blessing,” says Ferber, who plans to continue her schooling with the goal of becoming a pediatrician. She is currently working at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, conducting research at the Center for Sleep and Respiratory Neurobiology.

Leonard Jacob’s daughter, Rae Zysman

LEONARD JACOB B’70, MD, PhD poses with the inaugural scholarship recipient, MEGAN FERBER MS’06 and Leonard’s wife, Mrs. Sandra D. Jacob.
When ROBERT L. MCNEIL, Jr., P’38, HonDSc’70 arrived at Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science (PCPS) in 1936, he was what USP now calls a “legacy” student: McNeil’s grandfather had graduated from the college in 1876.

“Having decided that my career path would be McNeil Laboratories, I felt that knowledge of pharmacy as a science was an essential complement to my physiological chemistry and pharmacology. The decision to enroll was easy as PCPS was considered the foremost college for this purpose,” said McNeil.

He jumped right into PCPS life, not only in the classroom but also on the court. McNeil joined the basketball team, a sport he had played at Yale for the previous three years while earning a degree in physiological chemistry and bacteriology. Soon he and the PCPS team were racking up an impressive set of statistics. McNeil was the individual scoring leader, and the team won the City College Basketball League championship.

“The key to a winning basketball team is each player having a defined role and playing that role as well as possible. I took that lesson into the business arena and found I and those around me were most successful in a team environment where each player contributed his or her special skills and expertise. Teamwork is the essence both in sport and in business,” said McNeil.

McNeil has been displaying that team spirit ever since. Upon graduation, he joined the family business, McNeil Laboratories, which had grown out of his grandfather’s family pharmacy and his father’s physicians supply business. McNeil began his career at the company as its first research scientist at a time when new federal legislation was ushering in more stringent controls over the development and marketing of pharmaceuticals. He rose through the ranks as the company grew, and it was under his leadership that the efficacy and commercial potential of N-acetyl p-aminophenol was recognized. At McNeil’s insistence, the company launched Tylenol in 1955, and it was McNeil who coined the generic name, acetaminophen. In 1959 Johnson & Johnson (J&J) purchased McNeil Laboratories. McNeil continued to serve as chairman and chief executive officer through a predetermined transitional period.

Working for the good of the team has been a guiding force in McNeil’s professional and private life. In his business dealings he made difficult decisions that put consumer safety first and protected the integrity of the company. “Bob McNeil is a man of great innovation, great persistence, and great vision,” says USP President PHILIP P. GERBINO P’69, PharmD’70. “He was committed to bringing better health care to patients. And he built a company to do that, with the best talent and a commitment to innovation, quality, and ethics.”

His service to others and in the advancement of health care and pharmaceutical research is clear from his organizational memberships and leadership. McNeil is a member of the American Chemical Society, led the Philadelphia Drug Exchange and the Philadelphia branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association as president, served on the board of the American Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association, and was a member of the Pharmaceutical Advisory Committee of the National Production Authority during the Korean War.

McNeil received the American Institute of Chemist’s Gold Medal in 2005. The organization’s highest award, the Gold Medal “is given annually to a person who has stimulated activities of service to the science of chemistry” and includes Nobel laureates as previous winners. McNeil was also awarded an honorary doctor of science degree from PCPS in 1970.

McNeil’s commitment to the public good has led him to support various projects in the arts and health care. His support of his alma mater has been especially appreciated and continues to arise out of his concern for the health of all people. “Bob McNeil never lost his enthusiasm for science and technology,” says Dr. Gerbino. “You need only look at USP’s new McNeil Science and Technology Center to see his ongoing commitment to research and better health care.”

It’s obvious that McNeil is still a team player. [SF]
**2006–07 Men’s Basketball Preview**

Things can only be looking up for the USP men’s basketball program. With no seniors on last year’s 12–16 squad, **HEAD COACH DAVID PAULEY** returns all 12 players and five starters for the 2006–07 season.

In the backcourt, seniors HOWARD LANIER PMM’07 and BILL KURTZ PMM’07 return. Kurtz averaged 12.4 points per game while Lanier led the team in assists (78) and added 9.5 points per game.

Returning to the frontcourt are the Devils’ two leading rebounders from last season, COLLIN HARRINGTON PMM’08 and ERIC CANGELOSI PMM’07. Harrington and Cangelosi averaged 6.8 and 6.7 rebounds, respectively. Cangelosi also led the Devils in scoring, averaging nearly 15 points per game. KEITH DUNDAS PhSci’08, a starter and the best shooter on last year’s squad (.524), should contend for the Area All-Academic selection and last year’s tournament MVP. Rance averaged 17.5 points per game and led the CACC in free throw percentage (.853). She will be joined in the backcourt by fellow senior point guard RASHANNA EDWARDS PT’09 who led the team in assists and averaged 9.0 points per game.

Returning to the frontcourt are starters ALLISON WEISS PT’11 and LORI SEDINA PharmD’08 as well as key reserve MARY BETH CHRISTIAN PharmD’10. Weiss was the Devils’ second leading rebounder and averaged 8.2 points per game. Sedina will again be counted on to provide defense when needed, usually guarding the opponent’s best player. Christian gives HEAD COACH NATE WARE a solid inside player who can put the ball in the basket.

Several newcomers will look to make an impact on the program. ERIN CHESNAVICH BI’10, EMILY APONTE BI’10, and AMANDA HESSINGER BI’10 aim to provide offense up front while KAITLIN DUROSS PT’11, a freshman red-shirt last year, and JC LEWIS DPT’12 add additional backcourt spark.

The season opens on Nov. 21, 2006, against West Chester University at the Bobby Morgan Arena.

**2006–07 Women’s Basketball Preview**

A solid nucleus of returning players, along with a strong crop of incoming athletes, highlights the 2006–07 USP women’s basketball team. The Devils return four starters from last year’s 23–8 team that won the Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference Tournament and reached the NCAA Div. II tournament for the second time in three seasons.

The Devils are led by SHELBY RANCE PharmD’09, a two-time first team All-CACC selection and last year’s tournament MVP. Rance averaged 17.5 points per game and led the CACC in free throw percentage (.853). She will be joined in the backcourt by fellow senior point guard RASHANNA EDWARDS PT’09 who led the team in assists and averaged 9.0 points per game.

Returning to the frontcourt are starters ALLISON WEISS PT’11 and LORI SEDINA PharmD’08 as well as key reserve MARY BETH CHRISTIAN PharmD’10. Weiss was the Devils’ second leading rebounder and averaged 8.2 points per game. Sedina will again be counted on to provide defense when needed, usually guarding the opponent’s best player. Christian gives HEAD COACH NATE WARE a solid inside player who can put the ball in the basket.

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The season opens on November 21, 2006, against West Chester University at the Bobby Morgan Arena.

**2005–06 Honors**

**Roth Named CACC Scholar-Athlete of the Year**

USP volleyball player EMILY ROTH PharmD’08 was named the Women’s Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference (CACC) Scholar-Athlete of the Year. Off the court, Roth was a high achiever in the classroom and was named to the Dean’s List for the second straight season.

**Seven Devils Named to CACC All-Academic Team**

Seven student-athletes from USP were amongst the 70 student-athletes honored by the Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference when it announced its Spring All-Academic Team. To qualify for the honor, recipients must have maintained at least a 3.50 cumulative grade-point average, participated in a Spring CACC sport, and been at least a sophomore academically and athletically.

Five of the seven Devils were repeat selections from last year’s inaugural team: MICHAEL DEVINCENZO PharmD’09 (baseball), RALPH CAMERON PharmD’09 (golf), KATIE CAMPOLI PharmD’08 (softball), SAMANTHA LAVOOY DPT’09 (softball), and LAURA FLINT BI’07 (softball). First time honorees included SHANNON ROTH PharmD’10 (softball) and DANIELLE CZAJKA PharmD’10 (softball).

Since the CACC All-Academic program was instituted in the fall of 2005, a total of 27 different student athletes from the University of the Sciences in Philadelphia have earned CACC All-Academic honors, with 12 student-athletes being repeat selections.

**Six Student-Athletes Named to Philadelphia Inquirer Area All-Academic Teams**

Six student-athletes from USP, representing four sports, were named to the inaugural Philadelphia Inquirer Spring Area All-Academic Teams. Named to the Area All-Academic softball team were KATIE CAMPOLI PharmD’08, SAMANTHA LAVOOY DPT’09, and SHANNON ROTH PharmD’10. Additional Area All-Academic selections were AMANDA BEDWAY PharmD’10 (women’s tennis), MICHAEL DEVINCENZO PharmD’09 (baseball), and TYLER WEISEL PharmD’10 (men’s tennis). The teams are voted on by the sports information offices of the 28 area institutions from the Philadelphia metropolitan area.
Full-Time Faculty Appointments

MARCM CAMPOLO, PhD (left)
Chairperson, Department of Physical Therapy
Associate Professor, Physical Therapy

ELIA ESCHENAZI, PhD (right)
Chairperson, Department of Mathematics, Physics, and Computer Science
Professor, Physics

STEVEN NEAU, PhD (left)
Professor, Pharmaceutical Sciences Department

ANIL D’MELLO, PhD (right)
Director, BS Pharmaceutical Sciences Program
Professor, Pharmaceutical Sciences Department

TYAN FRAZIER, PharmD (left)
Assistant Professor, Clinical Pharmacy
Department of Pharmacy Practice and Pharmacy Administration

DANIEL MARENDA, PhD (right)
Assistant Professor, Biology
Department of Biological Sciences

Promotions

LISA LAWSON-GIBSON, PharmD (left)
Associate Dean, Philadelphia College of Pharmacy

ADEBOYE ADEJARE, PhD (center)
Chair and Professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences

GLENN W. ROSENTHAL, EdD, MBA (right)
Chair, Pharmaceutical Marketing & Health Care Business

JAMES PIERCE, PhD (left)
Director, Bioinformatics
Department of Biological Sciences

MIGNON ADAMS, MLS (center)
Professor, Information Science

ALISON MOSTROM, PhD (right)
Associate Professor, Department of Biological Sciences
Inaugural DPT Class Reaches Milestone

“...I freely accept the obligations and rewards which will accompany my practice of physical therapy.”

And with those final words of the Oath of a Physical Therapist, the 30 members of USP’s doctor of physical therapy (DPT) class of 2009, all smartly dressed in their new white coats embroidered with their names, officially entered the professional phase of their training on Sunday, September 17.

“The White Coat Ceremony is the annual rite of passage, and it signifies the students’ entrance into the professional phase of their education,” physical therapy chair and associate professor MARC CAMPOLO, PT, PhD, SCS, ATC, CSCS, told the parents, friends, and students who had gathered in the AstraZeneca Auditorium in the McNeil Science and Technology Center. “Their journey to becoming a professional is exciting, enriching, stimulating, and, at times, extremely challenging—but in the end it is worth the trip.”

The class of 2009 has special meaning for USP’s physical therapy program—it is the inaugural class of the six-year DPT program.

Laurita Hack, DPT, MBA, PhD, a well respected Fellow of the American Physical Therapy Association (FAPTA) and an academician with extensive clinical experience in outpatient, nursing home, and care practice, was the keynote speaker.

She addressed the class of 2009 as “future colleagues.”

“The white coat symbolizes the fiduciary relationship that will be expected of you in practice,” Dr. Hack reminded the class. “It is the relationship that you need to have with each and every one of your patients as they place their trust and confidence in you. It means that your first primary obligation in your practice is the well-being of your patient.”

Whether the class of 2009 will enter the field working in private practice, athletics, geriatrics, or home care, the White Coat Ceremony is another milestone toward reaching that goal.
**MPH Program Speeds Development of Public Health Leaders**

As public health issues grow increasingly complex and challenging, the demand for skilled public health professionals has taken on a greater urgency. These professionals require a broad-based, interdisciplinary program designed to equip them with the skills necessary to become leaders in their field.

For this reason, USP developed and launched a new master of public health (MPH) program with a health policy concentration. The degree will prepare professionals to develop effective policy solutions to public health problems and to understand the legislative and regulatory frameworks.

“USP is extending its experience and leadership in health policy to the field of public health,” said ROBERT I. FIELD, JD, MPH, PhD, acting chair for the Department of Health Policy and Public Health. “Students will have outstanding educational opportunities in one of the most dynamic aspects of American health care. Our graduates will be positioned to work with corporate, government, and nonprofit organizations on cutting-edge issues such as pandemic preparedness, immunization policy, and genomic pharmaceuticals.”

The MPH program prepares professionals to develop effective policy solutions to public health problems and to bridge health disparities in varied communities. Students will take part in service learning in local and national health associations, corporations, and organizations. The degree track requires a total of 44 credits, including didactic coursework, field experience, and a capstone project.

“Our program comes at the most critical time as the world approaches significant public health issues,” said RICHARD G. STEFANACCI, DO, MGH, MBA, AGSF, CMD, interim program director. “USP MPH graduates will be well positioned to lead, just as our graduates have led in pharmaceuticals. Now, as we enter the 21st century, USP is positioned to produce the same leadership for the world’s public health needs.”

For more information on USP’s master of public health program, visit www.usip.edu/graduate.

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**Memorial Fund Established**

A memorial fund in tribute of USP student Olufemi “Femi” Ogunkorode has been established by his family. Femi, as he was called by those who knew him, was a third-year PharmD student who passed away on March 23, 2006. A Preparation, Retention, Enrichment Program (PREP) scholar who played on the varsity tennis team, Femi was an inspiration to many. In addition to his studies and athletics, he worked at the Athletic/Recreation Center, worked part-time at a pharmacy, and played basketball with faculty, staff, and students.

While details of the fund are currently being established with the guidance and advice of Femi’s family, gifts and support in the name of the fund can be forwarded to:

University of the Sciences in Philadelphia  
Office of Institutional Advancement  
Attn: Erica Spizzirri, Director of Major Gifts  
600 S. 43rd Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19104–4495  
e.spizzi@usip.edu  
215.596.7525
Leahy Lecture Series Evokes Memories of Beloved Professor

Combining the two things that PATRICIA LEAHY enjoyed most—learning and a social event—the Department of Physical Therapy held the Sixth Annual Patricia Leahy Memorial Lecture on Thursday, Sept. 21, 2006.

The lecture series, which includes a reception, is held in the memory of USP assistant professor PATTI LEAHY, MS, PT, NCS, who died of breast cancer in 1995. Before she passed away, Leahy established a scholarship fund to financially assist PT students during their clinical education.

Susan P. Barker, PT, PhD, who is an associate professor and chair of the PT program at College Misericordia in Dallas, Pennsylvania, spoke to those on hand about the historical context of the STEP conferences, which have spanned 40 years.

Barker recalled that Leahy had presented at the II STEP Conference in Norman, Oklahoma, in 1990.

“Patti did a presentation about head trauma in adults because she was a head trauma specialist,” Barker said. “One of the big things she talked about, that I thought was really forward thinking at the time, the need for research into traumatic brain injury or head trauma and also the constraints that existed.”

Speaking to those who had gathered for the lecture at the AstraZeneca Auditorium in the McNeil Science and Technology Center, MICHELE MULHALL, PT, MS, OCS, recalled this about Leahy:

“Patti left a positive impression on those who she had contact with and made a tremendous impact on the field of physical therapy. She had a vested interest in continuing education and advancing physical therapy through research.”

The evening was certainly the type of event that Leahy would have enjoyed.

Hoops for a Good Cause

Who says playing basketball is just for fun?

Brothers of Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity played a little hoops, had a little fun, and raised money for a good cause. The Hoops for Humanity Tournament on September 21, 2006, at the Athletic/Recreation Center netted over $300 for The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia.

The Hoops for Humanities Tournament was a collaborative effort between USP’s Department of Fitness and Wellness and the Brothers of Phi Kappa Psi. The event drew 40 participants, plus 30 staff and students who supported the effort.

“Over the past two years the Brothers of Phi Kappa Psi have worked really hard helping others with hardly any recognition for the community service initiatives that they have done,” said assistant director of fitness and wellness MARC CASERIO, MEd. “To quote fitness and wellness administrator JESSE PHILLIPS on the Hoops for Humanities Tournament, ‘Everyone was a winner that night.’”

It’s not the first or last community service initiative that the two entities are teaming up on. In addition to the Hoops for Humanity Tournament, a clothing drive, Adopt a Family (for the holiday season), Food Bank, and Sneakers to Playground programs are on the agenda.
“If we want our alumni to remain involved in the life of the university, we need to remain involved in, and relevant to, the lives of our alumni.”
STACY M. ROSEMARIN P’83

ALUMNI EVENTS

Delaware Pharmacists Society Alumni and Friends Reception—Rehoboth Beach, DE May 19, 2006

Left to right: Joshua Coffield PharmD’07 and Pat Carroll Grant P’78.

Left to right: Liliam Spieker PharmD’05, Zak Klishevich PharmD’05, and Pat Klishevich P’75.

Left to right: S. Rogers Wetherill, III, P’68, a USP Trustee, and Samuel R. Wetherill, IV, P’97. Sam is the recipient of the DPS Young Pharmacist of the Year Award.

Left to right: Joshua Coffield PharmD’07 and Pat Carroll Grant P’78.

Left to right: Crystal Bryner of Wyeth presents the Bowl of Hygeia Award to Richard Hascup P’72.

A to Z Pediatric Wellness—Brick, NJ

Left to right: Claire D. Fishman MPT’00 and her partner, Janice Xenakis, PT, at their practice, A to Z Pediatric Wellness.
Drug Information Association Exhibit Hall—Philadelphia, PA
June 20, 2006

“Taste of Philly” Reception at Drug Information Association—Philadelphia, PA
June 20, 2006

New Jersey Pharmacists Association—Atlantic City, NJ
June 28, 2006
**SCHOLARLY ACTIVITY**

**SYMBOLS**
- Faculty and staff: ♦
- Alumni: ♡
- Current Student: ♣

**COLLEGE OF GRADUATE STUDIES**

**Poster Presentations**

**ARA DERMAKDOERSIAN** attended the 47th Annual Meeting of the American Society of Pharmacognosy in Arlington, VA, August 5–9. DerMarderosian and graduate students presented the following poster sessions on their research at USP:
- **VIDMEN JAIWAYS**, "Flavonoids of Punica Granatum."
- **RADIKA KOTA**, "Biological Activity of Vaccinium Corymbosum."
- **SAMUEL SILVA**, "Chemical and Biological Studies of Erythrorhylum Dicidium."
- **FRANK ZYDEL**, "Lignans in Hordeum Vulgare."

**Presentations**

**IRENE YAROSLAVSKY**, **SHANAZ TEJANI-BUTT**, "Dopamine (DA-2) Receptors Are Differentially Regulated by Stress in Wistar-Kyoto and Wistar Rats" in Wistar-Kyoto and Wistar Rats.”


**ROGER IDEISHI**, "Strain Differences in the Distribution of Dopamine (DA-2 and DA-3) Receptor Sites in Rat Brain,” Life Sciences, 79:8 (772–776), 2006.

**RICHARD STEFANACCI**
- "Why Doesn’t CMS Understand the LTC Difference?" Annals of Long-Term Care, 14(7):12–14, 2006.


**COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES**

**Presentations**


**PAULA KRAMER**
- "The Importance of Play to a Child with Handicapping Conditions,” invited lecture for parents at Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland, on May 31.
- "Understanding and Assessing Play Skills in Children with Disabilities,” workshop for practitioners at Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland, June 1–2.


**Publications**


Publications

DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS

Professional Activity
BOB HELLER++
- Elected as chairman of the Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference (CACC) sports information directors.
- Named to the Daktronics Division II All-America Baseball Committee as coordinator for the Northeast Region.
- Reappointed for a third, three-year term as the CACC sports chair for cross country.
- Was the AVCA Grant Burger Media Award Region SID winner for the Northeast Region for excellence in promoting and publicizing the sport of volleyball.

MICHAEL SINES++ was appointed Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference (CACC) sports chair for women’s volleyball.

DEPARTMENT OF FITNESS AND WELLNESS

Presentations
TERRY DOUGHERTY++, et al., “Learning Outcomes for Dummies” at the 7th Annual Pennsylvania Intramural and Recreational Sports Association State Workshop at Kutztown University in Reading, PA, on September 29.

JESSE PHILLIPS++, MARC CASERIO++, “Student Staff Development: It’s More Than Just a Job” at the 7th Annual Pennsylvania Intramural and Recreational Sports Association State Workshop at Kutztown University in Reading, PA, on September 29.

DEPARTMENT OF INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT

Professional Activity
KEN BOYDEN++ successfully defended his dissertation “Generation Rx: A Study of the Changeover to the Entry-Level Doctor of Pharmacy Degree in American Pharmacy Education.” He received his EdD from the University of Pennsylvania in May.

DEPARTMENT OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

Grants
GEORGE DOWNS++, PAUL FURTAW++ recruited $20,000 in funding from Endo Pharmaceuticals Inc. in order to underwrite the cost of a survey of all current PharmD students’ alcohol and other drug use. This study is being conducted in collaboration with Inflexxion, Inc., a national leader in behavioral science web-based educational software for the college student population. Results will aid in identifying energizing trends in young adults’ exposure to and attitudes toward recreational use of prescription drugs in particular and will serve as the pilot for a nationwide study of pharmacy student use and/or abuse of prescription drugs, an area of great concern given their heightened awareness and access to prescription drugs as compared to the general population.

PAUL FURTAW++ and the Student Health and Counseling staff completed a one-year grant from the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board as of June 30. Monies from the grant supported staff salaries in the delivery of outreach to Residence Life and the Greek chapters at USP in order to promote safe party-hosting and prevention of alcohol poisoning and other negative results of high-risk drinking. In addition, social marketing to students in the form of promotional items was subsidized by this grant, including the distribution of free t-shirts to all incoming students at the June orientation describing the “Top 10 Reasons Why USP + Alcohol = Stress.”

Presentations
PATRICIA PETERSON++ was selected to offer an historical overview of Eastern Association of Colleges and Employers (EACE) as it celebrated its 85th anniversary during the closing banquet at the EACE Annual Conference in Norfolk, VA. Ms. Peterson has been a member since 1978.

MISHER COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Awards
AMY KIMCHUK++ was the recipient of the Outstanding Academic Advisor of the Year Award.

Grants

JOHN PORTER++, ARA DERMARDEROSSIAN++, WILLIAM LAW++, TILMAN BAUMSTARK++, ROBERT A. SMITH++, $117,593 Shimadzu Equipment Grant for Research (matching equipment grant), from Shimadzu Scientific Instruments, for MS Detector for 2D-LC in the McNeil Science and Technology Center.

JACQUIE SMITH++ was the recipient of a grant from the SMARTer Kids Foundation in June. This grant has been used to purchase new equipment for improved instructional technology for all six small classrooms in the 4500 Woodland Avenue building.

Poster Presentations
TILMAN BAUMSTARK++, et al., “Structural Effects of Sequence Variation Within the Loop E Motif of Pospiviroid” at the 11th Annual Meeting of the RNA Society at University of Washington in Seattle, WA, June 20–25.

Presentations


Professional Activity


Publications


GINA KAISER, • Book review of Waltzing Again: New and Selected Conversations with Margaret Atwood in Library Journal, vol. 131(9):100, May 15.


• Transgenic Approaches to Reintegration,” Cardiovascular Research, 71(1):8–9, July 1, 2006.


PHILADELPHIA COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

Poster Presentations

ADEGOKE ADENIJi, ADEBOYE ADEJARE, et al., “Design and Syntheses of Novel Adamantane Based Gamma-Secretase Inhibitors” at the Gordon Conference in New London, NH, August 6–11. The poster was presented by Adenijii. He was awarded a fellowship that covered all expenses to attend and present at the conference.

ELENA UMLAND, GRACE EARL, PAUL FURTAW, “Survey Evaluating Substance Abuse Education Across the Curriculum at University of the Sciences in Philadelphia” at the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy Annual Meeting in San Diego, CA, July 9–12.


Fluoroquinolone Utilization for Respiratory Tract Infections” to medical faculty at Wilkes-Barre General Hospital in Wilkes-Barre, PA, July.


“Effects and Mechanisms of Tumor Vascular Permeabilization by Vascular-Targeting Photodynamic Therapy” at the 33rd Meeting of the American Society for Photobiology in Puerto Rico, July 8–12.

PARDEEP GUPTA, SRIRAMAKAMAL JONNALAGADDA moderated and spoke at the symposium titled “Polymer Based Protein Delivery Systems” at the 2006 American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists (AAPS) National Biotechnology Conference in the John B. Hynes Veterans Memorial Convention Center in Boston, MA, June 18–21.


SARAH SPINLER†
• “Update on Newer Treatment Options for the Prevention and Management of Venous Thromboembolism” in Philadelphia, PA, on May 3.
• “Update on Bivalirudin and Glycoprotein IIb/IIIa Receptor Inhibitors in Percutaneous Coronary Interventions” at the Greater New York Hospital Association in East Elmhurst, NY, on April 26.
• “Meeting the Needs of US/NSTEMI Patient Management” at the Maimonides Hospital pharmacy department in Brooklyn, NY, on June 5.
• “Evolving Antithrombotic Therapy in ACS” at the University Pharmacotherapy Associates ACPE Continuing Education Program in Chattanooga, Chapter of the Georgia Society of Health-System Pharmacists in Columbus, GA, on June 8.

Professional Activity
MICHAEL CAWLEY**, speaker training invitations
• Astellas Pharma, Vaprisol Speaker Training Meeting in Denver, CO, in August.
• Pfizer Pharmaceutical Company, pharmacoeconomic summit: Demonstrating the Value of Medicines, in Chicago, IL, in August.

Publications


Professional Activity/Grants
Summer Institute Engages Philadelphia Science Teachers
With the aim of engaging middle grade teachers in a standards-based integrated curriculum, USP held its first Summer Institute for Middle Grade Science Teachers in 2006. The inquiry-based curriculum focused on exploration, explanation, and application, and challenged the Philadelphia teachers from five middle schools to explore scientific principles and develop student-centered lessons that they can use in the classroom.

Program director LOIS PECK, EdD, professor of biological sciences, oversaw the four-week, six-hour-a-day initiative along with faculty members CATHERINE BENTZLEY, PhD, associate professor of chemistry; CATHERINE PURZYCKI, BS, instructor of biological sciences; AMY KIMCHUK, MA, instructor of mathematics; and AMANI GANDOUR, PhD, assistant professor of mathematics.

“As a faculty, we developed this program together. It wasn’t a canned program, and we wanted it to be inquiry based with a multidisciplinary approach,” Peck explained. “We found the teachers were fully engaged in the inquiry-based learning and worked with our professors in an integrated approach so that it was math and science together.” The participants worked in lecture and laboratory settings.

Upon completion, each teacher received a kit filled with equipment and supplies to enhance his or her teaching. The institute teaching staff is also providing resources and teaching support for each teacher during the current school year, including classroom visits.

“This has been one of the most rewarding professional developments I have ever participated in during my tenure with The School District of Philadelphia,” program participant Darryl Walker wrote in a thank-you letter. “USP (is) successful because it offers ‘take-away’ strategies and materials that educators can put to immediate use in the classroom.”

A grant for the 2007 Summer Institute Program has already been secured by Peck and REYNOLD VERRET, PhD, dean of the Misher College of Arts and Sciences. In 2007, a second program for the first cohort will provide more math intensity, while a second cohort will be invited to attend the established introductory program.

“The vast majority of practicing scientists, including our recent Nobel Prize winners, developed their passion for the sciences at an early age,” Verret said. “Our future scientific capability and economic potential will depend on the quality of middle school science instruction today.”
1969
DAVID N. RUSCH MSc’69, PhD’73 and his wife Christine celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary on December 10, 2005, with their children and grandson. David is director of analytical services for Ash Stevens, Inc., a pharmaceutical systems research and development company in Detroit and Riverview, MI.

1971
PETER H. VLASSES P’71, PharmD’73 presented the commencement address at the University of Oklahoma’s College of Pharmacy on June 3, 2006. He is currently the executive director of the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education in Chicago, IL.

1976
DANIEL J. BERKY P’76, (MS’84, University of the Pacific) has joined Shire Human Genetic Therapies, Inc., as a senior computer validation engineer.

JEAN-MARC EUKUSZIAN P’76 recently received his PharmD degree from Shenandoah University. He has been employed by AstraZeneca for the past six years.

1984
JACOB M. SHERK P’84 and his partner Tim Zuch purchased Sloan’s Pharmacies, Inc., on June 9, 2006. Sloan’s has five stores in Pennsylvania and was founded in 1939 by G. WALTER SLOAN P’34. Previous owners include BENJAMIN W. PIERSOL, JR., P’75 and LAMAR L. STUTZMAN P’69.

1988
GENE P. MARALDO P’88 and his wife Lynette welcomed the birth of their first child Dominic Edward on September 22, 2005. Gene is a pharmacist at Happy Harry’s in Delaware, and Lynette is a nurse at Crozer-Chester Medical Center in Upland, PA.

1990
LINDA (CIANCIARULO) SAILOR P’90, PharmD’00 and her husband Peter announced the birth of son Joseph Michael on April 28, 2006. He joins big brothers Steven (12) and Eric (8). The family lives in Sewell, NJ.

1994
CAROLINE R. GAITAN-MARA P’94 and her husband Scott welcomed the birth of son Ryan Christopher on February 19, 2006. Caroline is the second-shift supervisor at Walgreens Mail Service in Tempe, AZ. She and her family live in Mesa, AZ.

1996
ANDREW M. GALGOCI PH’TX’96 is a part of a team of Merck scientists who discovered a new class of antibiotics, only the third to have been developed in the last four decades. Andrew is a staff biologist at Merck’s Rahway, NJ, facility and lives in Manville, NJ.

1998
ANNE (HARMAN) CHAPPELLE PhD’98 and her husband Todd welcomed daughter Rachel Elizabeth on April 3, 2006. Rachel joins big brother Jack. Anne is a toxicologist in the professional services group of Sunoco, Inc., in Marcus Hook, PA.

ELENA (ACRI) KALBACH MB’98 received her master’s degree in quality assurance & regulatory affairs from Temple University in January 2004. She is the vice president of quality assurance and regulatory affairs at Accupac, Inc., a pharmaceutical contract manufacturer and packager in Mainland, PA. In 2006, she has given four speeches on numerous quality-related topics for FDA-regulated industry and is scheduled to have an article published on the importance of quality systems in pharmaceutical technology. Elena lives in Quakertown, PA, with her husband Nathan and their children Gabriel (6) and Lanie (3).

1999
THOMAS H. O’NEILL P’98 and his wife Karie Ann announced the birth of daughter Allison Marie on February 9, 2006. Thomas is a pharmacy manager at Happy Harry’s in Newark, DE. He and his family reside in Middletown, DE.

2000
CATHERINE (WARNER) BLEWITT MPT’00 and her husband Chris proudly announced the birth of their first child Evan Walker on October 9, 2005. Katie works part-time as a physical therapist at Crozer-Chester Medical Center and recently received her doctor of physical therapy degree from Temple University. She and her family live in Wilmington, DE.

MICHAEL E. CASTAGNA P’00 and his wife Lydia announced the birth of daughter Laura Bennett on May 15, 2006. She weighed 7 pounds, 7 ounces and was 20.5 inches long. Michael has accepted a position at Serono, Inc., as marketing director for their metabolic endocrinology franchise. He and his family will be relocating to Duxbury, MA.

2001
CARL J. POPELAS PharmD’01 and CINDY (CLARK) POPELAS MPT’01 announced the birth of daughter Julia Kathryn on March 22, 2006. Carl is a pharmacist at Milford Memorial Hospital in Milford, DE, where he and his family live. Cindy is a physical therapist at Howard T. Ennis School in Georgetown, DE.

JENNIFER (SKEANS) YODER MOT’01 and her husband Jamie welcomed the birth of son Brandon Thomas on February 12, 2006. Jenn is employed by the Colonial School District of New Castle, DE, as an occupational therapist. Jamie is a graphic designer for Kent Signs. They reside in Dover, DE. 

MARYANN (SUSINSKI) MAZER P’00, PharmD’01 received her MD degree from Temple University School of Medicine in May 2006. She is currently doing a residency at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania.

LAUREN (SMITH) SOK MPT’00 and her husband Kevin celebrated the first birthday of their twin sons Ethan and Austin on March 21, 2006.

MADELINE (O’AMICO) SPENCER MPT’00 and ROBERT J. SPENCER P’99 welcomed daughter Averi Cecelia, weighing in at 8 pounds, 10 ounces, on March 31, 2006.

JENNIFER (SKEANS) YODER MOT’01 and her husband Jamie welcomed the birth of son Brandon Thomas on February 12, 2006. Jenn is employed by the Colonial School District of New Castle, DE, as an occupational therapist. Jamie is a graphic designer for Kent Signs. They reside in Dover, DE.
2002

JENNIFER (HINKLE) GODSHALL MPT’02 and her husband Brian announced the birth of son Brandon Lee on May 31, 2006. Jennifer is a physical therapist at Grand View Sports Medicine in Sellersville, PA. She and her family live in Pennsburg, PA.

STACY A. MANNING MOT’02 and SCOTT A. CARIELLO PH/TX’01, PharmD’03 were wed on November 12, 2005, in Lakewood, NJ. JAIME A. KARAS MPT’02 was the maid of honor, JUSTIN D. BOYDEN PharmD’06 was the best man, and BEVERLY K. SNYDER MPT’04 was a bridesmaid. Also in attendance were JENNIFER (HINKLE) GODSHALL MPT’02, BECKI (CASCADEN) HASTINGS PH/TX’01, KRISTY J. RAMSEY-FRALEY PH/TX’01, and DAVID A. MCCREARY PharmD’03. Stacy is a pediatric occupational therapist. She works for a contracting company in New Jersey and owns a private pediatric practice. Scott is a clinical pharmacist with Benecard Services Inc., a prescription benefits management company. The couple just bought their first home in Levittown, PA.

BRIAN F. McBRIDE PharmD’02 was recently appointed to the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine’s Executive Committee for Postdoctoral Research Fellow Development.

IN MEMORIAM

THIRTIES

MAX FELDMAN P’37 died on June 21, 2006, at his home in New Orleans. He was 93. Max worked as a pharmacist in the suburbs of Philadelphia before retiring and moving to Fairfax, VA, and then New Orleans. His survivors include wife Lillian; children Helena and Randall; daughter-in-law Madelaine; and step-grandchildren Troy, Lauren, Travis, and Cydney.

FIFTIES

LEONARD G. AGRE P’50 died on July 17, 2006. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Roslyn; daughters Sherrie and Beth; three grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

SEVENTIES

MINDY (BOWMAN) SCHLACHTER P’74 died unexpectedly on March 4, 2006, while vacationing in Akron, OH. She is survived by her husband of 31 years, William G. Schlachter P’75, and their children Adrienne and Andrew.

NINETIES

JAMES L. WERTZ P’93 lost his eight-month battle with aglio sarcoma on May 14, 2006, at his home in Lancaster, PA. He is survived by his parents Elizabeth and ROBERT L. WERTZ P’57; wife of 11 years, Janice; sons Shawn and Matthew; step-daughter Christina; and sister Jane.

2003

TESSY M. JOHN PharmD’03 and her husband Bobby Abraham welcomed daughter Angela Grace on December 18, 2005. Angela was born at Mt. Nittany Medical Center in State College, PA, where Tessy is employed as a staff pharmacist.

2004

WALTER DISNEY, JR., PharmD’04 has been named director of North Hawaii Community Hospital in Kamuela, HI. In his spare time, he likes to golf on the Kona Coast of Kailua Kona.

KRISTEN J. STEAD MS’04 and Peter Kelly were married in May 2006. They reside in Wilmington, DE.

2005

MARK D. MCALANIS PharmD’05 and Sarah Steffen were wed at Queen of Peace Church in Millersburg, PA, on November 5, 2005. They welcomed son Mason David on April 11, 2006, in Harrisburg, PA. Mason is their first child and the first grandchild for Mark’s parents GEORGE M. MCALANIS P’74 and DORATHY (OSBORNE) MCALANIS P’76.
Dr. Martin Gibbs C’43, PhD

MARTIN GIBBS C’43, PhD, passed away on Monday, July 24, 2006, at the age of 83. The Philadelphia native, who graduated from Central High School in 1940, was a professor of biology and the Abraham S. & Gertrude Burg Chair in Microbiology (1982–1993) at Brandeis University.

Born on Armistice Day in 1922, Dr. Gibbs earned his undergraduate degree from Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science in 1943. He followed that with a teaching fellowship in the Department of Chemistry at the University of Illinois-Urbana and completed his doctorate in plant biology there in 1947.

Dr. Gibbs joined Brookhaven National Laboratory in 1947 as a junior scientist in the Department of Biology. He remained at Brookhaven until 1956 when he became a biochemistry professor in Cornell University’s College of Agriculture.

In 1962, he took on the editorship of the journal *Plant Physiology* and, by 1963, had increased contributions to the journal by 25 percent from the previous year. He edited the journal until 1992.

By 1964, Dr. Gibbs had left Cornell for Brandeis. According to an editorial in *Plant Physiology*, Dr. Gibbs’s “distinguished, if not at times controversial, research career led to numerous awards, including election to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 1972 and the National Academy of Sciences in 1974.” His important work in the photosynthesis process led to many colorful disagreements with his peers, current *Plant Physiology* editor-in-chief Donald R. Ort explained.

The husband of the late S. Karen Gibbs, he is survived by daughters Janet Miller and Laura Kocen; sons Steven, Michael, and Robert; and 10 grandchildren.

Dr. Joseph B. Schwartz

The Burroughs-Wellcome Professor of Pharmaceutics and director of Industrial Pharmacy Research at the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, Dr. Joseph B. Schwartz died on August 14, 2006.

Born on June 11, 1941, Dr. Schwartz’s career began in 1967 when he joined Merck Sharp & Dohme Research Laboratories as a senior research pharmacist in pharmaceutical research and development. While there, he pioneered formulation and process optimization. He joined the faculty of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science in 1981, and he remained at USP until his death.

A native of Richmond, Virginia, he received his BS degree from Medical College of Virginia’s School of Pharmacy and went on to earn his MS and PhD degrees in pharmaceutical chemistry from the University of Michigan.

Dr. Schwartz was an internationally recognized expert in the area of solid dosage form technology and processing. He served as editor of the *PDA Journal of Pharmaceutical Science and Technology* from 1988 to 2000, was coeditor of the three-volume series *Pharmaceutical Dosage Forms: Tablets*, and was a section editor for *Remington: The Science and Practice of Pharmacy*, 18th, 19th, 20th, and 21st editions.

Additionally, Dr. Schwartz was a fellow in the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists (AAPS), a member and former chairman of the Philadelphia Discussion Group (now known as the Philadelphia Pharmaceutical Forum), and a faculty member of the prestigious Arden House.

Prior to his passing, he was named the winner of the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists Outstanding Educator Award for 2006. He is survived by his wife Gloria, sons Michael S. Schwartz and Jeffrey S. Schwartz, daughter Dori E. Schwartz, and sister Meryl Schwartz-Davidi.
Planned giving is the process of making a charitable gift in a way that provides maximum benefit to the charity and the donor—as well as others who may be involved. Such gifts usually involve major assets and, thus, require thoughtful consideration.

While making a well-planned gift can be challenging and somewhat time-consuming, it can also be one of life’s most satisfying experiences. Here are four steps to help you make a fulfilling planned gift.

**Ponder.** Consider what you would like to accomplish with your gift. What is your purpose? Why do you want to make the gift? Explore your motivations and expectations.

Review your assets, especially those that have appreciated in value. What can you afford to give without jeopardizing retirement and emergency needs? Consider your family and other obligations. Do you need lifetime income from your gift? Do you need tax relief? Do you want to create a legacy through an endowment fund?

**Learn.** The second step is to gather information and advice. Contact the Office of Institutional Advancement at USP and request literature. Better yet, invite a planned giving professional from USP to come and visit with you. Share your thoughts and let the professional outline a gift arrangement that helps you meet your objectives.

Once you have acquired an understanding of the gift vehicle and you are satisfied that it fits your plans, seek the counsel of a trusted advisor. When you have obtained the information you need and feel comfortable with a decision to proceed, move to the next step, and…

**Act.** Following through to actually make a planned gift can be the hardest part of the process, especially when the gift is irrevocable. The thought of giving up a cherished asset can also cause hesitation. Whatever your situation, the action step will come easier if you have taken the time to carefully consider your objectives and have acquired sufficient knowledge to know that the gift arrangement is the right one for you. The act of giving a well-planned gift can be exhilarating!

**Notify.** Once you complete your planned gift, contact the University and let us know. Of course, we are often included in the process and know when the gift occurs. At other times—such as will bequests—we are not aware a gift has been arranged unless we are informed.

The reason gift notification is important is that it permits us to respond to you with appropriate recognition. Also, knowing helps us to look ahead in our planning and projections. A further reason is the positive effect this news has on others who may be considering a planned gift to University of the Sciences in Philadelphia.

Would you like to make a planned gift to USP? We encourage you to consider the possibilities. Learn all you can from a planned giving specialist and your trusted advisors. Armed with sufficient information and a sense of rightness, make your gift confidently and joyfully. And then, if we don’t already know, tell us the good news. Let us honor you for your generosity, foresight, and encouragement.

Would you like to learn more about estate planning and how it can benefit you and the University? To receive our free literature, use the handy response form below, or call USP’s Office of Institutional Advancement at 1.800.857.6264. To learn more about this and other planned giving opportunities, please visit our website at www.usip.edu/alumnifriends.

Thank you for your support.

ERICA SPIZZIRRI  
Director, Major Gifts
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• The Changing Face of the USP Campus
• Circa 1821: Inside the Exhibition
• Mishler Week and Fall Fest
Photo Galleries
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To engage the graduates of University of the Sciences in Philadelphia in promoting the goals and objectives of the Alumni Association and the Institution.

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DEGREE/PROGRAM ABBREVIATIONS

BAC Bacteriology
BC Biochemistry
BI Biology
BInf Bioinformatics
BW Biomedical Writing
C Chemistry
CB Cell Biology
CS Computer Science
DPT Doctor of Physical Therapy
ES Environmental Science
HonDSc Honorary Degree (Science)
HPsy Health Psychology
HS Health Science
IndP Industrial Pharmacy
MB Microbiology
MedC Medicinal Chemistry
MOT Master of Occupational Therapy
MPT Master of Physical Therapy
MS Master of Science
MT Medical Technology
OrgC Organic Chemistry
P Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy
PA Physician Assistant
PAd Pharmacy Administration
PharmD Doctor of Pharmacy
PhC Pharmaceutical Chemistry
PhD Doctor of Philosophy
PhG Graduate in Pharmacy (equivalent to P that is used today)
PhSci Pharmaceutical Sciences
PhTech Pharmaceutical Technology
PH/TX Pharmacology and Toxicology
PMM Pharmaceutical Marketing and Management
Psy Psychology
STC Certificate in Science Teaching
TX Toxicology
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<td>Nov 1</td>
<td>Town Meeting—Market Responsiveness, USP Campus</td>
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<td>Nov 7</td>
<td>Town Meeting—Stewardship &amp; Effectiveness, USP Campus</td>
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<td>Nov 13</td>
<td>Town Meeting—Community Involvement, USP Campus</td>
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<td>Nov 16</td>
<td>American Society of Consultant Pharmacists Alumni and Friends Dinner, Phoenix, AZ</td>
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<td>Town Meeting—Research, USP Campus</td>
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<td>Men's and Women's Basketball Home Openers vs. West Chester University, USP Campus</td>
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<td>Nov 29</td>
<td>Town Meeting—Marketing and Branding, USP Campus</td>
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<td>American Society of Health-System Pharmacists Alumni and Friends Reception, Anaheim, CA</td>
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<td>Alumni Association Board Meeting, USP Campus</td>
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<td>Men's and Women's Basketball Double Header, Alumni Reception, USP Campus</td>
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