FROM THE PRESIDENT


These three words—powerful concepts all—are the driving principles around which we will shape the future of University of the Sciences in Philadelphia. These three words define our recent strategic planning initiative and the key elements we believe have been—and must continue to be—the core of the USP experience. Living true to our legacy; developing the vision required to build on and enhance that legacy; and providing value to our community of students, alumni, faculty, staff, and friends must be our focused commitment. In the coming months, you will hear more about these exciting ideas as we further develop and implement this strategic plan.

In our increasingly complex and interdependent environment, engaging in strategic partnerships and collaborations will be an integral component of our ability to pursue excellence and innovation. The student exchange programs with University of the Arts and New York University’s Study Abroad Program are two fine examples of what these partnerships can offer. In this issue, you will learn more about our promising new collaboration with Virtua Health, which will provide exciting opportunities for our faculty and students to create new models for education in the health professions.

I continue to be impressed by the many and varied accomplishments of our alumni. You are truly defining and redefining your professions, whether as practitioners, scientists, teachers, business leaders, thought leaders, or researchers. Your perspectives and achievements will inform and inspire the Legacy, Vision, and Value that move USP forward.

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

The mission of University of the Sciences in Philadelphia is to educate students to become leaders and innovators in the sciences, health professions, and emerging related disciplines. Building on our legacy as the nation’s first college of pharmacy, we provide excellence in teaching, research, and service.
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Compounding pharmacies developed and operated by alumni fill the need for personalized medicine for people and animals.

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The 19th-century photographer has taken some of the most recognizable portraits of his time.

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Alumni, put your USP pride on display...

...with a new line of apparel and gifts designed by and for USP Alumni.

Selected for their quality and value, all of the products bear the USP Alumni Association graphic. The collection ranges from a classic pigment dyed cotton t-shirt to a silky smooth golf shirt in separate styles for men and women. Choices also include a sweatshirt, hat, and canvas tote.

To see the full line of products or to download ordering information, visit

www.usip.edu/aagear

Proceeds benefit the USP Alumni Association Scholarship Fund.
Compounding Pharmacies at the Forefront of Personalized Medicine

By Carol R. Cool

All are part of the unserved or underserved populations helped by compounding pharmacies. Compounding allows people and animals to be cared for by providing strength or dosage forms that are not commercially available. Compounding enables doctors to optimize therapy for the one to two percent of patients who don’t fit into the majority.

Continued on page 4.
Compounding Rx Apothecary in Malvern, Pennsylvania, owned by ERIC FOX P’98 and managed by MICHAEL CUBBIN PharmD’00, has as its unofficial motto, “Improving quality of life every day.” But it’s more than a nice catch phrase for the staff. It’s what patients are telling them after they begin using a custom-created medication.

“For example, no one makes acetaminophen and codeine suppositories for a two-year-old who just had her tonsils out and is vomiting,” said Cubbin. “Compounding Rx Apothecary does. We compound pediatric dosage forms for patients of the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) otolaryngology practice. Parents are so grateful that we can make the medication for their child today so that the child can go home from the hospital. You can’t beat the feeling of helping someone.”

LUCY MALMBERG P’72 who owns Wedgewood Pharmacy in Swedesboro, New Jersey, with her husband GEORGE MALMBERG P’72, agreed: “It’s very rewarding; it resonates with the public. By the time the patient gets to us, they’ve been through the mill. We are meeting a specific need, and they appreciate it.”

Lucy Malmberg particularly remembers a call received at home from the husband of a hospice patient: “His wife, for the first time—because of a compounded medication—was able to get up, get dressed, and come downstairs and just sit with her kids and watch them eat cereal. He was bawling on the phone; just for her to be able to do that was a big thing for the kids.” On the animal side, they receive notes from elderly women thanking them for extending their pets’ lives through a compounded medicine, giving them a few more months or years with a pet that is like a child to them.

Filling a Niche, Finding Profitability
For the Malmbergs, the decision to specialize in compounding was made 20 years ago when the chain drugstores began competing with Wedgewood Pharmacy, the independent pharmacy they had purchased in 1980. “There was no future in being a smaller, weaker version of the national chains,” said George Malmberg. “It was time to differentiate ourselves.”
Compounding put to work the skill sets they had learned in their training at USP, particularly under ROGER L. SCHNAARE, PhD. They took this passion they had for compounding and created a business. “Compounding gives us the opportunity to practice clinical pharmacy in a retail setting. It allows us to get into patient care,” said George Malmberg.

First, the Malmbergs installed a clean room right in the front of their original pharmacy. As the business grew, they moved to an old gym facility, expanding their clean room and compounding facilities but continuing to stock health aids and over-the-counter medicines. In October of 2003, they moved into their current 40,000-square-foot facility, the largest compounding facility in the U.S. The design took great planning—two years’ worth. “It had to speak to the commitment to the quality of service,” Lucy Malmberg said.

Fellow alum, Eric Fox benefited from the Malmbergs’ experience and their willingness to share it. Back in October of 1993, when Fox was a second-year (transfer) student at Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science, he took a technician/intern position at DELCO Apothecary, the outpatient pharmacy at Delaware County Memorial Hospital. There, he learned about compounding, enjoying it so much that he became the unofficial chief compounding technician. By December, he had a job at The Graduate IV Home Infusion, compounding sterile medications.

“The following year I took pharmaceutics lab,” said Fox, “which, of course, I enjoyed immensely. During one class, the Malmbergs came to present the business side of

The FDA Confronts Compounding

Compounding is a basic skill for pharmacists. It’s been taught in pharmacy schools since the profession began. It is required by every state board of pharmacy. Pharmacists used to be tested in it before licensing. Every pharmacy is still required to own a certain amount of compounding equipment, including a mortar and pestle. Historically, the state boards of pharmacy regulated compounding.

With the resurgence of compounding in the 1990s, and the specialization of pharmacies in compounding alone, the FDA began to exert its jurisdiction. It asserted that compounding created new and unapproved drugs and, therefore, was illegal. “At the same time, they conceded that it was a useful and necessary component of a modern health care system,” said George Malmberg, “so they would use their discretion and take enforcement action where they thought the activity had gone beyond traditional pharmacy practice and more closely mimicked a manufacturing operation.”

For instance, the FDA viewed large compounding pharmacies, like Wedgewood, as a manufacturing facility. Some pharmacies, including Wedgewood, asserted that it was not the amount of prescriptions you filled, but the underlying activity itself that was legal—the compounding skill pharmacists learned in school. Volume does not change the activity itself. “Compounding is legal, safe, necessary, and well regulated at the state level,” said George Malmberg.

In 1996 the FDA instituted legislation that made compounding legal only under certain parameters. The pharmacies could not advertise, promote, or solicit business, and they could not inform physicians of specific drugs or therapeutic categories they compounded. All they could say was that they offered the service. Wedgewood and six other pharmacies sued the FDA, asserting their rights to free speech were being violated. In 2002, the U.S. Supreme Court voided the FDA legislation in Thompson v. Western States Medical Center.

The FDA continues to assert that compounding creates new and unapproved drugs. It recently lost a case in Midland, Texas, where the courts ruled that compounding does not create new drugs and that the FDA has no jurisdiction. The FDA has appealed.

The courts have ruled that the FDA has the right to inspect compounding pharmacies. Wedgewood Pharmacy went through a rigorous, 30-day FDA inspection in 2005. To make themselves as compliant as possible, Fox and Cubbin hired a company to develop Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) with them for Compounding Rx Apothecary and to train their employees and document it. If the FDA comes with questions, they can say, “This is how we do it,” and they have documentation.

Continued on page 6
under their care. Changing the form by which a medicine is administered can enable pet owners to more easily ensure their pet ingests the necessary medication.

Ensuring Patient and Product Safety
As with any medical treatment, physicians must weigh risk versus benefit in writing a prescription that requires compounding, because the compound formulation is not FDA approved (see FDA sidebar). The prescription is off-label, and the prescribing physician must set up the formulation and make the decision to apply the drug in this situation. “The core of medical practice has always been the professional judgment of the physician in diagnosing and treating
the patient and determining what treatment benefits that patient,” said George Malmberg. “Our role is to compound that medical treatment, and we rely on the physician’s clinical observations of ongoing benefit.”

Pharmacists who provide compounding must ensure they provide a quality prepared prescription in a sterile facility and that they don’t operate beyond their comfort level. It is important to monitor chemical stability (how long liquids remain usable, for instance), absorption times, chemical and drug interactions, the best delivery mechanism, and the dosage amounts.

“We believe,” said George Malmberg, “that patients deserve quality-assured prescriptions, and just because they are compounded doesn’t change that.” The pharmacies follow all the relevant U.S. Pharmacopeia guidelines, particularly in chapters 795 and 797.

Compounding and dispensing software track everything, so a paper trail exists. Every chemical is tracked on arrival; worksheets track who got what chemical in what amount and from what lot number. If there were ever a problem, every component can be tracked to a specific patient and from a specific supplier.

Fox’s apothecary, with entrance floors created from old barn siding and custom cabinetry that reminds you of apothecaries of another era, is a far cry from the Malmbers’ facility in an industrial park. But they, too, include an acknowledgement to the valued history of compounding through display cases lining the front hall that contain apothecary artifacts. The nods to the past end, though, when you step into the work areas of both facilities.

Clean rooms for sterile preparations meet Class 1000 federal standards. Class 100 laminar airflow hoods, HEPA filters, reversed airflow systems, and policies such as footwear that never leaves the facility ensure product safety as well as protect the health of employees. Independent certification of clean rooms takes place every six months to ensure compliance.

“With the growth in personalized medicine, compounding provides the opportunity for manufacturers and pharmacies to work together.”

LUCY MALMBERG P’72

Regulations allow compounding pharmacies to compound in advance of prescription receipt based on historical volume of orders received for those preparations. Wedgewood Pharmacy, with more than 70 employees, serves physicians throughout the country through its mail order business. As a large provider, Wedgewood receives orders from all 50 states and so compounds many prescriptions in advance in order to fill prescriptions the same day.

Shipping compounded medications across state lines requires meeting the regulations of each state board of pharmacy.

Certification must be obtained from each state board, and any specific licensing, prescribing, or shipping requirement complied with.

Preparing for a Future in Compounding

“In this practice,” said Fox, “we use mental tools we acquired in every course we took at USP. The education there requires you to be methodical in the way you approach a problem and come up with a solution. That’s a skill we use every day.”

All of our compounding pharmacists agreed that courses in pharmaceutics were vital to their ability to do their jobs well. Both Fox and Cubbin suggest students get part-time job experience in the service industry. It helps compounding pharmacists learn how to deal with people, because compounding is so focused on individual patients.

“Compounding is a specialty practice in the profession that gives pharmacists the opportunity to be involved in clinical pharmacy in a retail setting, to have input into therapy decisions along with physicians and other health care practitioners,” said George Malmberg. “It’s not something to be entered into lightly; it takes commitment, dedication, and ongoing training.”

“I see an expanding role for compounding pharmacies,” said Lucy Malmberg. “With the growth in personalized medicine, compounding provides the opportunity for manufacturers and pharmacies to work together.” All for the good of the patient.
Aimed at creating a model for innovation in learning, technology, and applied health care, USP and Virtua Health have engaged in a strategic learning partnership. The result could impact future health care models.

“Since the University does not own its own academic medical center, it’s very important to us that we have strong clinical affiliations and partnerships,” said USP President PHILIP P. GERBINO P’69, PharmD’70. “For Virtua, having a connection with our University enhances the prestige of an already prestigious and well-recognized health care center.”

Announced in early January of this year, the relationship is the first of its kind for the University. USP already has a small footprint in Virtua Health through clinical rotations, primarily in the pharmacy program. An expansion of OT and PT programs next year at one of Virtua’s many South Jersey locations provides USP students a clinical setting in a leading regional health care organization that is at the forefront of technology and the delivery of high-quality care.

Not long after that, while USP students improve their skills in the clinical setting, health care workers and executives from Virtua will be sitting in USP’s classrooms, or in future classrooms at Virtua, earning nership. It also maintains a major corporate relationship with GE Healthcare that has provided not only technology but the Six Sigma and Lean methodologies that have helped to transform Virtua’s growing operation.

Located in South Jersey, Virtua Health is a four-hospital system that provides a full range of services from acute care to health and fitness, and long-term care to mobile intensive care.

“It’s important from our vantage point that we bring the best and brightest to our campus,” Richard P. Miller, president and CEO of Virtua Health told USP’s board of trustees at its February board meeting. “We are talking about pharmacy students; we are talking about occupational health students; and we are talking about physical therapy students. [It will be a situation] where students from USP will get hands-on experience with patient care at Virtua.”

Developing an overarching plan for initiatives within the partnership, identifying new initiatives, and considering priorities are among the charges of USP’s Virtua steering committee.

The committee is looking at the potential at three levels of opportunity: programs and exchanges that could be accomplished immediately, intermediately, and long-range. While the physical placement of more students on the floors of Virtua is one area that could be accomplished quickly, trading data is another.

“Virtua has data. They have clinical data on patients or health care outcome data or, at least, a data set that we could help them analyze,” said ROBERT A. KERR, PharmD, associate dean of Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and a member of the steering committee at USP. “That analysis would benefit them and our scholars here, particularly in public health.”

More long-term plans relate to developing research relationships for both USP students and for Virtua’s staff. Existing clinical trial processes at Virtua could be expanded by offering USP clinical trials to Virtua’s patients. In addition, discussions have already begun to bring USP, GE Healthcare, and Virtua to the same table.

“Overall, this partnership provides for us an opportunity to give our students a high-level set of experiences, opportunities to expand our research, and opportunities to work on health policy issues that affect the region,” said Dr. Gerbino. “And we will work with GE Healthcare and Virtua, to create new models of health care, using innovative technologies and other systems.”

USP and Virtua Health have developed a strategic learning partnership to create a model for innovation in learning, technology, and applied health care. From left to right are Catherine Kotecki, RN, DNSc, APN C, director of clinical education and research, Virtua Health; Richard P. Miller, president and CEO, Virtua Health; USP President PHILIP P. GERBINO P’69, PharmD’70; and SARA GALLAGHER, MSW, associate vice president and chief of staff.
ALUMNI FOCUS

On the Move through the Science of Dance

By Brian Kirschner

In 1980, RIOLAMA LORENZO-LASA HS’06 and her parents, Maria and Jose, fled their home in Havana, Cuba, as part of the Mariel Boatlift, a massive exodus from Cuba to the United States. Three years old at the time, she admittedly has blocked out the experience. The next 27 years, though, have left an indelible mark and taken Lorenzo-Lasa on a journey whose destination continues to change.

Growing up in Miami, Lorenzo-Lasa began to study ballet. She eventually moved on her own to New York City where she landed a position with the New York City Ballet at age 17. But after five years she quit ballet, a decision born out of many factors, including the death of one of her mentors, Jerome Robbins. She went back to Miami, where she would meet her future husband, Javier Lasa, MD, and earn an associate’s degree. She followed the future Dr. Lasa to Baltimore, where he attended the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine.

Through it all, the performing bug was still there, and Lorenzo-Lasa auditioned with the Pennsylvania Ballet, which was just an hour and a half from Baltimore.

She joined the Pennsylvania Ballet as a member of the Corps de Ballet in September 2002 and was promoted to soloist in September 2003 and to principal in March 2005.

“I wanted to continue with my education when I started dancing again. That was always something that was instilled in me. Neither of my parents graduated from college because they had to flee the country,” Lorenzo-Lasa said. “My mom was a ballerina in Cuba. My dad was studying to be an engineer. I realized my mom’s dream by becoming successful in this business and also realized my dad’s dream because he never graduated from college.”

USP caught her attention because of the science concentration and her long-term goal of attending a physical therapy program.

“All we do in rehearsals is count. It’s all about the numbers and the shapes that we do. It is very mathematical.”

Riolama Lorenzo, HS’06

Since 2005, RIOLAMA LORENZO-LASA HS’06, has been a principal dancer with the Pennsylvania Ballet. She combined her dance experience with her fieldwork requirement to create an effective movement-through-dance program for children.

program at the time, was able to match Lorenzo-Lasa with ROGER IDEISHI, JD, OT/L, assistant professor in occupational therapy, and his wife, SIOBHAN, who is a staff occupational therapist at KenCrest Services and adjunct instructor in the occupational therapy department. KenCrest is a human services agency that services and supports people with developmental disabilities. Lorenzo-Lasa’s background as a dancer and her health science studies were a unique combination.

Roger, along with Siobhan, worked with Lorenzo-Lasa to develop a movement-through-dance program. “I made sure she had a sense of motor development so that what she was developing was in line with what was appropriate for kids at that age,” said Roger. “Riolama put the program together. She ran the program.”

Continued on page 16
Helping transform USP from a college into a university was a goal of BARBARA J. BYRNE, PhD, during her decade at USP. It’s one she achieved well and in which she takes pride. “Overall I am most proud of the way the institution has evolved into a University,” she said. “I’ve seen growth among faculty and in both diversity and quality of programs. I’ve seen the College of Graduate Studies emerge as a strong freestanding college. I’ve seen changes in the size and diversity of interests among the student body, and I’ve seen real professionalization in student affairs.”

The transformation project wasn’t easy, said USP President PHILIP P. GERBINO P’69, PharmD’70 but, “Dr. Byrne applied her previous experience, enabling USP to build the infrastructure required to establish a university environment. That infrastructure included the areas of policy and research, fully developed student services support systems, and a deep instructional base, which enabled USP to integrate across departmental lines, synergizing and maximizing the efforts of faculty and staff.”

Dr. Byrne brought a strong blend of science teaching, research, and administration experience with her to USP in 1997, including time at Richard Stockton College of New Jersey, where she was the dean of natural sciences and mathematics. She also spent five years as the coeditor of the CUR Quarterly, the journal of the Council on Undergraduate Research.

This strong interest in undergraduate research was evident at USP. “Through her appointments of people and her ability to seed and fund research projects,” said President Gerbino, “she created an environment of undergraduate research and provided growth to our graduate research programs that will enable them to be even more successful.”

Being responsible for all academic departments and programs, all student affairs functions, and services that support the academic community meant listening to the concerns of a variety of stakeholders. The overall stress and demands of such a position are what Dr. Byrne said she wouldn’t miss about the job. And she added, “I certainly won’t miss having an average of six meetings a day.”

But Dr. Byrne handled it well, by being “easy to talk to and a good listener,” said MARGARET R. KASSCHAU, PhD, associate vice president of academic affairs. “She has excellent ideas and is very open to the ideas of others. For instance, she asked me to begin regular meetings with the department chairs. She believed this would create an environment where they could openly share their concerns with someone they were not reporting to but who could effect change.”

President Gerbino called Dr. Byrne “a professional of immense proportion. Most people do not appreciate Barbara’s dedication and passion for this institution, the personal sacrifices she has made, the extreme and intense dedication she has had toward faculty, because she doesn’t wear it on her sleeve. She just takes the very hard issues, internalizes them, and turns that into something positive.”

Dr. Byrne plans to spend a month this summer touring Alaska with her husband, Bruce. After that, she will look for special projects at area institutions, but her most special project will be devoting more time to her family, especially her delightful 16-month-old grandson.

What will she miss as she pursues life beyond USP? “I’ll miss the people—the students, the faculty, the staff—I’ll miss them all. I’m leaving as a good friend of the University, and I hope people will keep in touch.”

Dr Byrne’s final words of advice to the USP family were these: “Don’t be afraid of change. And be good to each other.” A good summary, too, of her tenure at USP.

Leaving Behind A University
Dr. Barbara Byrne to retire after guiding USP’s transformation

By Carol R. Cool

“Overall I am most proud of the way the institution has evolved into a University. I’ve seen growth among faculty and in both diversity and quality of programs.”

BARBARA J. BYRNE, PhD

Dr. Byrne in 1997.
A Focus on USP’s First Provost
Dr. M. Gary Sayed Joins USP in July 2007

By Brian Kirschner

In the last 20 months, M. GARY SAYED, PhD, has traveled around the world to South Africa, Angola, Dubai, Kuwait, Germany, Morocco, and South Korea, with a trip to Budapest on the horizon. While his destinations have been for both business—presenting academic papers—and pleasure, you can be sure that he has his camera close by.

“I usually take photographs of wildflowers and digitally slice them to enhance certain features or a small section of a flower that I see as interesting,” said Dr. Sayed, who will become USP’s first provost on July 1. “It’s amazing what you come up with.”

Dr. Sayed joins USP after five years as dean of the College of Science and Health at Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science in Los Angeles, California, and has already turned his figurative lens on his new home.

“I think USP has a unique role in the landscape of higher education in this country,” Dr. Sayed said. “Its focus in producing leaders for the health professions makes it even more unique in that it complete, USP President PHILIP P. GERBINO ’69, PharmD’70 felt that the time was right for a provost and that the search committee’s choice of Dr. Sayed made the perfect fit.

“We now have the infrastructure that will support a provost, a position that enables the integration of enrollment and enrollment management, academic budgeting, student affairs, and all of the programs and elements of the academy,” said Dr. Gerbino. “Gary brings us a career of successes and strategy development and is one who understands the integrations and synergies of a school that has clinical, science, and health-related programs.”

At Drew, Dr. Sayed oversaw a wide array of programs, ranging from liberal arts to nurse midwifery to public health. Among his many accomplishments as dean, he founded and raised funding for the Drew urban public health MPH program, reorganized the college’s 11 independent health profession programs into five academic departments, and designed the curriculum and implemented degree programs in biomedical sciences.

He has a Philadelphia connection as the previous chairman and clinical professor of the Department of Diagnostic Imaging at Thomas Jefferson University and still maintains New Jersey’s 856 area code on his cell phone. Over the past 14 years, he has taught graduate and undergraduate courses at liberal arts and professional institutions in radiological physics and biomedical imaging. His PhD is in biomedical sciences with a concentration in radiological sciences.

“My experience was somewhat unique, and it has qualified me well. I started both my academic and administrative careers concurrently,” Dr. Sayed said. He will continue his teaching at USP where he will hold a full professorship in physics.

Dr. Sayed has made a number of brief visits to USP since being chosen.

“I was highly impressed by the commitment of the deans and members of the faculty and their enthusiasm to serve USP.”

M. GARY SAYED, PhD

Taking photos of wildflowers or in this case rock formations at Crystal Cove in Laguna Beach, California, and digitally enhancing them, is a hobby for M. GARY SAYED, PhD, USP’s first provost. He does not strive to produce a pharmacist, but the leaders in pharmacy. Not a physical therapist, but the leaders in that field.”

Now that the 10-year process of transitioning USP from a college to a university is
Most of the 54 countries of Africa have sophisticated systems of education but lack the infrastructure to support their own educated professionals. This lack has fueled the decade-long migration of pharmaceutical industry and health care professionals from Africa and particularly from sub-Saharan Africa.

The migration has greatly enriched the communities where Africans have settled, but it raises a question: How can developing countries grow economically when a major export is their professionals? I do not know the answer to that. I myself came from Australia to the U.S. after I was awarded my PhD because I had no possibility of a professional job in my field. Would I rather have stayed in my own country? I don’t know, but I do know I would have liked the choice. And that is why the USP graduate biomedical writing programs started the Medical Journal of Therapeutics Africa (MJoTA), to celebrate the efforts of the African indigenous pharmaceutical industry. MJoTA also highlights the U.S. philanthropic efforts in Africa, which has the goal of wanting every African child to grow up healthy and educated.

In August 2006, I started seeking out African churches in Philadelphia with the idea of networking with African professionals living in the U.S. for the journal. I went to the United Ghanaian Community Church (PCUSA) in North Philadelphia and then to an indigenous Nigerian church, Christ Apostolic Church (CAC), down Baltimore Avenue about a mile from USP at 58th Street. I have been warmly welcomed in this church, and my efforts with MJoTA are greatly encouraged. My search has resulted in an unintended personal result—I now enthusiastically dance and worship for several hours at CAC services every Sunday.

Our concern is to publish articles on attempts; on successes; and on descriptions of developing, marketing, and manufacturing drugs, vaccines, and devices that prevent and treat disease.

Susanna J. Dodgson, BSc (Hon), PhD
short documentary that we could use to advertise our new journal. As a first step in this process, Pastor Edoro came on campus in November 2006 and filmed a class in which the goals and requirements of Medical Journal of Therapeutics Africa were discussed. Filming for the documentary continues.

Most articles in the first issue of MJoTA were written by students as part of a required biomedical writing master of science class in which they write and edit magazine articles and medical data articles. We welcome original medical journal articles from our own graduates and other pharmaceutical industry professionals everywhere. Submissions should be sent to me at s.dodgso@usip.edu.

I always knew medical writers were compassionate, with most involved in volunteer activities outside of classes and work in the pharmaceutical industry. MJoTA will always be a volunteer medical journal, but we are hoping as we grow we will be able to garner funds to send our editors to Africa for interviews and stories for our magazine section. They could also report on areas where humans with acute and chronic illness thrive because they have access to ethical lifesaving therapies.  

The Roots of MJoTA
By Susanna J. Dodgson BSc (Hon), PhD

In September 2001, I was hired by a medical communications company to work on HIV/AIDS topics for a multinational pharmaceutical company. I was hired partly because I am a medical writer with a PhD in physiology, but mainly because I was willing to fly anywhere at a time when few would. And fly I did. In early October, I spent three days in Santa Barbara, California, at a physician education meeting in a beach hotel used for celebrity weddings. By late October, I was in Athens. And in July 2002, I was in Barcelona for the XIV International AIDS Conference.

My job in Barcelona was to report on all ancillary two-hour seminar meetings sponsored by drug companies. The usual format was a really good dinner plus three health care professionals talking about a pharmaceutical company’s drug or concerns around prescribing the drug. In Barcelona, these meetings were followed by wines and tapas.

Except one. At this seminar, everyone was bused to a castle on the harbor for a banquet and to watch fire-eaters, acrobats making a large human pyramid, and huge characters walking around on stilts. I started chatting with the lady next to me, who identified herself as a Zimbabwian Red Cross worker. She was in awe of the opulence of the evening and the antiretroviral drugs that had been described throughout the conference. She told me that often her patients had only “roots and leaves” for therapy and none of the miracle drugs that the international drug companies were garishly hawking.

Many professionals inside and outside Africa are, however, trying to bring antiretroviral therapies to every human in need in Africa, as well as therapies to treat the other major killers there—malaria and tuberculosis—in addition to other diseases endemic on the continent. They also try to prevent infection, treat infected humans, and take care of orphans when the fight is lost. These professionals in Africa are in governments, universities, and indigenous pharmaceutical companies, and everywhere else. They are in small and large philanthropic companies, international pharmaceutical companies, government organizations, nongovernmental organizations, and United Nations organizations.

At the Barcelona AIDS meeting, the enormous efforts of individuals and organizations were in evidence, and they are in evidence to the staff of Medical Journal of Therapeutics Africa (MJoTA).
In the summer of 2006, DAN FLANAGAN, USP information sciences serials assistant, pored over the 1917 minutes of PCP’s board of trustees meeting. He wanted to understand why PCP had moved from its original location at 145 N. 10th Street to West Philadelphia, instead of to the Ben Franklin Parkway, as originally planned.

But these 1917 archives presented a wholly unexpected find: an extraordinary document celebrating FREDERICK GUTEKUNST P’1853, an alumus not noted in any of the published PCP histories.

This was Frederick Gutekunst (1831–1917), the 19th-century photographer responsible for portraits of illustrious Americans such as Ulysses S. Grant, George B. McClellan, William T. Sherman, Lucretia Mott, and Thomas Eakins. His portfolio of images includes Civil War generals, presidents, archbishops, academics, and foreign diplomats.

The 1917 PCP board of trustees passed a resolution memorializing Gutekunst, stating, “By his skill in his Chosen Art he has inspired many others to attain the same perfection of work that was so characteristic of him, and thereby elevated the Art of Photography to so high a plane that his name will ever be an inspiration to those who follow in his footsteps.”

“I already knew who Gutekunst was, but I wasn’t aware of any PCP connection until that moment,” Flanagan recalled.

After sitting for a portrait in 1889, American poet Walt Whitman wrote in his daybook that he ranked Gutekunst’s photography “top of the heap” and called Gutekunst “a first-rater—one of the best, anyhow.”

When Gutekunst died in 1917, the American Journal of Pharmacy published a three-page obituary describing his career as “one of Philadelphia College of Pharmacy’s most ablest sons.”

Born in Germantown in 1831, the son of a cabinetmaker, Gutekunst learned the craft of daguerreotyping from Robert Cornelius, owner of Philadelphia’s first photography studio. Cornelius studied chemistry with GERARD TROOST, PCP’s first chemistry professor.

FREDERICK GUTEKUNST P’1853 took this iconic photo of then-Gen. Ulysses S. Grant in 1865, three years before Grant was elected President of the United States.
“Frederick’s talent for chemistry didn’t go unnoticed by his father,” Flanagan said, “and in 1848 he found a new position for his son in a drug store belonging to FREDERICK KLETT, one of PCP’s founders.” From there, Gutekunst enrolled in PCP, while continuing to experiment with early photography. After graduation from PCP, Gutekunst—a name that comes from the German, meaning “good art”—embraced photography, not pharmacy, as his vocation.

“He’s a pharmacy graduate who never pursued pharmacy,” Flanagan said. “This might have something to do with why he was forgotten about as a graduate until now.”

Flanagan’s discovery, however, couldn’t have come at a more appropriate moment in USP’s history, as the University revitalizes its curriculum and expands its cultural offerings. In 2006, USP enrolled its first majors in a new bachelor of science in humanities and sciences program, and the University signed an historic agreement with University of the Arts that allows for student exchange between the two schools.

“Gutekunst anticipated C. P. Snow and E. O. Wilson by demonstrating how much can result from a dialogue between science and art, art and science,” said ROBERT BOUGHNER, PhD, chair, Department of Humanities. “Gutekunst may be in USP’s past, but he also represents the school’s future when our students will study the sciences in the context of the humanities and the fine arts more and more.”

Finding Gutekunst seems to be clear affirmation of the University’s unique capacity to support innovations and connections between the sciences and the arts. And it inspires a new generation of faculty and students at USP.

Continued on page 16

Arguably one of the greatest poets in American history, Walt Whitman sat before the lens of FREDERICK GUTEKUNST P’1853.

“By his skill in his Chosen Art he has inspired many others to attain the same perfection of work that was so characteristic of him, and thereby elevated the Art of Photography to so high a plane that his name will ever be an inspiration to those who follow in his footsteps.”

1917 BOARD OF TRUSTEES RESOLUTION
MEMORIALIZING FREDERICK GUTEKUNST P’1853

SUSAN HAYHURST P’1883 was the first woman graduate of Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and directed the pharmaceutical department of the Women’s Hospital of Philadelphia.

Photograph courtesy of USP’s J.W. England Library.
Today, Gutekunst’s portraits are found in the Library of Congress, as well as the National Portrait Gallery at the Smithsonian. MICHAEL BRODY, curator of the Marvin Samson Center for the History of Pharmacy, is preparing for an exhibition of original Gutekunst material that will open sometime in early 2008.

Gutekunst’s story, finally, is a tale of two extraordinary men.

“Gutekunst showed how good science can lead to good art,” said Boughner. “Dan Flanagan represents the best of the librarian’s craft: he preserves the past and makes it available for the future.”
USP Celebrates Founders’ Day

USP celebrated the 186th anniversary of its founding on February 22, 2007, with a number of events, including an honorary degree bestowed upon FRANK BALDINO Jr., PhD, chairman and CEO of Cephalon, Inc.; DELBERT S. PAYNE, chairman of the USP board of trustees; USP President PHILIP P. GERBINO P’69, PharmD’70; BARBARA BYRNE, PhD, senior vice president for academic affairs; and faculty Award of Merit winner CATHY POON, PharmD, vice chair of the Department of Pharmacy Practice/Pharmacy Administration.

USP celebrated the 186th anniversary of its founding on February 22, 2007, with a number of events, including an honorary degree bestowed upon FRANK BALDINO Jr., PhD, chairman and CEO of Cephalon, Inc. Founders’ Day recalls USP’s establishment on February 23, 1821, by 68 prominent Philadelphia apothecaries who met in Carpenters’ Hall to establish the basis for the improved scientific standards we enjoy today and to train more competent apprentices and students.

Dr. Baldino was awarded an honorary doctorate in science for his “entrepreneurial spirit and commitment to innovative and scientific inquiry to improve patient care and the health care profession.”

“In all of the pride, in all of the work, in all of the steps that it takes to put a company together, to put great discovery together, there are those silent moments of passion, sacrifice, and courage that no one sees,” said USP President PHILIP P. GERBINO, P’69, PharmD’70. “I think that’s what our 68 apothecaries had in mind when they founded this institution. And I am sure this is what Dr. Frank Baldino had to say when he looked at his company and said, ‘This is what we need to do in biotechnology to move forward.’”

Dr. Baldino founded Cephalon in 1987 and grew it from a privately held company to the sixth largest publicly traded biotechnology company in the U.S., with 2006 revenue of $1.76 billion.

To further mark the occasion, Dr. Gerbino announced two awards to recognize a current student and faculty member who live by the values upon which the University was founded. CATHY POON, PharmD, associate professor of clinical pharmacy and vice chair of the Department of Pharmacy Practice/Pharmacy Administration, was the first faculty Award of Merit winner. LAURA UNGER, B’07, USP Student Government Association president, took the student Award of Merit. Both were chosen for exemplifying the spirit and values of USP through enthusiasm, inspiration, and institutional pride.

USP Students Get Firsthand Experience with POD

What would happen if there were a biologic attack, disease outbreak, or some other potential emergency in the city of Philadelphia that required mass distribution of medicine or vaccines? USP students got a firsthand look at what they could be asked to do when the Philadelphia Department of Public Health held a Points-of-Dispensing (POD) exercise in late January at USP’s Athletic/Recreation Center.

“We wanted our students to really understand what they could be confronted with as volunteers or members of the community to support a POD,” said STEVEN SHEAFFER PharmD’78, vice chair for experiential learning at Philadelphia College of Pharmacy. “This was an opportunity for our students to learn how to operate a POD.”

An informative interactive discussion, “Insights into Emergency Response for the Public and Pharmacists,” was held prior to the mass dispensing exercise. Speakers included MARIE CARBONETTO P’95, Philadelphia Department of Public Health’s Philadelphia Medical Reserve Corps coordinator; JOSEPH DIMINO P’62, Montgomery County Health Department’s director of health/medical director; CLAUDIA PARVANTA, PhD, chair and professor of the Department of Social Sciences; and Dr. Sheaffer. After the talk, DiMino was honored with a plaque by the USP Alumni Association for his contributions to public health.

The POD experience came as volunteers from the audience, comprised of USP students, faculty, staff, alumni, and preceptors, acted as victims. Under the direction of the Philadelphia Department of Public Health, USP’s pharmacy student organizations—trained to function as members of the POD staff—screened victims, answered questions, and dispensed a mock bottle of the correct dose of emergency medications.

“At the conclusion of the POD exercise, everyone should have a better understanding of community needs and be better personally prepared for a disaster,” Dr. Sheaffer said.
Examining Public Health for Undergraduate Education

At the Consensus Conference on Undergraduate Public Health Education in Boston from November 7 and 8, 2006, USP was represented as part of a working group examining the place of public health in undergraduate education. REYNOLD VERRET, PhD, dean, Misher College of Arts and Sciences, who was joined by CLAUDIA PARVANTA, PhD, chair of the Department of Social Sciences, presented their report on public health minors. The report proposes structures for such minors and emphasizes significant benefits for liberal arts programs and for professional study.

“The addition of a public health experience will enrich any of our majors and especially general education,” Dr. Verret said. “The value added to our health profession degrees is obvious. Students are normally taught to think of individuals; public health would give them perspective for groups or populations.” Two foundational courses are proposed—Epidemiology 101 and Public Health 101—as well as up to two additional core courses and capstone experiences. Learning outcomes for the minor include understanding health promotion and disease prevention at a community and global level, fluency in statistics, and cultural literacy. Minors in public health are a useful gateway to issues of “law, ethics, human rights, and public policy.”

As the social sciences are particularly woven throughout public health curricula, Dr. Verret asked Dr. Parvanta to participate in the conference. Dr. Parvanta noted that funding to the Association for Prevention Teaching and Research—one of the sponsoring organizations—from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) had not yet expired. She urged the schools represented at the conference to collaborate in the development of online modules for Epidemiology 101 and Public Health 101.

“This way students could learn about pediatric environmental health from a Dick Jackson at UCSF, the media’s influence from a John Finnegan in Minnesota,” Dr. Parvanta said. “I would do a session on health communication. Each faculty member does a module on their strength, and the students get to learn from acknowledged experts.”

Dr. Verret and Dr. Parvanta foresee implementing the curriculum at USP but not until the 2008–09 academic year at the earliest. A definitive report will be published later this year in the Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, a journal of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Richard Riegelman of George Washington University is leading the Consensus Group effort.

Mayoral Open Forum

Members of the Philadelphia community, along with USP students, staff, and faculty, got one of the first tastes of the coming 2007 Philadelphia mayor’s race. Four of the five declared candidates held an open forum in the AstraZeneca Auditorium at the McNeil Science and Technology Center on January 17. Nearly 300 people crowded the auditorium to hear (from right to left) Tom Knox (Democrat), Dr. Kerry Foster (Green Party), Representative Dwight Evans (Democrat), and Michael Nutter (Democrat) with CBS 3’s Marc Howard moderating the event. Read more at www.usip.edu/whats_happening.
In celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr., Day, noted author and University of Pennsylvania professor Michael Eric Dyson, PhD (above), was the keynote speaker on “Dr. King for the 21st Century” on January 15. His talk was preceded by the OT and PT departments’ full-day, educational workshop that examined and discussed the issue of racism and health. On February 22, the campus marked Black History Month with a guest lecture from Aranthan S. Jones II, director of policy and research for the U.S. House of Representatives Majority Whip. Jones is the highest-ranking African-American health care advisor and the only African-American policy director in the leadership of the U.S. House of Representatives.

Z. ANNETTE IGLARSH, PT, PhD, professor of physical therapy and former physical therapy chair, received the Paris Distinguished Service Award on February 17 at the Annual Combined Sections Meeting of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) in Boston. This prestigious award is given to “acknowledge and honor a most outstanding orthopaedic section member whose contributions to the section are of exceptional and enduring value.”

“I am elated to be recognized by my peers for my service contribution to the section,” Dr. Iglarsh said. “Being honored with an award named for Stanley Paris, the founder of the section, symbolizes how we both value the section, as well as the physical therapy profession, and hold its future in the same high regard.”

Dr. Iglarsh has been a member of APTA since 1975 and served as orthopaedic section president from 1992 to 1995. The orthopaedic section is the largest of APTA’s 18 special-interest sections, currently representing over 13,000 members. As president, Iglarsh oversaw an increase in membership from 8,000 to 12,000 members, the establishment of the section’s first three special interest groups, and the development and construction of the section’s building in La Crosse, Wisconsin. Dr. Iglarsh presented her achievements and ideas to other APTA members in a keynote address at the Awards Session of the APTA Combined Sections Meeting.

The Athenaeum of Philadelphia has selected Crusader Nation: The United States in Peace and the Great War, 1898–1920, by DAVID S. TRAXEL, PhD, professor of history, as the recipient of the Athenaeum Literary Award for the best book by a Philadelphia author.

“This is a great honor,” Dr. Traxel said. “What I especially value is that the award is for the best work of literature written by a Philadelphian in a particular year, which means that the quality of the writing is as important as the research.”

Crusader Nation tells the story of the transformation of American life in the early 20th century. It was an era of changing social conventions and sexual mores and of the progressive reform movement against social evils like child labor and gender inequality. In his book, Dr. Traxel illustrates how this passionate energy was diverted by the country’s entrance into World War I, “which became the greatest crusade of all.”

ROBERT F. BOUGHNER, PhD, chair and professor of the Department of Humanities, said, “Crusader Nation is an outstanding piece of history and richly deserves the high honor that the Athenaeum award represents.”

Founded in 1814, the Athenaeum is a nonprofit, member-supported library dedicated to the collection of American antiquities and historical material for public benefit. The Athenaeum Literary Award, established in 1950, is considered by many, including Dr. Boughner, to be “the Oscar of [Traxel’s] profession.” Past recipients of the award include historians such as Lawrence Henry Gipson, Catherine Drinker Bowen, Loren Eiseley, E. Digby Baltzell, Russell F. Weigley, David Eisenhower, and PAUL H. HALPERN, PhD, professor in the Department of Mathematics, Physics, and Computer Science.
Rance is the Devils’ all-time leading scorer with 1,939 points. She was named to the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) All-Star Team as a second team selection, for the second consecutive year, and was also named to the CACC All-Conference First Team for the third straight year. She finished her career ranking in the top 10 all-time in 11 different USP categories. Her 86 percent free throw shooting percentage is the sixth best career average in NCAA Division II history.

**WINTER HONORS**

Head Men’s Basketball Coach DAVID PAULEY, MEd, guided the Devils to the CACC championship game. He was named Coach of the Year by the Philadelphia Area Small College Coaches Association.

**Bauer, Novin Named to All-Academic Teams**

Mixed rifle team members MICHELLE BAUER PharmD’10 and ALEX NOVIN PH/TX ’08, PharmD’10 were named to the Philadelphia Area All-Academic Winter At-Large Teams by the Philadelphia Inquirer.

Bauer is a repeat selection from last year’s inaugural team. She was also recently named to the CRCA All-Academic All-American Rifle Team for the third consecutive season and was an All-Conference MAC second team selection in both smallbore and air rifle. Novin is a first-time selection for the second consecutive season.

**Women’s Rifle Captures Dual MAC Championships**

The USP women’s team started off the Mid-Atlantic Rifle Conference (MAC) Championships by winning their second consecutive MAC air rifle title, defeating Massachusetts Maritime Academy in the Marksman Division. The women then followed with a triumph over Mass Maritime to capture the smallbore title.

**Coach K Honored**

PAUL “Coach K” KLIMITAS, MEd, head coach, associate athletic director, and chair of the Department of Physical Education, was presented the Robert S. Ketzner Service Award at the 2007 Mid-Atlantic Rifle Conference (MAC) spring meeting as well as the NRA Outstanding Service to Collegiate Shooting Sports Award at the NRA/NCAA Rifle banquet.

The Robert S. Ketzner Service Award is given periodically by the MAC to an individual for exemplary service to the conference and the sport of rifle shooting. The Outstanding Service “Lifetime Achievement” award honors an individual who has made significant contributions to the growth and development of a collegiate shooting program.

**Kurtz Named Small College Player of the Year**

BILL KURTZ PMM’07 was honored as the Andrew A. Mitchell South Jersey Small College Player of the Year. Kurtz was also named to the Small College All-Philadelphia Area Team by the Herb Good Basketball Club.

He enjoyed his best offensive season since joining the Devils in 2003–04, averaging 13.9 points/game to finish second on the team in scoring. Kurtz led the team in free throw percentage (84.2%), three-point field goals made (74), and three-point field goal percentage (39.2%), and he finished second on the team in assists with 71.

**Pauley Earns Area Small College Coach Honors**

After guiding the men’s basketball team to the Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference (CACC) championship game where they fell, 61–60, to Caldwell College, DAVID PAULEY, MEd, head coach, was named the Philadelphia Area Small College Coaches Association Sam Cozen Coach of the Year Award recipient for the 2006–07 season.

Pauley, completing his seventh season at the helm of the Devils, finished with a 10–10 conference record and 14–15 mark overall.

**Performer of the Year.**

All-Academic Women’s Basketball

SHELBY RANCE

Sports in short header

their national honor society.

**Inquirer**

She was honored by the Philadelphia Inquirer’s Area All-Academic Women’s Basketball Performer of the Year.

Rance Succeeds On and Off the Court

In early March, SHELBY RANCE PharmD’09 saw her athletic career come to an end when the Devils lost in the semifinals of the Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference (CACC) playoffs. The athletic and academic honors, however, have continued to roll in for her.

She was honored by the Philadelphia Inquirer as the Philadelphia Area All-Academic Women’s Basketball Performer of the Year. She was chosen from among 42 nominated Division I, II, and III basketball players who have excelled on the court while maintaining at least a 3.0 grade point average.

Earlier, Rance was named to the CACC Winter All-Academic Team for the third straight season. She became the conference’s first athlete to be named to six CACC All-Academic teams, having been named to the CACC fall academic team three straight years for cross country.

Two weeks earlier, Rance was one of 49 students inducted into the Alpha Tau chapter of Rho Chi, pharmacy’s national honor society.

**Gender Honor**

The Philadelphia Inquirer’s Winter At-Large Teams by the Philadelphia Area All-Academic Teams

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**Winter Honors**

She was named Coach of the Year by the Philadelphia Area All-Academic Rifle Team for the third consecutive season and was an All-Conference MAC second team selection in both smallbore and air rifle. Novin is a first-time selection for the second consecutive season.

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CLASS NOTES

1951
NATHAN BRILLMAN P’51 (MD’57, Jefferson Community College SUNY), ALVIN M. PRESSMAN P’51 (DO’66, PCOM), HERBERT A. BRILL P’51, GERALD J. BRODSKY P’51, and MURRAY M. SANDLER P’51 still enjoy a close friendship. They and their wives often meet for dinner and have spent New Year’s Eve together for at least the last 20 years.

1954
HILLARD S. MANN P’54 has been living in Miami, FL, since 1979. His family and house full of pets keep him very busy.

1955
ALAN J. VOGENBERG P’55 recently qualified for fellowship in the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists. He has practiced pharmacy in Bucks County, PA, for over 60 years, and currently owns Alan’s Pharmacy in Bristol, PA. He is also an adjunct instructor at both Bucks County Community College and Community College of Philadelphia.

1956
MARLENE (BOXMAN) LAMIN P’56 was appointed to the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists Commission on Credentialing and to the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board Advisory Committee. Each position is for a three-year term. Marlene looks forward to playing a role in guiding pharmacy tech education.

1969
ROBERT E. GRAUL P’69 has been appointed to the California Board of Pharmacy. He is president, manager, and pharmacist-in-charge at the Rancho Santa Fe Pharmacy in Rancho Santa Fe, CA. He is also a member of the California Pharmacists Association, National Community Pharmacists Association, and the San Diego County Medical Society Foundation Board.

1970
STANLEY S. PESOTSKI P’70 has retired after 33 years in retail pharmacy. He was regional vice president and later Northeast pharmacy operations manager for Eckerd Corp. In 2003, Stan became a member of New York’s Coleman Research Group. He and his wife Linda now enjoy time with their children and grandchildren.

1975
GARY J. STARECHESKI P’75 was named 2006 Pharmacist of the Year by the Vermont Society of Health System Pharmacists. He is currently a clinical staff pharmacist with Fletcher Allen Healthcare in Burlington, VT, and is active in professional and community education.

1984
DAWN L. ELLIOT P’84 (MBA’98, Temple University) and Chris Balestrini were wed on December 9, 2006, at Otterbein United Methodist Church in Sunbury, PA. Dawn is the assistant director of pharmacy at Fox Chase Cancer Center in Philadelphia. Chris is a senior scientist for the Food Products Association in Washington, DC. They reside in Moorestown, NJ.

1987
ANN ERVIN P’87 graduated from Seton Hall University in May 2006 with a master’s degree in healthcare administration. She co-owns Village Pharmacy in Allentown, NJ.

1989
JAMES E. POLLI P’89 (MS’92, PhD’93, University of Michigan) was awarded a $1.5 million grant by the National Institutes of Health for his project, “Substrate Requirements of the Bile Acid Transporter.” He is an associate professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences at the University of Maryland.

1990
CHERYL (DICKERSON) FRANKS MT’90 was named Shore Memorial Hospital’s October employee of the month. She currently serves as a liaison between staff physicians and the hospital’s outpatient laboratory and other diagnostic services. She lives in Egg Harbor Township, NJ, with her husband and two children.

1992
DAVID A. WOOD P’92 (DO’96, PCOM) was recently appointed assistant professor of family medicine at PCOM and is the medical director of PCOM’s Rural Health Care Center in Laporte, PA. He and his wife Alyson celebrated their eighth wedding anniversary on November 14, 2006. They live in Dallas, PA, with their children Noah (7), Lily (4), and Colin (21 months).

1994
JESSICA (ZIMMER) RETTA-GLIATA Bl’94 and her husband Dave proudly announced the birth of daughter Joanna Dawn on July 1, 2006. Joanna joins big brother Nicholas (4). Jessica is a New Jersey high school science teacher. The family lives in Boonton, NJ.

1996
JOEL K. ALDERFER P’96 and his wife Justine welcomed the birth of daughter Olivia Carolyn on August 11, 2006. R. KENNETH ALDERFER P’72 is the proud grandfather.

DOMINIC A. MARASCO P’96 was promoted to vice president of the newly formed business unit at Innovex, Inc. He joined Innovex as executive director of business development in September 2005.

1997
AMY (DISABELLA) GIACOBELLO P’97 and JOHN A. GIACOBELLO P’97 announced the birth of son Nicholas Peter on August 18, 2006. He joins big brother Frank. Amy and John both work for Happy Harry’s. Amy is a part-time pharmacist, and John is a pharmacy manager. They live in Middleton, DE.
1998

MICHAEL C. BRIGGS P'98, PharmD'99 and Jacy Kline were married on June 23, 2006, at Winterthur Museum in Greenville, DE. Michael’s father BENNY L. BRIGGS P'73 acted as a groomsman. Other alumni in attendance were RANDY J. BRADWAY P'76, MS'97; FRANCIS J. D'ALLURA P'79; DEBRA (MARINO) D'ALLURA BI'79; JESSICA (RYAN) PLECHNER MPT'99; and ROBERT J. COHEN P'99. Michael’s father BENNY L. BRIGGS P'73 acted as a groomsman. Other alumni in attendance were RANDY J. BRADWAY P'76, MS'97; FRANCIS J. D'ALLURA P'79; DEBRA (MARINO) D'ALLURA BI'79; JESSICA (RYAN) PLECHNER MPT'99; and ROBERT J. COHEN P'99. Michael is manager and co-owner of Lionville Natural Pharmacy & Health Food Store, where he works with his father. Jacy has been employed as a nanny for the past year. They live in West Caln, PA, with their two dogs and two cats.

MAUREEN (GUNN) KEDANIS P'98 and her husband Rich welcomed daughter Grace Elizabeth on June 6, 2006. She joins big sister Shannon (3) and brother Ryan (1). Her aunt is DONNA (GUNN) BISCHOFF BI’89.

LAURIE ONSOF-ADAMS MPT’98 and her husband Tom announced the birth of son Christian Robert on September 13, 2006. Christian joins big brother Thomas (2). Laurie is a pediatric physical therapist, and Tom is a longshoreman. They live in Cranford, NJ.

GLENN D. SCHULMAN P’98 (PharmD’00, Rutgers University) and his wife Betsy welcomed daughter Zoe Claire on September 24, 2006. She weighed 6 pounds, 10 ounces and joins big brother Zachary. The family resides in New Haven, CT, where Glenn is director of investor relations and corporate communications at Curagen Corporation.

1999

LINDA (DERBERG) KOSINSKI MPT’99 and FRANCIS J. KOSINSKI MPT’98 welcomed son Gregory William on June 30, 2006. He joins big brothers Ryan and Andrew. SUSAN (DERBERG) AKSU P’88 (MBA’90, Drexel University) and KENAN AKSU P’88 (DO’93, PCOM) are the proud aunt and uncle.

JESSICA D. LEBER P’99, PharmD’00 and BRIAN M. HERR P’99 were married on October 7, 2006, at St. Pius X Church in Broomall, PA. The wedding party included SUSAN (BROWN) CONNELLY P’99, PharmD’00; DOROTHY (SJOBERG) LLOYD P’99, PharmD’00; ANDREW J. RAMSEY P’99; and JOSEPH C. PAGANO P’98. Attendees included WALTER P. CONNELLY P’99; GREGORY R. KRAZY P’99; NICODEMUS E. LOUVROS P’99; AMY (LITCHFIELD) COULON MPT’99; CAROL ANN (LAISO) MOONEY P’99, PharmD’00; JODI L. SHECKER-MANN P’99, PharmD’00; SUSAN (LICHTENBERG) WORWOSKI P’99, PharmD’00; and EDWARD P. O’BRIEN BC’02. Also present was Brian’s mother BONNIE HERR, who works in the USP Admission office. Brian is a staff pharmacist at Central Admixture Pharmacy Services in Horsham, PA. Jessica is a self-employed medical writer. The couple lives in Lansdale, PA.

AMY (WOLFGANG) CALCAGNO P’00, PharmD’01 and CHRISTOPHER J. CALCAGNO P’00, PharmD’01 announced the birth of daughter Julia Michelle on July 22, 2006. Amy is a pharmacy manager at CVS in Boothwyn, PA. Chris is in his third year of medical school at Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine.

MARYANN (SANTORE) DEBALKO P’00, PharmD’01 and JOSEPH A. DEBALKO P’97 welcomed son Benjamin William on November 22, 2006. Benjamin weighed 7 pounds, 12 ounces and was 20 inches long. Maryann and Joseph are both pharmacists with Eckerd in the Reading area, where they reside.

JOSEPH J. DOMANICO MOT’00 and his wife Bridget announced the birth of daughter Olivia Grace on January 2, 2007. She weighed 7 pounds, 7 ounces and was 21 inches long. The family lives in Philadelphia.

CHRISTINE E. SCHULLER PH/TX’00, MS’03 married Peter Napier in Sydney, Australia in April 2006. Christine is currently finishing her PhD at the University of New South Wales, Sydney.
2002
ERIN K. BRENNAN MPT’02 and Jeff Beck were married on February 2, 2006, in St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands. Wedding guests included JAIME A. KARAS MPT’02 and KATHLEEN I. GARRITY MPT’02. Erin is a physical therapist at Golden Living Center in Scranton, PA. She and Jeff live in Elmhurst, PA.

KRISHNA (MAHAJAN) GUPTA PharmD’02 and her husband Adarsh announced the birth of son Shubham Gupta on October 24, 2006. Krishna is a pharmacy manager at Eckerd in Blackwood, NJ. She and her family reside in Sicklerville, NJ.

2003
JANELLE (MUMMERT) HISSONG MPT’02 and her husband Chad welcomed daughter Ava Jenae on September 14, 2006. She joins big brother Caleb, 3. Janelle is a physical therapist with Genesis Rehab Services. She and her family live in Limerick, PA.

HOLLY A. BONISLAWSKI PharmD’03 and Clarke R. Stoneback were wed on September 23, 2006, on Long Island, NY. CHRISTINE N. BURBANK PH/TX’01, PharmD’06 was in the wedding party, and KEVIN M. BISCH PharmD’03 was one of the guests in attendance. Holly is a pharmacist at St. Mary Medical Center in Langhorne, PA, and at the Belmont psychiatric facility in Philadelphia. Clarke is a music director in the Neshaminy, PA, school district. The couple owns a home in Langhorne, PA.

2004
JIN-YU LEUNG PH/TX’02 and her husband Gary are the proud parents of 8-month-old Caitlyn. Caitlyn’s grandfather is VINCENT W. LEUNG P’74 and her uncle is KEVIN N. LEUNG PharmD’02.

PALAK PANDYA MPT’02 and Ashish Shah were married on October 22, 2005, in Mahwah, NJ. Wedding guests included JENY E. JACOB MPT’02, NISHA (SHAH) BHATT MPT’02, NIPA K. PARIKH PharmD’03, SHEETAL (DHARIA) SHAH PharmD’03, SACHIN Patel PharmD’03, AMIT M. BHATT PharmD’03, PRATHIMA PRABATI PharmD’05, SANTHI VEMURI BI’01, and AVANI (TRIVEDI) SHAH BI’01. Palak is a physical therapist in New Jersey; Ashish is employed as a pharmaceutical representative. They live in New York City.

BETSY ITTY PharmD’04 married ROY GEORGE HS’01 on October 7, 2006. The couple resides in Mineola, NY.

2005
ELIZABETH (THOMAS) MOHAMED PharmD’05 and NIZAMUDEEN MOHAMED PharmD’05 announced the birth of son Jordan on September 17, 2006. Elizabeth and Nizamudeen live in Cherry Hill, NJ, and work as staff pharmacists at Wal-Mart.

2007
LAURA YELVIGI PharmD’07 was appointed by the American Pharmacists Association Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP) National Executive Committee to be APhA-ASP Speaker of the House for the remainder of the 2006–2007 term.

IN MEMORIAM
FIFTIES
Emanuel J. Russo P’55 (MS’57, Temple University; PhD’60, University of Wisconsin) passed away on November 17, 2006. “Manny” was a longtime employee of Wyeth-Ayerst Laboratories before his retirement. He was 72 years old.

Alumni Award Nominations Sought

The USP Alumni Association is soliciting nominations for its annual awards. The deadline is July 1 to nominate deserving alumni for the Annual Award, the Ivor Griffith Service Award, the Young Alumnus Award, and the Honorary Alumnus Award.

For criteria and a downloadable nomination form, go to www.usp.edu/alumnifriends/alumni_association and click on Alumni Association Awards Nomination Form on the left.
American Society of Consultant Pharmacists Alumni and Friends Reception
October 16, 2006, Phoenix, AZ

Local Phoenix alumni, left to right: Ken Jaravata P’94, Marty Eroh TX’84, Michele Ditchfield Manganello P’83, and Toni Jaravata P’95.

American Physical Therapy Association Alumni and Friends Reception
October 27, 2006, Philadelphia, PA

Standing, left to right: Joanne Fink, Edward Velasquez MPT’90, and friend.
Seated, left to right: Shelly Ritter Wolfe MPT’89, Cheryl Micheli Talamo MPT’89, Elaine Anderson MPT’89, and Stephanie Bean MPT’89.

Left to right: Diane Duda MPT’05; Noelle McKinney MPT’05; Carol Maritz, PT, EdD, GCS, assistant professor; Marc Campolo, PT, PhD, SCS, ATC, CSCS, chair and associate professor, Department of Physical Therapy; Laura Brixius MPT’05; Mailyn Nguyen MPT’06; and Ruth L. Schemm, EdD, dean, College of Health Sciences.
“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

American Society of Health-System Pharmacists Alumni and Friends Reception December 4, 2006, Anaheim, CA

Left to right: Stacy Rosemarin P’83, director, alumni relations; Lisa Lifshin P’84; and Cathy Solak Walker P’85.

Left to right: Tom Croce P’87 and Matt Grissinger P’87.

Left to right: Bill Wilson P’75; Becky Finley, PharmD, former associate dean, pharmacy programs, and chair, Department of Pharmacy Practice/Pharmacy Administration; and Patti Clancy Kienle P’75.

Left to right: Brian Swift P’83, PharmD’85; Kathy Marano Scarlata P’86; and Tom Scarlata P’84.

Alumni Visit

Lisa Moyer Mackell MPT’88 (left) owns Theraplay, Inc., which has just been named by Working Mother Magazine as one of the 25 best companies nationally for working moms. Theraplay, Inc., is a provider of pediatric therapy services.
SCHOLARLY ACTIVITY

SYMBOLS
Faculty and staff = ♣
Alumni = ★
Current Student = ★

ADVANCE CONCEPTS INSTITUTE

Publications


LISA TANURIA, “Offspring.” Her research advisor was ANIL D’MELLO.


RUCHI SHAH, graduate student in the pharmaceutics program, successfully defended her PhD dissertation on December 8, 2006. The title of her dissertation is “Effect of Maternal Low Protein Diet During Pregnancy and Lactation on Drug Metabolism in the Offspring.” Her research advisor was ANIL D’MELLO.


COLLEGE OF GRADUATE STUDIES

Presentations


Rehabilitation of Reaching After Stroke

Since he began his dissertation in 1996, GREGORY THIELMAN, PT, EdD, ATC, assistant professor in the Department of Physical Therapy, has been focusing on the rehabilitation of stroke patients.

Dr. Thielman, who has been at USP since 2004, recently presented “Rehabilitation of Reaching After Stroke: One-Year Follow-Up” at the Annual Combined Sections Meeting of the American Physical Therapy Association in Boston, February 15–18. His research has centered on the comparison of two types of post-stroke techniques for the upper limb.

“Typically people who are post-stroke use their whole body to reach if they’re allowed,” Dr. Thielman, who received his EdD from Columbia University’s Teachers College in 2004, said. “With the help of a biomechanical engineer at Columbia, I fastened a backpack to stabilize the trunk to do all of the training in helping to get a patient’s impaired arm away from their body.”

His work at USP in the Patricia Leahy Memorial Research Laboratory’s Motion Analysis Lab now compares the results from the restrained technique with those of patients who are not forced to keep their trunk restrained (when using their arm). They are instead signaled by an auditory sensor if they move too much of their bodies in what is referred to as a feedback study.

“You are working with the body part, but you are changing the brain. That’s fascinating to me,” Dr. Thielman explained.

Dr. Thielman began his PT career in sports medicine at Springfield College where he finished his undergraduate and graduate work in 1991. After two years at Union Memorial Hospital in Baltimore, working in orthopedics, he transferred to National Rehabilitation Hospital in 1993. There he began working with spinal cord rehabilitation patients, and that eventually led him to Columbia and his work with stroke patients.

This past year, with the help of five USP PT students, Dr. Thielman used his techniques with 10 patients from Magee Rehabilitation Hospital’s Stroke Club. So far, his preliminary results have not shown enough of difference to declare one technique superior to the other. He is already searching for his next group in order to build his study.
Professional Activity

PAUL HALPERN+ was appointed vice-chair of the Pais Prize Selection Committee of the American Physical Society. The Pais Prize is an international award honoring those who have made outstanding contributions to the history of physics.

Publications

ARA DERMARDEROSIAN++
- “New Drugs” at the MedAssets Professional Activity in Long Beach, CA, on October 10, 2006.
- “New Drugs of 2006” at the American Physical Society Annual Meeting, Valley Forge, PA, on January 12.
- “New Drug Update” at the Delaware County Pharmacists Association Annual Meeting in Sarasota, FL, on January 12.
- “New Drugs of 2006” at the Iowa Pharmacy Association Educational Expo in Des Moines, IA, on January 12.
- “New Drug Update” at the Value Drug Pharmacists in Altoona, PA, on April 23, 2006; Campbell University School of Pharmacy/Mutual Wholesale Drug Company Seminar, Durham, NC, April 30, 2006; Delaware Pharmacists Society Annual Meeting, Atlantic City, June 27, 2006; New Jersey Pharmacists Association Annual Meeting, Atlantic City, June 27, 2006; Pennsylvania Pharmacists Association Annual Meeting, Valley Forge, PA, August 12, 2006; and Philadelphia Alumni Chapter of Alpha Zeta Omega Symposium, Philadelphia, September 10, 2006.
- “New Drug Update” and “New Drug Review,” at the National Community Pharmacists Association Annual Meeting in Las Vegas, on October 10, 2006.
- “New Drugs of 2006” at the Colorado Pharmacists Society Fall Conference in Denver, on October 13, 2006.
- “New Drugs of 2006” at the Campbell University School of Pharmacy Continuing Education Seminar in Raleigh, NC, on November 4, 2006.
- “New Drugs” at the MedAssets Pharmacy Regional Meeting in Long Beach, CA, on November 15, 2006.


Lauren A. Mathews+, MAHMD ANSA+RI+, TY NGUYEN+, LUCINDA SCHEUREN+, MICHAEL CAWLEY+++, “Quality Assessment of Intravascular Catheter-Related Infections in an Intensive Care Unit” at the 41st Annual American Society of Health-System Pharmacists Mid-Year Clinical Meeting in Anaheim, December 2006.

Presentations

MICHAEL CAWLEY+++
- “Appropriate use of Daptomycin for MRSA Bacteremia, including Right Sided Endocarditis and Complicated Skin Infections” to the Clinical Pharmacy and Medical Staff in Philadelphia, December 2006.

PHILADELPHIA COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

Poster Presentations

WILLIAM MCGHAN++, JOSHUA SPOONER++, ANDREW PETERSON++, et al., “Projected Cost Savings to Third Party Payers for the Year Following Generic Simvastatin Availability in USA” at the International Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research European Congress Meeting in Copenhagen, Denmark, October 28–31, 2006.

JOHN ORLANDO+, SONYA MATHEWS+, MAHMD ANSA+RI+, TY NGUYEN+, LUCINDA SCHEUREN+, MICHAEL CAWLEY+++, “Quality Assessment of Intravascular Catheter-Related Infections in an Intensive Care Unit” at the 41st Annual American Society of Health-System Pharmacists Mid-Year Clinical Meeting in Anaheim, December 2006.

Presentations

MICHAEL CAWLEY+++
- “Appropriate use of Daptomycin for MRSA Bacteremia, including Right Sided Endocarditis and Complicated Skin Infections” to the Clinical Pharmacy and Medical Staff in Philadelphia, December 2006.

WILLIAM CUNNINGHAM+


Presentations

Michael Cawley+++
- “Appropriate use of Daptomycin for MRSA Bacteremia, including Right Sided Endocarditis and Complicated Skin Infections” to the Clinical Pharmacy and Medical Staff in Philadelphia, December 2006.

Philadelphia College of Pharmacy

Poster Presentations

William Mcghan++, Joshua Spooner++, Andrew Peterson++, et al., “Projected Cost Savings to Third Party Payers for the Year Following Generic Simvastatin Availability in USA” at the International Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research European Congress Meeting in Copenhagen, Denmark, October 28–31, 2006.


Presentations

Michael Cawley+++
- “Appropriate use of Daptomycin for MRSA Bacteremia, including Right Sided Endocarditis and Complicated Skin Infections” to the Clinical Pharmacy and Medical Staff in Philadelphia, December 2006.

William Cunningham+
SRIRAMAKAMAL JONNALAGADDATM, “Polymer Based Protein Delivery Systems” at the International Conference on Bio and Pharmaceutical Science and Technology exhibition in San Diego, December 2006.


SARAH SPINLER, • Platform Research Presentation: “Enoxaparin Dosing In Obese Patients With Non-ST-Segment Elevation Acute Coronary Syndrome: Results from CRUSADE” at the American College of Clinical Pharmacy Annual Meeting in St. Louis, on October 27, 2006.
• “Recent Clinical Trial Update in Arterial Thromboembolism” at the 21st Pharmacy Invitational Conference on Antithrombotic Therapy (PICAT) in Anaheim, on December 2, 2006.
• “Clinical Considerations in the Use of Antithrombotic Therapy for Acute Coronary Syndrome and Treatment Guidelines in Acute Coronary Syndrome” at the Satellite Symposium sponsored by ASHP Advantage, American College of Clinical Pharmacy Annual Meeting in St. Louis, on October 27, 2006.

SHENQUO SUN, ADEBOYE ADEJARE, • “Syntheses and Anticonvulsant Activities of Novel PCP Analog” at the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists (AAPS) Meeting in San Antonio, October 29–November 2, 2006.


• “This Drug Should be OTC” (viewpoint), Drug Topics, 150:56, July 10, 2006.
• “A Tribute and a Warning” (editorial), The Pharmacist Activist, 1:1, March 2006.
• “Letter to President Bush” (editorial), The Pharmacist Activist, 1:2, March 2006.
• “Independent Pharmacists—The Front Line of our Profession” (editorial), The Pharmacist Activist, 1:1–2, April 2006.
• “Distinguished Leadership” (editorial), The Pharmacist Activist, 1:2, April 2006.
• Shame on CVS!” (editorial), The Pharmacist Activist, 1:3–4, May 2006.
• “Target Provides Some Good Examples” (editorial), The Pharmacist Activist, 1:1–2, June 2006.
• “Pfizer Should Pay Pharmacists to Counsel Patients About Exubera” (editorial), The Pharmacist Activist, 1:1–2, July 2006.
• “Sesquicentennial” (editorial), The Pharmacist Activist, 1:2, July 2006.
• “When Price Controls Are Established for Drugs, Big Pharma Will Have Only Itself to Blame” (editorial), The Pharmacist Activist, 1:1–2, August 2006.
• “A Positive Step” (editorial), The Pharmacist Activist, 1:2, August 2006.
• “September II” (editorial), The Pharmacist Activist, 1:1, September 2006.
• “It is Almost Election Day! Do You Know What Your Candidates Stand For?” (editorial), The Pharmacist Activist, 1:2, October 2006.
• “Paying $155 Million Means Never Having to Say You Are Sorry (or Admit to any Wrong-doing)” (editorial), The Pharmacist Activist, 1:2, November 2006.
• “A Gift of Life” (editorial), The Pharmacist Activist, 1:2, December 2006.


STRATEGIC MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS

Presentations


WRITING CENTER

Presentations

JUSTIN EVERETT++, “Reliability and Writing Assessment Revisited,” session chair at the Conference on College Composition and Communication in New York, on February 23.

Publications


“We ourselves feel that what we do is just a drop in the ocean. But the ocean would be less because of that missing drop.”

MOTHER TERESA

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IN OUR NEXT ISSUE...

• Health Policy Symposium: The Future of Drug Safety
• Commencement 2007
• Scholarly Day
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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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HonDSc Honorary Degree (Science)
HPsy Health Psychology
HS Health Science
IndP Industrial Pharmacy
MB Microbiology
MBA Master of Business Administration
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
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
May

Wednesday, May 23, 2007
186th Commencement Ceremony, Philadelphia, PA

USP’s 186th graduation ceremony takes place at 1 p.m. at a new location—the Mann Center for the Performing Arts. Dr. Judith Rodin, former president of University of Pennsylvania and current president of the Rockefeller Foundation, is the honorary doctorate of science recipient during the proceedings.

June

Saturday, June 23, 2007
New Jersey Pharmacists Association Reception, New Brunswick, NJ

For those attending NJPhA’s annual convention, join the USP Alumni Association at a reception in New Brunswick’s Hyatt Regency hotel.

July

Saturday, July 28, 2007
Summer Happy Hour, Windrift Resort Hotel, Avalon, NJ

Fun, sun, and the USP Alumni Association go hand-in-hand at the Windrift Resort Hotel. The 7th Annual Summer Happy Hour runs from 4–7 p.m. and is generously sponsored by CVS.

August

Monday, August 6, 2007
25th Annual Alumni Golf Tournament, Edgmont Country Club

Fore! The 25th Annual USP Alumni Golf Tournament gets underway at Edgmont Country Club in West Chester, Pa. Tee times start at 1 p.m. Registration materials will be mailed in early July.

Summer Open Houses
Thursday, July 19
Thursday, July 26
Thursday, August 2
Thursday, August 9

Summer Open Houses are a great opportunity for prospective students and parents to get to know USP. Student-led tours and opportunities to interact with admission counselors, speak to faculty about majors, and meet current USP students are a part of each day. For more information, visit www.usip.edu/visitusp.

For more information, contact the Alumni Office at 1.888.857.6264. To find more information, visit the USP Alumni & Friends website at www.usip.edu/alumnifriends or view the USP’s News and Events page at www.usip.edu/calendar.