



AUBURN UNIVERSITY

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HARRISON SCHOOL  
OF PHARMACY

April 1, 2009

Dear Friends and Family of the Harrison School of Pharmacy:

Welcome to our website. We hope you find an abundance of helpful information about our top-notch program, which continues to rank among the nation's best. We are dedicated to promoting educational excellence and are extremely proud of our graduates and their many successes.

**Student Pharmacists in the News**

The beginning of 2008 saw many student accomplishments and highlights within our school. Eight of our students were inducted into the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society. P3 student Amanda Hibbert won the HSOP Academy of Student Pharmacists Patient Counseling Competition and will represent our school at the American Pharmacists Association meeting held this April in San Antonio, Texas. P2 student and ASP President Meagan Hester had an article published in *The Alabama Pharmacists Association Journal*, and recently was elected President of the Student Council for the 2009–2010 academic year.

**Student Pharmacists Driven Projects**

The APhA-ASP hosted a health fair at the Auburn Colonial Mall for National Pharmacist Celebration Month, and our students and faculty donated 3,393 pounds of food during the annual Beat Bama/Hargreaves Day competition. Speaking of Hargreaves Day, many student pharmacists revived this fun-filled day, which honors beloved Professor George Hargreaves, who was instrumental in building the pharmacy program in its early days and was a mentor to so many. Pictures from the April 1 event will be available soon for your enjoyment. The HSOP's Student Council is planning to host an open house for new students, potential students and their families on April 18, 2009.

**News from the Mobile Campus**

In August 2007, an HSOP satellite campus was opened in Mobile, Alabama. As of last fall, 47 student pharmacists were enrolled at this campus. The American Council for Pharmacy Education has confirmed HSOP's accreditation until 2012, and our school is now collaborating with the USA School of Medicine to develop inter-professional education experiences for medical, nursing, physician assistant, and pharmacy students—a first in Alabama.

### **News from the Department of Pharmacy Care Systems**

The Department of Pharmacy Care Systems has undergone two personnel changes in the past year. Professor Bill Felkey retired in January but we found a very able replacement in Dr. Brent Fox. In his current role as Assistant Professor, Dr. Fox's teaching, research, and outreach activities are focused on the optimal use of healthcare information technology to improve patient outcomes.

As many of you may know, Dr. Bruce Berger will retire this fall. Dr. Berger has been a tremendous asset to the school and was named the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy's 2009 Robert K. Chalmers Distinguished Pharmacy Educator. He was recognized for his excellence as an instructor, his outstanding achievements as a researcher and scholar, as well as his overall impact on pharmacy education and the profession. Dr. Berger's replacement is currently being sought.

### **News from the Department of Pharmacal Sciences**

The Department of Pharmacal Sciences is currently working on several research projects, including:

1. A study on the role of environmental toxins in Parkinson's disease and the relationship to novel alternative drugs and Glutamate receptor expression/function in Alzheimer's disease;
2. Drug and product development including basic formulation research;
3. Two ongoing clinical trials involving the effect of renal dysfunction on the pharmacokinetics of an anti-diabetic compound and the effect of chronic heart failure on the pharmacokinetics of eplerenone.

The Department of Pharmacal Sciences now has three new faces with the additions of Drs. Angela Calderón, Jianzhong Shen and Rajesh Amin. As Assistant Professors, all three are committed to cutting-edge research in their respective fields, and their many contributions will assist in moving the school's research endeavors forward.

### **News from the Department of Pharmacy Practice**

Dr. Gordon Sacks, a native Alabamian and former Department Chair at the University of Wisconsin College of Pharmacy, has become the Department Head for Pharmacy Practice. Dr. Sacks has the responsibility of leading the pharmacy education and practice efforts of our faculty who are located in our clinical education centers located in Columbus, Georgia, Auburn/Montgomery, Mobile, Tuscaloosa, Birmingham, and Huntsville. Faculty located at these centers partner with other pharmacists, physicians and other healthcare providers to improve the optimization of medication therapy for patients.

### **News from the AUPCC**

The Auburn University Pharmaceutical Care Center is entering its ninth year of operation. In 2008, the AUPCC launched the TigerMeds program for the Auburn University health insurance plan. Under this program, free generic medications and extensive MTMS services are provided to all university employees and dependents.

### **News from Admissions**

From the Admissions front, approximately 900 applications have been received to fill 150 positions at the Auburn and Mobile campuses for the fall 2009 semester. 125 new pharmacists are expected to be enrolled at the Auburn campus, and 25 are projected for the Mobile campus.

### **Noteworthy Upcoming Events**

- The American Pharmacists Association will meet in San Antonio, Texas in April.
  - The HSOP and Samford University will host a reception in Grand Ballroom B at the San Antonio Marriott Rivercenter on Saturday, April 4 from 8:30 p.m.–10:00 p.m.
- The APA 2009 Annual Convention will be held in Destin, Florida, June 21-24 at the Sandestin Golf Beach and Resort.
  - HSOP will host a breakfast on Tuesday, June 23 from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m.
- Finally, don't forget the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament, which is scheduled for September 18 at the Auburn Links at Mill Creek.

As always, I welcome comments from alumni, friends, faculty, staff, and students. All of you make a difference in what we are able to accomplish as one of the top 25 ranking pharmacy schools in the nation.

Until next time, Waaar Eagle!



R. Lee Evans, Pharm.D.  
Dean and Professor