

DUCPAD *Dispatch*



NEWSLETTER FOR THE COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

June 2014

I N S I D E

Director's Message
Honouring Karen Zed
DUCPAD Executive
Preceptors of the Year
Alumnus of the Year
Teaching Excellence
President's Message
Golf Tournament
Faculty News
Alumni News
Adjunct Professors
Relaunch of DIR Website

Dal is Moving to the Entry-Level PharmD



We're going electronic!

This is the last paper copy of the *DUCPAD Dispatch*. To continue receiving the *Dispatch*, please send your email to pharmacy.alumni@dal.ca or call the College of Pharmacy at 902.494.2378. Thanks!

In January 2013, the application to move to an entry-to-practice Doctor of Pharmacy by the University of Toronto and University of Waterloo was approved. The University of Montreal and Laval University have been offering the PharmD program for a number of years already. As a result of these events, by 2016/17 over 50% of all pharmacy students graduating in Canada will receive a PharmD degree.

Dalhousie and all the remaining pharmacy schools are in the planning stages of changing over to the undergraduate PharmD. One of the major changes in the program includes an increase in the number of structured practical experiences from 20 weeks to 40 weeks. In order to accommodate the additional practical experience, several of the biomedical and chemistry courses will be moved to prerequisites, changing the total program to a

2+4 program as opposed to the current 1+4.

This transition will take considerable work and time to ensure the continued excellence of our program. Tentatively, we are targeting September 2016 for the intake of the first PharmD class. Stay tuned for further communications as well as opportunities to be involved in this exciting time in the history of the College of Pharmacy.

Director's Message



It is hard to believe that this will be my last Director's Message. I will be retiring at the end

of June after over fifteen years at the College of Pharmacy. To think when I arrived in September 1998, it was only for a one year period. The time has flown by and our team at the College has accomplished so much:

- The College's unique Problem-Based Learning Curriculum is fully accredited (three times now) and is recognized for academic excellence both nationally and internationally.
- Our graduate program, the Masters of Sciences in Pharmaceutical Sciences, was reintroduced in 2010.
- Our enrolment increased from 66 to 90 students and funds were raised to build a new multi-skills laboratory, enlarge our classrooms and build seminar rooms.
- One of the biggest changes over the years has been the expanding role of the pharmacist. I feel fortunate to have been part of these changes and see this expanded scope be incorporated in our curriculum.

We have given our graduates the skills and tools to practice in this new environment. I am excited to watch our graduates move the profession forward.

All the Best!

Rita Caldwell
Director

The Karen Zed Spirit of Community Pharmacy Award

In September 2013, we lost an important colleague from the pharmacy world. Karen Zed graduated from the College of Pharmacy in 1974 and practiced community pharmacy in Halifax for almost her entire career. She had been a fixture in the south end as the pharmacy manager of Lawtons Drugs, Halifax Professional Centre, for the past 23 years. Prior to Lawtons, she could be found at O'Brien's Pharmacy a few streets away on Coburg Road.



Her proximity to the university meant that pharmacy students were never in short supply and she pushed them to be strong contributors to the profession. Karen was a committed supporter of the Dalhousie College of Pharmacy's Practice Experience Programs (PEP). She was an excellent preceptor, mentor, and teacher who always provided any extra support she could give. Her passion for teaching extended to the more recent influx of international pharmacists. She was patient and nurturing, allowing them to adapt their styles and lessons from their home countries. The Nova Scotia College of Pharmacists never hesitated to lean on her to evaluate new entrants and approve their structured time service.

Karen graciously volunteered her time and supported pharmacy development and education on numerous committees. She was recognized in 2003 as the College of Pharmacy's Alumnus of the Year. She was dedicated to her patients and highly respected by her colleagues for her commitment to patient care.

In memory of Karen Zed, DUCPAD is pleased to announce an annual **Karen Zed Spirit of Community Pharmacy Award**, that recognizes students who represent Karen's passion for community pharmacy by providing excellent patient care and contributing to a learning environment.

Donations can be made online at alumniapps.dal.ca/giving/giving.php or by cheque made out to the Karen Zed Fund and mailed to External Relations, Dalhousie University, MacDonald Building, P.O. Box 15000, Halifax NS B3H 4R2.

DUCPAD Executive Committee Shake Up!

The College of Pharmacy now has a new DUCPAD Executive Committee. Our new president is Adam Somers (Class of 2006) and our vice-president is Zainab Abidali (Class of 2007). The secretary/treasurer position is now held by a newcomer to the committee, Devin Covey (Class of 2001). The new committee revamped DUCPAD's 1996 Constitution to bring it to the 21st century. www.dal.ca/faculty/healthprofessions/pharmacy/alumni-friends/ducpad-constitution.html

DUCPAD members meet at least once per year and all alumni are welcome. Like us on our facebook page: www.facebook.com/ducpad

Preceptors of the Year

Each year, students have the opportunity to nominate their fourth year preceptors for recognition as community and hospital preceptors of the year. Students submit their nominations to the College of Pharmacy Awards Committee who then select the winning recipients. Congratulations to our 2013 winners.



Charles MacLean (Class of 1997) is a hospital pharmacist in the ICU at the QEII Health Sciences Centre's Halifax Infirmary Site. Charles was nominated because of the core qualities he displayed on a daily

basis in the workplace. These qualities include mutual respect, constructive feedback, positive attitude towards practice, a vast breadth of knowledge and evidence-based decision making. The student said "Charles serves as an inspiring role model to students like myself, just beginning our career, in hopes of someday being able to stand in his shoes." Congratulations Charles on this well-deserved honour!



Jamie Flynn (Class of 1998) is the owner of Medicine Shoppe #262 in Halifax. Jamie was described by his nominator as a preceptor who enables his students to broaden their horizons

in therapeutics, ethics and the management of pharmacy. He creates an environment that embraces the full clinical roles of the pharmacist and encourages his students to grow to their full potential. He is passionate and provides the highest level of care to his patients. Congratulations Jamie and keep up the great work!

Alumnus of the Year



At the May 2013 convocation brunch, **Dr. Kathryn Slayter** was recognized as the Alumnus of the Year.

Kathy graduated from the College of Pharmacy in 1991 and went on to receive her Doctor of Pharmacy degree at State University of New York at Buffalo. In 1993 she joined the Victoria General Hospital in Halifax as the Assistant Director, Clinical Services and Residency Coordinator. She is currently the Clinical Coordinator in General Medicine and Infectious Disease, Pharmacy Department, at the QEII Health Sciences Centre.

Dr. Slayter has been an invaluable resource for infectious disease topics at the College. She has worked to create cases, exams, and deliver lectures. She also takes time to serve as a volunteer preceptor for our pharmacy students and residents and received the "Preceptor of the Year" honor more than once. She collaborates with several faculty on research projects and finds time to educate pharmacists through our CE Division. She is an alumnus that has been giving back to the College for years and as such is a very deserving candidate for this award.

Teaching Excellence



Each year the fourth year class select a recipient for the Dr. Jessie I. MacKnight Award for Excellence in Pharmaceutical Teaching. The award is based on knowledge, preparation, enthusiasm, motivation, accessibility and communication.

Glenn Rodrigues (Class of 1999) was selected by the Class of 2013 as this year's most deserving faculty member. Glenn's students describe him as an excellent mentor, devoted instructor and role model for aspiring community pharmacists. Glenn instructs with passion, and consistently challenges students to consider more broadly the extent of impact community

pharmacists can have on the care of a patient. Glenn inspires his students to make a meaningful difference for each patient that steps into their pharmacy and also in the profession as a whole. After eight years of inspiring students Glenn has taken on a new challenge as an owner of a new Target Pharmacy. He will be missed by everyone at the College.

President's Message



Hello College of Pharmacy Alumni! I am sure you have all heard the saying 'better late

than never,' well this *Dispatch* is certainly better late than never and we believe we have saved the best for last! That's right, you are holding the final printed edition of the *DUCPAD Dispatch*. However, wipe away those tears, the *Dispatch* will be living on in electronic form starting with the very next issue. There are three main benefits to making this switch, it allows us to have less restrictions on how interactive and useful this newsletter can be, it is far more cost effective and it will help to save the environment through saving paper! That's right, your new executive is innovative, cost-effective and eco-friendly! What more could you want? In order to ensure that you don't miss out on the next issue of the *Dispatch*, which will include special interviews with the outgoing and incoming Directors **Rita Caldwell** and **Susan Mansour**, make sure you send your e-mail address to pharmacy.alumni@dal.ca or call 902.494.2378.

Like our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/ducpad, to find out about upcoming alumni events and email pharmacy.alumni@dal.ca if you have any suggestions for the new *Dispatch*, opportunities for Alumni involvement or to inquire about joining the executive!

I am very happy to represent the alumni of the best pharmacy school in Canada and look forward to this next stage in the life of the College of Pharmacy. Onwards and upwards to better things!

Adam Somers
President

Golf Tournament

The 19th Annual College of Pharmacy Alumni Golf Classic will be held on July 19, 2014, at The Link at Penn Hills. Contact the College for more information.

Faculty News



Natalie Kennie-Kaulbach joined the College of Pharmacy in August 2013 as an Assistant Professor and the second year Skills Lab Coordinator. Natalie graduated

from the College of Pharmacy in 1994 and received her Doctor of Pharmacy degree in 1998 from the University of Toronto. Since graduation, she has practiced in Ontario as a clinical pharmacist in family practice and taught in the Doctor of Pharmacy Program at the University of Toronto.

Alumni News

Jacqueline West (Class of 2012) was the recipient of the PEBC George A. Burbidge Memorial Award for the highest overall combined grade obtained on a first attempt in the Qualifying Examination – Part I and II for 2012.

Megan Riordon (Class of 2012) was the recipient of the first Annual Dalhousie Impact Award.

Sarah Lutes (Class of 2013) was one of the recipients of the Second Annual Dalhousie Impact Awards which recognizes student contributions to Dalhousie and the wider community. These students exemplify the highest level of passion for their discipline-taking initiative in creating new opportunities and encouraging their peers to engage in faculty events.



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Adjunct Professor Appointments for Pharmacy Preceptors

The practice education program at the College of Pharmacy would like to thank all preceptors and pharmacy practice sites for their continued support of the program. Preceptors are reminded that an Adjunct Professor appointment is available to regular preceptors who continue to offer clinical rotations and/or host learners from the Dalhousie University College of Pharmacy. The adjunct appointment process can be found at: www.dal.ca/faculty/healthprofessions/pharmacy/programs/preceptor-development-program/adjunct-appointments.html

The appointment lasts three years and allows full access to the Dalhousie University library online during that time, including the Dal Access page of the newly updated Drug Information Resource website.

For more information or if you are interested in becoming a preceptor, please contact: **Harriet Davies**, Coordinator of Clinical Education, College of Pharmacy, Dalhousie University, 902-494-3464 (tel), Harriet.Davies@dal.ca (email), preceptor.learningandteaching.dal.ca (web).

Relaunch of the Drug Information Resources (DIR) Website

Ever faced with a drug information question that your “go-to” reference can’t answer? The Drug Information Resources (DIR) website is a web portal that brings together resources within 64 categories including specific disease states, adverse drug reactions, compounding, drug interactions, and much more. Within each category you can find links to websites, journal articles and texts on that particular subject.

Dr. Mary MacCara and Elizabeth Foy created the DIR website to help pharmacists connect with credible drug information resources. The website first went online in 1996, and thanks to funding from the Dalhousie Pharmacy Endowment Fund to employ a pharmacy student, the site is regularly updated to meet the needs of the changing scope of pharmacy practice. Over the last year, the website received close to 6000 hits per month and was used

by pharmacists and students in over 150 countries worldwide.

We are excited to announce the arrival of an updated DIR website! The website has a new, easy-to-navigate layout and new pages including one on immunization which brings together recommended references for pharmacists. The page includes standards of practice, background information on vaccines and how to properly handle and store vaccines. The site also has a new “Dal Access” page that brings together common clinical resources (general monographic, evidence based medicine, drug interactions, natural health products, drugs in pregnancy and lactation, risk assessment tools, etc.) including those for which Dalhousie University has a subscription. These resources are available to students, faculty and others affiliated with Dalhousie University.

The DIR can be accessed at www.dal.ca/dir Check it out today!