



# The Alumni Postscript

The alumni newsletter of Texas Tech University HSC School of Pharmacy

Summer 2007

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Grand Opening of the Abilene School of Pharmacy** will be held on August 12th, 2007 following the White Coat Ceremony for the incoming Abilene students. The **White Coat Ceremony** will be held at the Paramount Theater in Abilene and will begin at 1:30. All alumni are encouraged to attend.

The **White Coat Ceremony** for the incoming Amarillo class will be held on August 5th, 2007 at the Civic Center.

## CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Have you visited the Texas Tech HSC School of Pharmacy Continuing Education web site lately? Check us out for on-line, stream-line video continuing education programs, including preceptor CE!!!

For additional information on live and on-line programs visit our website at: <http://www.ttuhschoolofpharmacy.edu/continuingeducation/>

## Distinguished Alumni Awards

### *Recipients Recognized at Alumni Dinner*

The Alumni Association held its Annual Alumni Dinner on April 20th at the Menger Hotel in San Antonio, Texas in conjunction with the Texas Society of Health System Pharmacists (TSHP) meeting. The dinner was a huge success with over 45 Tech alumni and faculty in attendance. Highlights from the program include a welcome from the Dean, Alumni "Roll-Call" as each alumnus in attendance rose and indicated their year of graduation and current positions, and the presentation of the Distinguished Alumni Awards and Best Practice Awards.

### **Excellence in Pharmacy Practice**

**Dr. RoxAnn Dominguez ('03)** received the Distinguished Alumni Award for Pharmacy Practice for her instrumental role in enhancing the care of psychiatry patients in the State of New Mexico. After completing a residency in psychiatric pharmacy, Dr. Dominguez accepted a position as the lead clinical psychiatric pharmacist for the medicaid and seriously mentally ill population in Phoenix, Arizona, the largest behavioral health public sector contract in the country.

After a short time, she was promoted to the Director of Pharmacy for ValueOptions New Mexico (VONM). VONM is a behavioral Health carve-out contract in New Mexico that provides all behavioral health care for Medicaid and Seriously Mentally Ill patients throughout New Mexico. As Director, Dr. Dominguez is responsible for the nearly \$30 million budget, as well as developing the be-



RoxAnn Dominguez ('03), Cris Frye-Hogue ('00) and Sidney Phillips ('01) were recognized for their accomplishments at the Annual Alumni Dinner.

havioral health formulary and behavioral health pharmacy initiatives. She also leads committees to develop standards of care for children and adolescents' behavioral health care, antipsychotic practice standards for New Mexico patients, serves as Chair of the State Behavioral Health Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee (P&T), serves on the State of New Mexico DUR committee, and serves as the liaison for the physical health Medicaid programs to coordinate behavioral health with physical health initiatives. Many other states and public sector contracts negotiators are looking to the State of New Mexico and her work to apply to other state's quality initiatives on behavioral health.

In addition to her practice, Dr. Dominguez prides herself on furthering the education and promotion of the pharmacy profession. She is BCPP

## Abilene Campus Update

### *Building Near Completion*

The new School of Pharmacy building in Abilene, located at 1700 Pine, is nearing completion with plans for the School of Pharmacy personnel to begin occupation and classroom set-up in July. The official grand opening celebrations will be held on August 12th, 2007 with all alumni invited to participate.

The new building, nearly 40,000 square feet in total, will house 3 large classrooms, a drug information center, 7 small group meeting rooms, and faculty offices. Occupancy of the building can happen none to soon, with academic course work scheduled to begin on August 6th

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## Alumni Feedback Sought

### *Accreditation Alumni Surveys*

The School of Pharmacy is in need of alumni feedback on surveys as part of the re-accreditation requirements for American Council of Pharmaceutical Education (ACPE) and the Southern Association of Colleges (SACs). A good survey response is crucial for the continued development of academic programs for the School.

ACPE will be contacting alumni from all Schools of Pharmacy via email to request their participation in a nation-wide survey. The survey will focus on employment status, professional involvement, the curriculum,

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**ALUMNI NOTES**

**Jennifer Pierson ('05)** was recently in April 2007. Jennifer and her new husband are now living in Phoenix, AZ.

**Christopher ('03) and Luvy Amaya ('04)** celebrated the birth of a baby girl, Sophia Rose, on February 12th, 2007.

**Jose Vega ('03) and Pamela Ochoa ('03)** became proud parents of a baby boy, Anthony Nieves Vega on July 16th, 2006 in Tyler, Texas.

**Charlie Snead ('00)** was promoted to Clinical Manager for Harris Methodist-Forth Worth Hospital.

**Amy McKinley ('00) and Shauna Smith ('00)** recently completed a Management and Leadership Residency program at Harris Methodist Fort Worth Hospital.

**Distinguished Alumni Awards**

[continued from front cover] certified and is a preceptor for students at the University of New Mexico College of Pharmacy. In addition to mentoring students on clinical skills, she has involved them with many of her quality initiatives, such as the development of practice standards in children and adolescents with psychotropic medications.

Clearly, Dr. Dominguez is a very deserving individual for the Excellence in Practice Award and is an inspiration to Tech students and alumni. Dr. Dominguez graciously accepted the award at the alumni dinner with family members to celebrate with her.

**Excellence in Leadership**

**Dr. Sidney Phillips ('01)** was awarded the Distinguished Alumni Award for Leadership. Dr. Phillips completed a pharmacy practice residency at St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital and the Texas Heart Institute, Houston Texas and a Pharmacy Management Residency at Cardinal Health Provider Pharmacy Services in Houston. After completing his residency training, he went on to hold Director of Pharmacy positions at Odessa Regional Hospital and Trinity Medical Center in Carrollton Texas. He has recently assumed the position of Operations Director for Pharmacy Management for Cardinal Health and oversees operational, financial, clinical, and contracting responsibilities for 27 facilities across the United States.

Dr. Phillips is also a leader within professional organizations serving on the Board of Directors for the Texas Society of Health-System Phar-

macists for several years. In this capacity, he led the TSHP Board of Directors to make many crucial recommendations with regard to pharmacy regulatory issues (including USP 797).

"In every class there are 1-2 people who stand out as being someone who is recognized as peer that every likes, admires and respects- that was Sid" stated fellow alum, Traci Metting. "While most people would describe him as quiet upon first meeting him, it is the reserved intelligence that draws most people to him. He practices with an integrity that gains the support of the people that work for him and the confidence of his superiors. He is constantly rallying the troops and does not expect anything from his employees that he himself would not do. These characteristics make him an excellent leader who is respected by everyone with whom he works."



Troy Stillings ('00), Brent Fox ('00), Sidney Phillips ('01), Cris Hogue ('00) and Krystal Edwards (SOP faculty-Dallas) reminisce at the Alumni Dinner.

**Best Practice Award**

Dr. Cris Hogue ('00) received the Alumni Best Practice Award for her role in establishing pharmacy services for the solid organ transplant service at Driscoll Children's Hospital. Dr. Hogue completed a pediatric residency at Children's Hospital Los Angeles. After graduation she established a practice at Children's Medical Center in Dallas where precepted numerous students for Texas Tech. Recently, Dr. Hogue has taken on the

Clinical Manager position for the Department of Pharmacy at Driscoll Children's Hospital.

Dr. Hogue was instrumental in establishing the first solid organ transplant service at Driscoll Children's Hospital. She was responsible for coordinating and establishing the medication formula and protocols for kidney transplant as well as providing education for the patient and his family and arranging discharge prescription services. Her efforts allowed for the rapid establishment of transplant services at the hospital. In addition to her recognition for practice establishment, Dr. Hogue was recently awarded the Clinician of the Year Award by CompleteRx.

Dr. Hogue provided a brief presentation of the services she established for which she was being recognized at the dinner program. Her contributions to pharmacy are true example of a successful practice of our alum.



Cris Hogue and her husband Justin pose with Traci Metting ('00) and Bonnie Dugie ('00) at the Alumni Dinner.

## Abilene Campus

[continued from front cover] with the traditional “School of Pharmacy Bootcamp”. As of August, the School will be the home for a class of 40 students, 9 faculty, and 8 staff members. An estimated 40 faculty and staff and 4 classes of 40 students each will eventually occupy the building. Dr. Kim Powell, Regional Dean of Abilene is busy making final arrangements.

The School will be utilizing new technology for delivery of coursework to and from Abilene utilizing synchronous virtual classroom technology in place of the Techlink or “Healthnet” system familiar to alumni.

Plans are underway for a Texas Tech Alumni reception/barbeque to be held at the new building in mid-September for alumni in the Abilene and

neighboring areas. Alumni and their families are encouraged to attend this event to tour the new building, meet the faculty, staff, and students.



Construction nears completion for the new Abilene Regional Campus.

## 2007 Graduates

The Class of 2007 is welcomed into the Alumni Association! The graduating students were recognized at the annual hooding ceremony held at the Civic Center in Lubbock on May 18th, 2007.

### Senior Awards

*Lily Achievement Award*  
Raelene Trudeau

*Roche Pharmacy Communications Award*  
Wilson Krezdom

*Facts and Comparisons Excellence in Clinical Communications Award*  
Michelle Johnson

*Mylan Excellence in Pharmacy Award*  
Melanie Boatwright

*GlaxoSmithKline Patient Care Award*  
Ajith Pai

*McNeil Consumer Healthcare APhA-ASP Mortar and Pestle Professionalism Award*  
Rachel Mason

*Natural Medicines Comprehensive Database Recognition*  
Janda Whitaker

*Teva Outstanding Student Award*  
Chris Tawwater

*TTUHSC SOP Professionalism Award*  
Donna Boatwright

*Pediatric Excellence Award*  
Lucas Holt

*Bowl of Hygieia Recipient*  
Theresa Gerst

*SOP Banner Bearer*  
Raelene Trudeau



### Residency Placement

Theresa Gerst  
Pharmacy Practice/Emphasis in Geriatrics at Veterans Administration- St. Louis, MO

Elizabeth Irvine  
Pharmacy Practice at Grady Hospital—Atlanta, GA

Michelle Johnson  
Community Care at Mercer University/Rite Aid— Atlanta, GA

Mary Klein  
Community/Ambulatory Care Pharmacy Practice at Scott & White Health Plan and Clinics—Georgetown, TX

Paula Simoni  
Pharmacy Practice at University Medical Center & Covenant Hospitals—Lubbock, TX

Chris Tawwater  
Pharmacotherapy at Texas Tech HSC School of Pharmacy Amarillo, TX

Latisha Tomlison  
Pharmacy Practice at Texas Tech and Covenant Health Systems—Lubbock, TX

Raelene Trudeau  
Pharmacotherapy at Barnes Jewish Hospital - St. Louis, MO

Martin Ziska  
Pharmacy Practice at Michael E. DeBakey Veteran’s Affairs Hospital - Houston, TX

## Alumni Notes

**Staci Moss ('02)** has been nominated for secretary for TSHP for 2008-2010. Please show her your support!!!

**Troy Stillings ('00)** was awarded the TSHP Lewis S. Smith Pharmacy Practitioner Award for 2007.

**Karim Prasala ('06)** was named the Resident/Fellow Award at the TSHP Annual Meeting in April. He is completing a residency at Scott and White Health-plan and Clinics.

**Allen Cunningham ('02)** has been promoted to Clinical Manager at Covenant Health-Systems, Lubbock.

**Josh Rodgers ('03) and Tiffany Jones-Rodgers ('01)** are proud parents of a baby girl, Lauryn Elizabeth, born on August 10, 2006.

**Dane and Kerry Stallworth-Daniel ('00)** gave birth to a baby boy, Drew on September 26, 2006.

**Phillip Blake ('04)** and his wife welcomed their second child into their family, daughter Emily.

Graduate 2007 Placement



## Alumni Notes

**Beverly Abney ('01)** and her husband became proud parents of a baby girl Amelia Adele on October 26th, 2006.

**Charlie ('00) and Jennifer Snead ('00)** welcomed into their family a second son, Elijah on February 1, 2007.

**Michael and Melinda (Freidenberger, '04) Marks** are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Madelyn Leslie, born December 20, 2006.

**Jose Vega ('03) and Pamela Ochoa ('03)** have accepted faculty positions at the new TTUHSC School of Pharmacy Abilene campus. **Shawna King ('05) and Kenna Payne ('05)** have accepted faculty positions at the SOP in Amarillo.

**RoxAnn Dominguez ('03)** was named the Raiders Rojas 2007 Distinguished Alumna Award.

## Alumni Spotlight

Jason Heuerman, PharmD  
Co-Owner, McCoy Drug—Abilene, TX

Jason Heuerman, alumnus class of 2001 is currently the co-partner of McCoy Drug in Abilene, Texas. McCoy Drug is a traditional community pharmacy with emphasis on customizing medications to meet individual needs through prescription compounding. Becoming a partner in a new community pharmacy has been one of the most rewarding professional achievements he has experienced. Despite the lack of appreciation of the business management / administration courses at the school prior to graduation, Jason like other alumni realize their importance. "Being able to help with the business decision-making is very fulfilling."

*"... be an agent of change — the profession changes everyday and your adaptability skills will determine your success . . ."*

When asked what he enjoys most about his current position he stated " I enjoy the problem-solving aspect of my position. When healthcare professionals have a prescription quandary, we are the place they call. It's fun to think outside of the box while achieving positive medication outcomes."

In addition to his busy professional life in managing a pharmacy, Dr. Heuerman also has his hands full at home helping his wife care for their newborn triplets born in December 2006 along with his 5 year old son, Reid. "We were extremely blessed with [triplets] two beautiful girls and a handsome boy. They take up a lot of my extra time. . . But every now and then I still manage to go hunting or fishing. "

His advice to our current students is "get outside of your comfort zone during school and try a little bit of everything that pharmacy has to offer."

"Through hands on learning and a tremendous curriculum outside the classroom, Texas Tech gave me the tools to be successful with my career. Specifically clerkships with emphasis on the business of pharmacy and advanced rotations with progressive thinking community pharmacists helped me the most for after school. The caliber of professors and pre-



Jason Heuerman and his expanding family—wife, Mendy, son Reid, and triplets Tate, Ella, and Brinn.

### Health Sciences Center to Launch "RaiderCheckUp Community"

Dramatic changes will be occurring with the Health Sciences Center Alumni web page. On July 1st, TTUHSC Office of Development will be launching a new program called "i-communities". The site will function similar to the popular "My Space" website, allowing communications between alumni. Alumni will be able to log into the site and create their own "space" or community of alumni for the School of Pharmacy. This is hoped to provide a means for alumni to stay connected with fellow classmates. Numerous other features of the new site will include:

- On-line mentoring
- Classifieds/ job boards
- Calendar of events

### Upcoming Health Sciences Center Alumni Events

Watch for upcoming announcements regarding Health Sciences Center Alumni Receptions. Current plans include:

#### Dallas/Fort Worth Receptions

September 5th  
Dallas location - Signature "W" Restaurant  
Fort Worth location— Bass Hall

#### Abilene School of Pharmacy

September TBA

#### Alumni Reunion Weekend

October 26-27th, Lubbock  
Colorado Football Game

## Alumni Feedback

continued from front cover] and school communications/development. Each school will be provided with summaries of the responses from their alumni as well as that from other schools for comparison. These responses will be an essential component of the re-accreditation process. The school strongly encourages each alumnus to participate in the survey. Any alumnus who has not updated his/her email address with the School of Pharmacy are encouraged to do so by emailing Dr. Luedtke at sherry.luedtke@ttuhsc.edu.

In addition, the School of Pharmacy will be conducting a supplemental alumni survey. This survey will provide additional information necessary for the re-accreditation of the School on aspects that are unique to the Texas Tech programs. In particular, this survey will include additional demographic questions in an attempt to determine influences of campus attendance and/or year of graduation on survey response. A key focus of previous accreditation visits for Texas Tech School of Pharmacy has been the standardization of programs across campuses and documentation of equivalent outcomes (such as alumni success) will provide key information. The alumni will be emailed a copy of the School survey which can be accessed at



Jadi Parker assists fellow graduate, Jennifer Donato with the final touches prior to the hooding ceremony on May 18th, 2007.

<http://surveys.ttuhsc.edu/wsb.dll/36/2007SOPAlumniSurvey.htm>

The School of Pharmacy is actively undergoing a “curricular renewal” process in which the curriculum is being reviewed critically to determine needed reorganization and or modifications in content or emphasis. The survey responses will be utilized in this review process and thereby have an impact on the direction of the curriculum in the upcoming years. Again, the alumni are key component of the decision making process of the School.

Any alumnus with concerns and/or questions regarding the survey process are encouraged to contact the School.

## The Dean’s Corner

### Milestones

How do you celebrate major life-changing milestones? With our children, we celebrate birthdays, first day in school, and graduation from high school. With our parents, we often focus on special events that had a significant impact on our lives, such as our parents’ 35<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. With ourselves, we may celebrate, perhaps in little private ways, the first day we met our significant other, or landing a big raise at work.

Schools of Pharmacy (faculty, staff and students) also celebrate major events that affect the lives of our institution. We celebrated the TTUHSC SOP’s 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. We are now planning to celebrate our newest campus, the opening of a third satellite campus in Abilene, Texas.

Abilene marked a substantial change in the life of the TTUHSC School of Pharmacy. We are, for the first time, offering all four years of the professional program in two sites – Amarillo and Abilene. We are planning innovative uses of technol-

ogy to ensure that students in both campuses have equivalent instruction, support services, and opportunities for professional growth and development. Abilene increases the SOP’s faculty and staff by approximately 1/3<sup>rd</sup> and our operating budgets by approximately 40%. We will be opening a brand new, beautiful new building provided by the Abilene Community to bring the School to town. Abilene allows us to better accomplish our overall mission, to provide pharmacy education, research and innovative patient care services to our region of Texas. These are truly important reasons to celebrate!

You can join our celebration by attending the White Coat Ceremony and Building Grand Opening in Abilene on August 12, 2007.



Arthur Nelson, PhD, RPh  
Dean, TTUHSC School of Pharmacy

## Alumni Notes

**Jeff Hildebrand ('04)**  
**Lisa Plascencia ('04)**  
and were married on November 11th, 2006 in Laredo, TX. They honeymooned in the Bahamas at the Atlantis Resort.

**Toby Cooper ('01)** married Christina Pointer on March 10, 2007. The wedding was attended by numerous classmates in a mini-reunion of sorts!

**Staten ('02) and Jennifer Holmes** recently competed in the World Indoor Archery Championships in Izmir, Turkey. Staten brought home a bronze medal in the men’s team event and placed 21st individually. Jennifer placed 5th in the team competition and 28th individually. Both are training to try out for the 2008 Olympics. We are all pulling for you!!!!

### KEEP US INFORMED!!!

To share information for the Alumni Notes (promotions, honors, marriages, births) send an email with your news to sherry.luedtke@ttuhsc.edu and we will include it in our next Alumni Postscript.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY  
**HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER**  
 School of Pharmacy™

Office of Professional Affairs  
 1300 S. Coulter Rm 112J | Amarillo, Texas 79106



*Steven Reese*  
 Director of Development,  
 TTUHSC School of  
 Pharmacy

## Office of Development

*I have met many of you, but for those I have not met yet, I am Steven Reese, Development Director for the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Pharmacy. I am a Texas Tech alumnus and joined the school's staff on September 1, 2005.*

*You may be curious as to what "development" actually is. Simply put, development is another word for fundraising. As the Development Director I am responsible for pursuing School of Pharmacy development efforts at regional, state, and national levels. This involves conducting introductory visits to corporations, foundations, and individual prospective donors and developing proposals for presentations to these donors.*

*The School of Pharmacy has many loyal donors, several of whom are alumni. Our donors support*

*everything from programs to scholarships as well as funding building projects. Our biggest development initiative as of right now is in the new School of Pharmacy in Abilene, Texas. The Abilene community has contributed close to \$17,000,000 for the new building and program there. Our doors open in August 2007 to 40 new students. Because of generous donor support, these new students will be well on their way to becoming a pharmacist.*

*If you are interested in supporting the School of Pharmacy or would like more information on development initiatives, please do not hesitate to contact me. I may be reached at (806)356-4612 or you can e-mail me at [steven.reese@ttuhsc.edu](mailto:steven.reese@ttuhsc.edu). I would love to hear from you!*

**Summer 2007**

**Alumni Postscript** *The newsletter of the Alumni Association of Texas Tech HSC School of Pharmacy*

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