



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER
School of Pharmacy™

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From the **D**EAN'S
DESK



April 2007

AACP Award Goes to SOP-VAMC Affiliation

The SOP's affiliation with the North Texas VA Medical Center will be honored in July as the inaugural recipient of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy Crystal APPLE Award at the AACP annual meeting in Orlando.

The award was established to

recognize innovative pharmacy school-affiliated partnerships that foster excellence in pharmacy education and practice. Faculty members Dr. Craig Cox (Asst. Professor, Dept. of Pharmacy Practice – Lubbock) and Dr. Shane Greene (Asst. Professor, Dept. of Pharmacy Practice – Dallas/Ft.

Worth) played key roles in the award application process and worked with Dr. Cynthia Foslien-Nash (Clinical Programs Manager-VA North Texas Health Care System).

Our continued collaboration with the North Texas VAMC in practice and education is a foundational relationship for Texas Tech's success in the Dallas-Fort Worth area and this award will bring national recognition to North Texas VAMC and the SOP and speaks to the quality of our partnership.

AACP will also shine its spotlight on TTUHSC – SOP faculty members Dr. Cynthia Raehl (Professor and Chair, Dept. of Pharmacy Practice – Amarillo) and Dr. Paul Lockman (Asst. Professor, Dept. of Pharmaceutical Sciences – Amarillo) at the same meeting.

Dr. Raehl will be installed as AACP president and Dr. Lockman, will receive an AACP National Teaching Innovation Award for his computerized competency-based modular approach to teaching anatomy.

This will be a very special AACP meeting for TTUHSC and the SOP. We are very proud of each of these individuals and their dedication to our program and to the pharmacy profession.

Chapter Selects SOP Alumna

The Raiders Rojos National Alumni Chapter of the Texas Tech Alumni Association presented SOP alumna Dr. RoxAnn Dominguez with its 2007 Distinguished Alumni award at the 2007 Hispanic Graduation Convocation held May 10 in the Red Raider Ballroom.

RoxAnn received her Pharm.D. from TTUHSC – SOP in 2003. After completing a psychiatric pharmacy residency at Austin State Hospital, she accepted a position as a clinical pharmacist for ValueOptions in Phoenix where was the company's only clinical pharmacist for that area's Medicaid and seriously mentally ill populations.

She is presently director of pharmacy for ValueOptions New Mexico in Albuquerque. VONM holds a \$350 million state contract and



RoxAnn Dominguez (left) with Dr. Chuck Seifert (SOP Lubbock Regional Dean) and Summer Balcer (SOP Asst. Dean for Student Services).

manages public funding and delivery of care for behavioral health in New Mexico. The organization is committed to providing behavioral health services that are both culturally competent and responsive to the unique needs of New Mexicans.

Students Receive Scholarships

Kudos goes to four SOP students who were recently awarded grants and scholarships from various sources.

Kaci Bohn, a graduate student in the department of pharmaceutical sciences, received a \$1,000 Chi Omega Alumnae Grant.

Madelyn Cearley (P1 – Amarillo) and Julie Perez (P2 – Amarillo) each received \$1,000 from the Hispanic Scholarship Fund for the 2007 – 2008 school year. Madelyn and Julie competed with graduate students across the nation to receive this honor and were selected based on the basis of academic achievement, personal strengths, leadership and financial need.

Minh Dung Nguyen (P2 – Amarillo) was awarded the Dallas Area Pharmacy Association scholarship. The DAPA awards this scholarship to each

pharmacy school in Texas on a rotating basis. Minh was selected because he is from the Dallas area and is a student member of the Texas Pharmacy Association who has achieved academic excellence and demonstrates a commitment to pharmacy.

In addition, seven SOP students were recently awarded Star Spangled Double T Scholarship.

The group includes P2s Ryan Burke and Michele King; P3s Lulu Ofoh (Dallas/Ft. Worth), Joanna Smith (Dallas/Ft. Worth), Brandon Trollinger (Lubbock) and Rafael Veasy (Dallas/Ft. Worth); and P4 Daniel Silva (Dallas/Ft. Worth).

We appreciate the effort and support of the TTUHSC Student Senate, who raised funds for each of these \$100 scholarships.

TTUHSC Board Approves Tenure, Promotions for SOP Faculty

The TTUHSC Board of Regents approved the tenure and promotions for several SOP faculty members at their March meeting.

Tenure was granted to Dr. Jon Weidanz (Asst. Professor, Dept. of Pharmaceutical Sciences – Amarillo), Dr. Ming-Hai Wang (Professor and Amarillo Community Endowed Chair, Dept. of Pharmaceutical Sciences

– Amarillo) and Dr. Kalkunte Srivenugopal (Asst. Professor, Dept. of Pharmaceutical Sciences – Amarillo).

In addition, Dr. Weidanz, Dr. Sara Brouse (Dept. of Pharmacy Practice – Dallas/Ft. Worth), Dr. Anthony Busti (Dept. of Pharmacy Practice – Dallas/Ft. Worth), Dr. Craig Cox (Dept. of Pharmacy Practice – Lubbock) and Dr. Sachin Shah (Dept. of Pharmacy

Gaasch Selected for 2007 GSBS Dean's Award



Dr. Julie Gaasch

Dr. Julie Gaasch, one of our post-doctoral research associates and teaching assistants, will receive the 2007 Dean's Recognition Award from the TTUHSC Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences.

After she receives the award at the convocation on May 18, Julie will carry the school banner in the May 19 commencement ceremonies.

Julie earned her doctoral degree in December 2006 in the Pharmaceutical Sciences Program. She is presently working in the lab of Dr. Quentin Smith (Professor and Chair, Dept. of Pharmaceutical Sciences – Amarillo). Her research interests include growth factor and hormonal regulation of cell migration, specifically the role they play in osteoclast migration during bone remodeling and osteoporosis.

Practice – Dallas/Ft. Worth) were promoted to associate professor.

Tenure takes effect immediately upon Board approval; promotions will become effective September 1.

Congratulations to each of these individuals. We are proud of the contributions they have made to our program over the years and wish them continued success.



Dr. Anthony Busti



Dr. Sara Brouse



Dr. Craig Cox



Dr. Sachin Shah



Dr. Kalkunte Srivenugopal



Dr. Ming-Hai Wang



Dr. Jon Weidanz

TPPC Educator Sees the Fruits of Her Labor

One of the most rewarding aspects of working in health care and education at TTUHSC is having the opportunity to positively impact the lives of those we serve. Ronica Farrar, who is the Specialist in Community Outreach for the Texas Panhandle Poison Center, was recently presented with evidence of just important this impact can be.

As part of her job, Ronica conducts Train-the-Trainer programs throughout TPPC's service area, which encompasses Texas Public Health Regions 1 and 2. Through these programs Ronica teaches attendees about poison safety and trains them so they can in turn provide poison safety education to others. She provides each trainee with a duffel bag kit that includes brochures, magnets, stickers, material re-order forms, a canned poison prevention presentation flip-chart notebook and a carbon monoxide detector. During the training session, she explains the importance of the detector and how to properly use them.

At a recent health fair one of the people who previously completed the program approached Ronica and thanked her for saving the lives of two families!



Poison Center Educator Ronica Farrar distributes carbon monoxide detectors as part of TPPC's Train-the-Trainer program.

This individual, who works with the Headstart program, actually goes into the homes of the families she serves three times a year and provides safety training that includes a demonstration of the carbon monoxide detector. During one of the home training sessions, she plugged in the detector and its alarm immediately sounded. As a result the family contacted a professional who discovered the house stove and furnace were improperly ventilated and the family was being exposed to carbon monoxide on a daily basis! Repairs were made and the family was able to remain in their home.

The same trainee also told Ronica about her brother, who had installed a

wall furnace in his garage as a do-it-yourself project. Like any good sister, the trainee questioned her brother about his knowledge and ability to properly install a wall furnace because she knew the dangers it could pose. She took her kit to his house, plugged in the carbon monoxide detector and again got an immediate warning. The furnace had been improperly installed and the detector gave the trainee's brother a chance to get the problem fixed before his family was harmed.

Ronica's story is a great example of the very important work that takes place everyday at the TPPC. Sometimes these folks are "out of sight, out of mind," but their impact can be lifesaving.



Students Select 2007 Outstanding Teacher



Dr. Craig Cox

Congratulations to Dr. Craig Cox (Asst. Professor, Dept. of Pharmacy Practice – Lubbock) who was recently selected by SOP students as the Outstanding Teacher of the Year for 2006-2007. Dr. Cox received the award at the Office of Students Services' Annual Awards and Installation Banquet, which was held April 28 at the Lubbock Club.

The Outstanding Teacher of the Year awards are sponsored by the TTUHSC Student Senate as a way for students from each TTUHSC program to recognize faculty members who display knowledge and enthusiasm for the material they teach, demonstrate an interest in learning, are flexible in their teaching methods, show patience and empathy toward their students and otherwise demonstrate a belief that teaching is an active process.

Getting to Know...

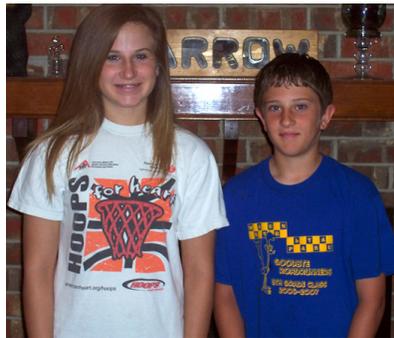
**Debbie Farrow
Analyst**

Dept. of Finance and Administration - Amarillo

Debbie was born and raised in Amarillo and is the middle child of three. She graduated from Amarillo High in 1991 and spent 12 years working in the banking industry before joining TTUHSC – SOP in October 2006.

Debbie's husband, Jim, is a fire fighter for the City of Amarillo. The Farrow's have been married for 16 years and have two children: 15-year old Brittany attends Amarillo High and 11-year old Colton attends Western Plateau.

The Farrow family also includes "two very hyper dogs" named Angel and Piper.



Basketball player Brittany Farrow and her brother Colton, who loves playing baseball.

Debbie says most of her free time is spent at the ballpark watching Colton play baseball or in the gym watching Brittany play basketball. She says she also loves to mow the grass and work in the yard and will never turn down an opportunity to go to the lake and play.

"I want to thank all the people at TTUHSC and the pharmacy school who have helped me learn my new job," Debbie says. "Everyone has been very helpful and patient and I enjoy coming to work each day."