**Regional Dean Selected for Abilene**

It gives me great pleasure to announce that Dr. Kim Powell has been named regional dean for the new SOP regional campus in Abilene. She will begin her new responsibilities on Jan. 17.

Since 2002 Dr. Powell has served as clinical specialist in managed care for Scott and White Prescription Services in Temple, but she has a wide range of experience in chain, independent, consultant and institutional pharmacy practice. She has also served on our Dean’s Advisory Council since 2004 and is extremely knowledgeable about our program.

Dr. Powell received her B.S. degree in pharmacy in 1981 from the University of Houston and began her pharmacy career shortly thereafter when she went to work for Inman Pharmacy in Belton. She spent the next 15 years in Waco working at various times as a staff pharmacist, pharmacist-in-charge, pharmacy manager and consultant for Revco Drug, Skaggs Alpha Beta, Super Sav Drug and H.E. Butt Grocery Company.

In 1999 Dr. Powell earned her M.S. degree in pharmacy administration from the University of Texas, and in 2001 she earned her Pharm.D. from the University of Houston College of Pharmacy. In 2002 she completed a specialty pharmacy residency in drug information at the University of Texas at Austin and Scott & White Memorial Hospital in Temple.

In addition to her current responsibilities with Scott and White, Dr. Powell served as director of pharmacy services for Coryell Memorial Hospital in Gatesville from 1999-2004. She also owned and served as pharmacist-in-charge for White Bear Pharmacy in Gatesville from 1998-2001.

Dr. Powell and her husband, Mike, have a 7-year old daughter. She also has two stepsons: 26-year old Cody is an infantry medic specialist for the U.S. Army and 24-year old Justin works for Carter & Burgess in Dallas.

We are fortunate to have someone with Dr. Powell’s experience join our program and I look forward to her work with our faculty, chairs and associate deans in coordinating the development of the Abilene campus.

**SOP Student to Participate in Geriatric Program**

Congratulations to Latisha Tomlinson (P4 – Lubbock), who was recently selected by TTUHSC to represent the SOP as a Student Scholar in Geriatrics for the 2006-2007 academic year. The Student Scholar in Geriatrics program is sponsored by the Garrison Institute on Aging and seeks to develop a cadre of students from TTUHSC’s SOP, SOAH, SOM and SON who have a long-term interest and commitment to advancing geriatric healthcare and who are actively engaged in interdisciplinary projects related to geriatrics.

Latisha will receive a $1,000 stipend for her participation in the program and will attend monthly meetings for project planning and scholarly discussions related to geriatrics.

Dr. Rebecca Irons Sleeper (Associate Professor, Dept. of Pharmacy Practice – Amarillo) is a faculty advisor for the program and Linda Goldstein (Unit Supervisor, Office of Student Affairs – Amarillo) assisted the Garrison Institute in selecting students for the program.
Students Lend a Hand to Tyler Street Resource Center

A pat on the back goes out to a group of P1 and P2 students who recently volunteered their time for Winter Outreach, a local project to help the homeless. The project was organized by United Way and the Tyler Street Resource Center agencies and was held at the Tyler Street Resource Center building in Amarillo. Dr. Jill Polk (Assistant Professor, Dept. of Pharmacy Practice – Amarillo) and Dr. Janie Robles (Assistant Professor, Dept. of Pharmacy Practice – Lubbock) served as SOP preceptors for the project.

Our students performed screenings for cholesterol and glucose and also conducted blood pressure checks. Volunteers from the Amarillo VA Hospital were also on hand to distribute army gear (blankets, clothes, boots, bags, etc.) and volunteers from area schools helped serve dinner to the 158 homeless individuals who came to the event.

According to Chalan Galloway (Coordinator, Early Experiential Programs – Amarillo), our students conducted screenings for roughly 75 people, 10 of whom were encouraged to see a physician. P1 students who participated in the event included Tina Abraham, Thomas Breedlove, Madalyne Cearly, Randi Griebel, Katy Leeves, Robert Morris, Hoaibac Nguyen and Sabrina Smith. Volunteers from the P2 class included Amy Arnold, Scotty Bartlett, Kathryn Calvo, Wade Dean, Laura De la Garza, Justin Hesse, Dustin Horne, Brad Martin, Kayode Ogunsemi and Julie Perez.

Office of Experiential Programs Working to Enhance Clerkships

As many of you know, the SOP’s Office of Experiential Programs places students in actual practice settings. The learning environments are not simulated, which gives our students opportunities to interact with real patients and other healthcare professionals.

The OEP includes personnel from the Amarillo, Lubbock and Dallas campuses and will soon include personnel from the Abilene campus. During the past year OEP personnel have been working closely with Department of Pharmacy Practice faculty and administrators to enhance the quality of clerkship education at our institution. These personnel include:

* Dr. Roland Patry (Chair, Department of Pharmacy Practice – Amarillo)
* Craig Cox (Asst. Prof., Dept. of Pharmacy Practice and Vice Chair, Experiential Programs – Lubbock)
* Jean Haynes (Assistant Director of Experiential Programs – Amarillo)
* Chalan Galloway (Coordinator, Early Experiential Programs – Amarillo)
* Cynthia Johnson (Unit Supervisor and Clerkship Coordinator – Dallas/Fort Worth)
* Ellen Patterson (Clerkship Coordinator – Amarillo)
* Gabriela Robledo (Clerical Specialist III and Clerkship Coordinator – Lubbock)

These hard working folks have generally focused their efforts on key areas such as Continuous Quality Improvement, Education Management System development, implementation and coordination of the P1 and P2 Introductory to Pharmacy Practice courses and portfolio development. Although much of their work is in the developmental stages, the continued and equally important involvement of faculty, administration and staff in this process should yield exciting and successful results.
Focus Group Elects Moridani

Dr. Majid Moridani (Assistant Professor, Dept. of Pharmaceutical Sciences – Amarillo) was recently voted to be the chair-elect of the Pharmacogemomics Focus Group, which is one of five focus groups within the Clinical Pharmacology and Translation Section at the American Association of Pharmaceutical Science.

The group consists of 400 members who promote the study of genetic causes of individual variations in drug responses and organizes discussions, workshops and outreach programs. They also facilitate communications between academia, biotechnology/genomics firms and regulatory agencies, provide a forum for information exchange on topics in the pharmacogenetics and pharmacogenomic areas via the Internet and generate yearly theme issues for pharmacogenetics-pharmacogenomics in AAPS PharmSciTech.

Congratulations to Dr. Moridani on this important achievement!

New Employees Join SOP

Please take a moment to say “Welcome Aboard” to Pat Chettinger (Senior Business Assistant, Office of Student Affairs – Amarillo), Debbie Farrow (Budget Analyst, Office of Finance and Administration – Amarillo), Rashmi Krishnapuram (Post Doctoral Research Associate, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences – Amarillo) and Logan LaRue (Research Program Administrator, Office of Research – Amarillo). Each of these individuals recently joined the TTUHSC and the School of Pharmacy and I’m sure they will be valuable additions to our program for years to come!
Cora Bailey
Coordinator
Adult Medicine Division
Staff, Department of Pharmacy Practice – Amarillo

Cora was born and raised in Farmington, New Mexico. She moved to Houston, TX in 1981 where she met her husband, Jack, and got married in 1982. Cora and Jack moved to Amarillo in 1992 and then to Canyon in 1998 where they still live.

Cora started working for the School of Pharmacy in 1999 in the Dept. of Pharmaceutical Sciences and then transferred to the Dept. of Pharmacy Practice department in 2004. “The School of Pharmacy is a wonderful place to work and I have met a lot of good people,” Cora says. “All the people I work with are really great.”

Cora and Jack have two children, both of whom are graduates of Canyon High School and are serving in the military (Army). Their 23-year old son, Brigham, is stationed at Ft. Lewis, WA. Their daughter, Blenda, is 20 and is stationed at Ft. Bragg, NC. Blenda’s husband, Jason, is presently serving in Iraq. “I am very proud of them for serving our country,” Cora says. “Although my husband and I are suffering from the empty nest syndrome, we do have two dogs to keep us company: a very loving and loyal miniature dashound, Koda, and Blue Eyes, a lively border collie/bull mix puppy that our son left with us when he got sent to Ft. Lewis.”

In her spare time Cora enjoys reading, listening to good music, watching good movies and earning extra money by “getting paid to do all my shopping online.”