



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER
School of Pharmacy™

Amarillo • Lubbock • Dallas/Fort Worth • Abilene

From the **DEAN'S**
DESK



June 2008

SOP-VA Affiliation Earns Second Crystal APPLE

For the second straight year, the TTUHSC-SOP and its affiliation with the North Texas VA Medical Center will be one of eight pharmacy schools to receive a Crystal Academic-Practice Partnerships for Learning Excellence (APPLE) Award from the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy.

AACP's Crystal APPLE Award recognizes both the pharmacy school and its affiliated pharmacist practitioner educators and administrators who foster and support quality experiential education in exemplary patient care and clinical teaching environments. Merck & Company, Inc. sponsors the project.



CRYSTAL APPLE AWARD

Academic-Practice Partnerships
for Learning Excellence

The 2008 award recognizes the efforts of TTUHSC-SOP faculty members Dr. Craig Cox (Associate Professor, Dept. of Pharmacy Practice - Lubbock) and Dr. Angela Treadway (Assistant Professor, Dept. of Pharmacy Practice - Dallas/Ft. Worth) and North Texas VA clinical programs manager Dr.

Cynthia Foslien-Nash. The affiliation will receive the award during the 2009 AACP Interim Meeting Awards Ceremony, scheduled for February 23, 2009 in Arlington, VA.

“The AACP Crystal APPLE awards program seeks to identify the most exemplary clinical education sites as judged by students and peers and hold them up as models for the Academy,” AACP executive vice president and CEO Dr. Lucinda L. Maine explained. “The competition for this prestigious recognition is intense and reflects the strong commitment to quality experiential education of these academic-practice partners.”

SOP Students Contribute to Research Journal Publication

Journal publication is common for SOP faculty members, but our students rarely get such an opportunity.

However, Abilene P1 Elizabeth White and Dallas/Ft. Worth P3 Seth Rutherford now have a better understanding of the research publication process because they were part of an SOP team whose paper was recently published in *Pharmacotherapy*.

Dr. Anthony Busti (Associate Professor, Dept. of Pharmacy

Practice – Dallas/Ft. Worth) assembled the team, which included SOP resident Dr. Amy Bain and former SOP resident Dr. Anita Rahman. Their paper was entitled, “A Multimodal, Evidence-Based Approach to Achieve

Lipid Targets in the Treatment of Antiretroviral-Associated Dyslipidemia: Case Report and Review of the Literature.”

“Elizabeth and Seth contributed a lot to the process,” Dr. Busti said. “I am very proud of them and their contribution, not only to the literature, but to our institution’s recognition. It was a research project, but (also) a great case and mini-review on a difficult subject. To me, this is a good example of collaboration.”



Elizabeth White



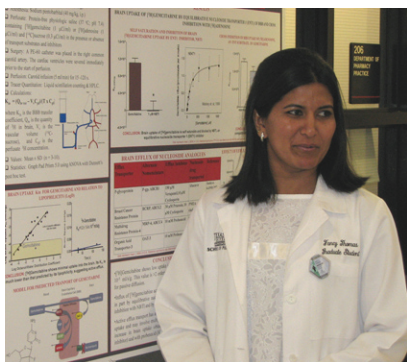
Seth Rutherford

SOP Holds Seventh Annual Research Days

Faculty, students and residents from each TTUHSC-SOP campus traveled to Amarillo June 4-6 for the school's Seventh Annual Research Days.

Research Days is an interdisciplinary forum designed to showcase research activities that have taken place at the pharmacy school during the past year.

Faculty, postdoctoral fellows and students meet to exchange research ideas and interests to stimulate interdisciplinary collaborations between the SOP's departments and campuses.



Fancy Thomas, SOP graduate student, listens to questions about her research poster.

John Crabbe, Ph.D. was the keynote speaker for this year's event. He is professor of pharmacology and behavioral neuroscience at the Oregon Health and Science University.

This year Research Days also featured six podium presentations where selected SOP investigators discussed their research findings with students and colleagues.

In addition, SOP faculty, residents and graduate students presented their research highlights during the event's annual poster competition. Each of this year's 61 posters were judged according to the researcher's introduction, research methods, results, conclusions, impact and a five-minute verbal presentation.

Postdoctoral research associate Rekha Yesudas and graduate student Arun Satelli tied for first place overall in the poster competition. Graduate student Lloyd Alfonso took third place.

Lloyd also placed first in the Graduate Student category and Arun finished second. Third place went to Vinay Rudraraju.



Graduate student Kaci Bohn discusses her poster with SOP regional dean Dr. Charles Seifert.

In the Resident category, Dallas/Ft. Worth pharmacy practice resident Dr. Amy Bain took first place. Lubbock pharmacy practice resident Paula Simoni finished in second place and Dallas/Ft. Worth pharmacy practice resident Janine Kosmoski claimed third place.

TTUHSC President Dr. John Baldwin spoke at the opening ceremonies and attended the first round of the poster competition.

Marsh Lectureship Brings Noted Researcher to SOP

John Crabbe, Ph.D. was the featured speaker at the Eleventh Annual Wendy & Stanley Marsh 3 Endowed Lectureship in Pharmacology & Neurochemistry of Substance Abuse/Addiction.

The event was held June 4 at the main TTUHSC-SOP campus in Amarillo.

Dr. Crabbe is professor of pharmacology and behavioral neuroscience for the Oregon Health and Science University. He also serves as director for the NIH Portland Alcohol Research Center where he studies individual differences in behavioral susceptibility of drugs of abuse, particularly alcohol, and their

neurobiological and genetic bases. His lecture was entitled "Finding Genes that Influence Risk for Alcoholism."

The Wendy & Stanley Marsh 3 Endowed Lectureship in Pharmacology and Neurochemistry of Substance Abuse/Addiction is an annual event at TTUHSC-SOP that features speakers of the highest national reputation.

The endowment is funded by the Marshes to give TTUHSC - SOP national recognition in the pharmacological area of substance abuse and the neurochemistry that precipitates this type of addictive behavior.



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Bain Wins Second Young Investigator Award

For the second year in a row, TTUHSC - SOP resident Dr. Amy Bain won the Young Investigator Award at the National Lipid Association's Annual Scientific Sessions, which was held this year in Seattle.

Dr. Bain is a second-year pharmacotherapy specialty resident at the SOP's Dallas/Ft. Worth campus. She competed against physicians, Ph.D.s and practitioners from other disciplines who were either in post-graduate residency training or in their first few years of practice.

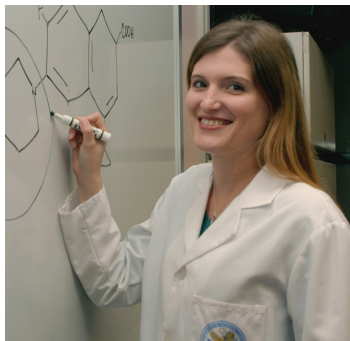
"I think it is great that the NLA supports and encourages researchers from early on in their career," Dr. Bain said. "I am proud to be part of such an organization."

Dr. Bain also said she received plenty of help with her project, which was entitled "*Effects of atazanavir/ritonavir or fosamprenavir/ritonavir on the pharmacokinetics of rosuvastatin.*"

"This project, as well as other projects I have been involved in, was a multidisciplinary effort," Dr. Bain explained. "We had input from physicians and also received invaluable aid from our research nurses.

I think it highlights the fact that a multidisciplinary team approach to problem solving goes beyond clinical practice and that this kind of collaborative effort can be important for answering clinical research questions as well."

The investigators who assisted Dr. Bain include Dr. Roger J. Bedimo from the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center and Dallas/Ft. Worth SOP faculty members Dr. Anthony Busti, Dr. Ron Hall, Dr. Richard Leff, Dr. Claudia Meek and Dr. Reza Mehvar.



Second-year SOP resident Dr. Amy Bain.

"There were a lot of great projects this year and I am humbled to have been given the award," Dr. Bain said. "It could not have happened without the other investigators and all of our hard work on the project. They have a share in the achievement as well."

"We provided information that we felt would be useful to clinicians in the management of hyperlipidemia in patients receiving antiretroviral therapy and we wanted to share it with other practitioners in the field."

SOP Students Garner Scholarships

Congratulations go out to three of our students who recently received scholarships.



Amanda Ulibarri

Amanda Ulibarri (P3 - Amarillo) was awarded a \$5,000 Hispanic Scholarship Fund graduate degree scholarship for 2008-2009.

Graduate students Katie Bennett and Erica Wisdom both

received travel scholarships to attend the Experimental Biology Meeting in San Diego.



Katie Bennett

Katie's was a \$1,000 award from the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (ASBMB). She also received a \$100 travel scholarship from the Graduate Student Association of Amarillo.

How to Submit Items for the Dean's Newsletter

The mission of "From the Dean's Desk" is to communicate the news, events and achievements from the TTUHSC School of Pharmacy to all four of our campus sites and to alumni and other friends of the school who enjoy hearing about your good work.

If you or your department, division, organization or class have something you'd like to include in this newsletter, or if you have a question about the types of items typically included in the newsletter, please contact:

Mark Hendricks
Communications Coordinator
TTUHSC-SOP/Amarillo
806/356-4000 ext. 245
mark.hendricks@ttuhsc.edu



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Erica received her \$1,550 travel scholarship from the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology as part of their Minority Access to Research Careers program.



Erica Wisdom

Erica also learned recently that she will receive a \$5,000 scholarship from the Target Corp. Hispanic Scholarship Fund.

In Case You Missed It...

- Dr. Quentin Smith (Chair and Professor, Dept. of Pharmaceutical Sciences - Amarillo) attended the 2008 American Society of Clinical Oncology Annual Meeting in Chicago where he participated in the Meet the Professor Session entitled "Molecular & Pharmacokinetic Aspects of Brain Metastases."

Dr. Smith also spoke in Baltimore at the 2008 meeting of Era of Hope, a Dept. of Defense Breast Cancer Research Program. The meeting allowed breast cancer researchers, survivors and advocates to learn about advances against breast cancer, share ideas and identify promising and innovative avenues in breast cancer research. His presentation was entitled "The Blood-Brain Barrier and its Role in Metastasis."

- Dr. Thomas Abbruscato (Associate Professor, Graduate Program Advisor & Associate Dean for GSBS) attended the Gordon Research Conference Barriers of the

CNS in Tilton, NH. He chaired the "Early Blood Brain Barrier Changes in Stroke" session and presented a seminar entitled "BBB Changes in Sodium and Glucose Transport During Models of Stroke."

- Dr. Majid Moridani (Assistant Professor, Dept. of Pharmaceutical Sciences - Amarillo) will speak July 21 at the Dept. of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles. His presentation is entitled "The Application of Pharmacogenetics in Clinical Medicine and Drug Design."

Dr. Moridani will also travel to Basel, Switzerland Aug. 29 - Sept. 1 to attend the International Pharmaceutical Federation Congress. He will serve as a Special Interest Group co-chair and make a presentation entitled "Application of Individualized Medicine in Clinical Practice."

- Dr. Ming-Hai Wang (Professor & Amarillo Community Endowed Chair, Dept. of Pharmaceutical

Sciences - Amarillo) recently made a presentation related to RON as the drug target at SGX Pharmaceuticals in San Diego.

- Dr. Jon Weidanz (Associate Professor, Dept. of Pharmaceutical Sciences - Abilene) was invited to Austin for the 2008 Luminary Dinner Honoring Governor Rick Perry. The Texas Healthcare and Bioscience Institute sponsored the event.

- Texas Governor Rick Perry has appointed Dr. Brian Irons (Associate Professor, Dept. of Pharmacy Practice - Lubbock) to a five-year term on the Texas State Board of Examiners of Dietitians. The board's primary function is to regulate the licensing and education of Texas dietitians.

- Butch Habeger, R.Ph. (Associate Professor, Dept. of Pharmacy Practice - Amarillo) carded a hole-in-one on the 108-yard No. 12 hole at Preston West Golf Course in Amarillo.



Dr. Quentin Smith



Dr. Thomas Abbruscato



Dr. Majid Moridani



Dr. Ming-Hai Wang



Dr. Jon Weidanz



Dr. Brian Irons



Butch Habeger

Getting to Know...

Kenneth "Mac" McCall, Pharm.D., BCPS, CACP
Assistant Professor
Dept. of Pharmacy Practice - Amarillo

Mac was raised in Norman, Oklahoma and says he will forever be a Sooners fan. He earned his bachelor of pharmacy and Pharm.D. degrees from the University of Oklahoma and also completed a primary care specialty residency at OU.

Mac met his wife, Katie, while in pharmacy school. They married in 1996 and were co-owners and managers of his

family's pharmacy in Norman while they attended college. The McCall's son, Chandan, was born in Amarillo in 1999.

Mac joined the TTUHSC - SOP faculty in 1998 and presently serves as Head of the Community Care Division. His research interests include evaluating community pharmacy services and innovative teaching strategies in pharmacy education.

Mac says his favorite moments in life are those shared with family, especially his wife and son. His hobbies include gardening, traveling and playing chess.



Young Mac McCall with his mother and father in a family portrait.