The Class of 2004 Goes Out in Style

All staff and faculty who helped the SOP put together another successful graduation ceremony deserve a slap on the back. The Class of 2004 was the fifth graduating class for the school and the first to participate in the SOP's Hooding Ceremony. Student Services staffers Rebecca Perry, Audra Maness, Candy Root, Mike Schwettmann, Sharon Harrison, Linda Goldstein, and Summer Balcer merit special recognition for making sure both events were well organized and gave our graduates the recognition they deserve.

P3 Student Receives Scholarship

We also want to congratulate Daniel Leslie (P3-Amarillo) for being selected winner of the Texas Pharmacy Foundation Scholarship for 2004. The scholarship is presented annually to one student at each of the four Texas pharmacy schools. As Texas Tech's recipient, Daniel will be presented a $1,000 check at the TPA's 125th Annual Meeting and Expo which will be held July 8-11 at the Adam's Mark Hotel and Convention Center in Dallas.

Allen Named to Editorial Board

Effective July 1, Dr. David Allen (Associate Dean for Curricular Affairs) will begin serving a term on the Editorial Board for the American Journal of Pharmaceutical Education. Good Luck David!

JAMA Prints Letter from SOP Student
When Kristen Marshall (P4 - Dallas) began reviewing a clinical trial regarding reteplase in acute myocardial infarction for journal club, she probably had no idea it would eventually make her the first TTUHSC - SOP student to be published in *The Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA)*. But that's exactly what happened. While reviewing the trial, which was conducted in Germany, (Kastrati A, Mehilli J, Schlotterbeck K, et al. Early administration of reteplase plus abciximab vs abciximab alone in patients with acute myocardial infarction referred for percutaneous coronary intervention: a randomized controlled trial. JAMA. 2004;291:947-954.) Kristen, a P3 at the time, noticed intravenous 500-mg aspirin was part of the initial treatment. She wondered if the study results could be applied to patients in the U.S. since aspirin is available here only in the oral form and if the authors had accounted for other potentially confounding factors that occurred after randomization such as the use of ß-blockers.

She also noticed the authors didn't report on the use of lipid-lowering therapy, which she felt was especially important due to recent evidence that shows statins provide early benefit in patients who receive coronary stents and those with acute coronary syndrome. So with the help of Dr. Anthony Busti (Assistant Professor - Dept. of Pharm. Practice, Dallas) and Dr. Justin Hooper (Pharmacotherapy Resident - Dallas) Kristen penned a letter to JAMA. Her letter, along with a reply from the authors of the trial were published in JAMA's May 26, 2004 issue. In their reply, the authors agreed that "the high initial dose of aspirin and the broad use of highly effective drugs, such as ß-blockers, angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors, and statins, in our trial should be taken into account before extrapolating our findings to other settings." Nice job Kristen!

**Busti Completes TSHP Program**

Kudos to Dr. Anthony Busti (Assistant Professor - Dept. of Pharm. Practice, Dallas) for completing the Texas Society of Health-System Pharmacists' Leadership Development Program. The one-year program focuses on each TSHP member's personal growth and professional development as future leaders in the pharmacy profession. During the program Dr. Busti completed a project entitled "Development of the First Pharmacotherapy Specialty Residency in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex." He presented the project at the 56th Annual TSHP Annual Seminar, which was held April 4-6 in Houston. In a letter I received from TSHP, Anthony was described as "a young pharmacy leader who is really committed to making a difference for his patients and to advancing the practice and profession of pharmacy."

**Dr. Khan Says Goodbye**

After 12 years of academic service, including six outstanding years here in Amarillo with the Texas Tech SOP Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Dr. Mansoor Khan has accepted a position with the FDA in Silver Spring, Maryland where he will serve as the agency's Director of Product Quality Research. His research activities will be similar to the ones he was involved with here at the SOP, but will have an increased emphasis on science-based guidance development for drug approvals. His started his new job June 1, 2004. Dr. Khan was certainly instrumental in helping us develop and stabilize our strong graduate and professional program. I'm sure I speak for everyone when I say we are very grateful for Dr. Khan's contributions to the school and we wish him nothing but the best in his new position.

**Farrar Elected Committee Co-chair**

Congratulations go out to Ronica Farrar, EMT-P of the Texas Panhandle Poison Center for being elected co-chair of the American Association of Poison Control Centers' Poison Education Committee. Ronica, who is the TPPC’s Specialist in Community Outreach, will co-chair the PEC
from 2004-2006. She will be officially installed at the 2004 meeting of the North American Congress of Clinical Toxicologists, which will be held the week of September 9 in Seattle. Anybody who knows Ronica knows she will do a great job!

SOP Faculty, Staff Recognized at Awards Ceremony
Several SOP faculty and staff were recognized May 6 at the TTUHSC Quality Service & Employee Service Awards Ceremony. Faculty members recognized for five years of service included:

- **Stephanie Anderson, Pharm. D.** (Dept. of Pharm. Practice, Amarillo)
- **Michelle Condren, Pharm. D.** (Dept. of Pharm. Practice, Amarillo)
- **Mark Haase, Pharm. D.** (Dept. of Pharm. Practice, Amarillo)
- **Paul Katz, Ph. D.** (Dept. of Pharm. Sciences/Texas Pharmacy Museum)
- **Mansoor Khan, Ph. D.** (Dept. of Pharm. Sciences, Amarillo)
- **Suzanne Lindsey, Ph. D.** (Dept. of Pharm. Sciences, Amarillo)
- **Kenneth McCall, Pharm. D.** (Dept. of Pharm. Practice, Amarillo)
- **Kathleen Snella, Pharm. D.** (Dept. of Pharm. Practice, Amarillo)

Faculty members recognized for five years of service included:

- **Paula Breeding - Administrative Asst.** (Dept. of Pharm. Practice, Amarillo)
- **Karen Roder -** (Dept. of Pharm Sciences, Amarillo)
- **Candace Root** - **Sr. Administrative Asst. for Curriculum/Students** (Amarillo)

In addition, **Summer Balcer (SOP Assistant Dean for Student Services, Amarillo)** was one of three 2004 TTUHSC Quality Service Award recipients.

Congratulations to each of these folks on a job well done!

**GETTING TO KNOW...**

**Jeanie Jaramillo, Pharm.D.**
Assistant Professor - Pharmacy Practice and Interim Managing Director for the Texas Panhandle Poison Center
Jeanie lived in Canyon from the time she was in third grade until she graduated from high school. She then attended Amarillo College where she earned an Associates Degree and became a respiratory therapist. When the Texas Tech School of Pharmacy was built in Amarillo, she went back to Amarillo College to complete prerequisite courses and continued to work at Northwest Texas Hospital while she attended pharmacy school. To keep life exciting, she became a crewmember on the neonatal transport team and often flew on the Lifestar helicopter.

Jeanie completed pharmacy school in 2001 and went on to complete a drug information residency. Earlier this year she began serving as interim director of the Texas Panhandle Poison Center. She has a wonderful and supportive husband, Paul, and two children: three-year old Hannah and one-year old Jonah. Jeanie plans to continue working with the poison center as they try to establish stable funding sources for the extremely important service they provide to the upper 71 counties in Texas. She hopes she can be instrumental in helping the Texas Panhandle Poison Center and TTUHSC establish themselves as leaders in the poison control arena.

**Salley Martinez**
*Administrative Assistant*
*Staff - Pharmacy Practice*
*Lubbock Campus*

Salley was born and raised in Lubbock and is presently attending Texas Tech University's College of Business for a degree in Finance/Music. She has one sister and a wonderful five-year old son named Christian. Salley's hobbies include traveling, music, singing, dancing, and watching Christian play T-Ball (Go Angels!). Once she graduates with her Finance degree Salley hopes to work for a major record company so she can pursue her love for music and the music business.