



## From The Dean's Desk

TTUHSC School of Pharmacy

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### *Students, Faculty, Staff Lend Aid to Katrina Victims*

We always hear that disasters bring out the best in people and that was certainly evident when Hurricane Katrina slammed the Gulf Coast. All across the country people reached out and helped anyway they could, and I am proud to say that TTUHSC - SOP faculty, students and staff were on the front lines of the relief efforts.

*Dr. Anthony Busti (Asst. Professor, Dept. of Pharmacy Practice – Dallas/Fort Worth)* and *Dr. April Allen (Asst. Professor, Dept. of Pharmacy Practice – Dallas/Fort Worth)* from our Dallas/Fort Worth regional campus served as first responders at the Dallas VA Medical Center. They served as first-line clinicians to evaluate medical needs of evacuees and have been asked to continue providing care to the veterans who relocated to Dallas.

In an e-mail describing the work relief work in Dallas, Dr. Busti said, “Personally, I view it as an honor to serve the very people the unselfishly served our country at one point in their lives; it’s the least I could do, especially for a veteran.”

In Lubbock, some of our faculty set up a temporary pharmacy unit to provide the necessary medicines for the 430 evacuees who were housed at the Reese Technology Center, which served as the Red Cross shelter.

*Dr. Diane Kretschmer (Clinical Assistant Professor and Chief, Lubbock Area Operations)* served as the pharmacy coordinator for the temporary unit (which included roughly 70 pharmacists and pharmacy technicians from all area of the Lubbock pharmacy community) and said she was thankful to everyone who helped in Lubbock.

“This was all done on volunteer time,” Dr. Kretschmer said, “and no School of Pharmacy duties were neglected while this service was being provided to the Katrina evacuees.”



David Simmons, RPh. (Dept. of Pharmacy Practice – Amarillo) and Chris Curphey (City of Amarillo) helped Katrina evacuees in Amarillo.

In Amarillo, approximately 120 evacuees were housed at the Amarillo Civic Center. Our faculty and students set up and staffed an on-site pharmacy to provide medicine and supplies to the evacuees. In addition, members of Phi Delta Chi sold coffee, donuts, cookies and soft drinks on September 6 and donated all proceeds to the Red Cross to benefit Katrina victims.

*Dr. Ken (Mac) McCall (Asst. Professor, Dept. of Pharmacy Practice – Amarillo)* said he was “very proud of the caring and professional service provided by our students. They educated patients about medications

and the use of new glucometers, triaged several patients and regularly assisted the nursing staff with fingerstick blood glucose readings.”

Dr. McCall also praised the efforts of *David Simmons, RPh. (Clinical Instructor, Dept. of Pharmacy Practice – Amarillo)* and *Robyn Connor (Certified Pharmacy Technician, Dept. of Pharmacy Practice – Amarillo)* of the Amarillo Pharmaceutical Care Center and *Dr. Teresa Sterling (Asst. Professor, Dept. of Pharmacy Practice – Amarillo)*.

“David's service was especially invaluable in terms of acquiring supplies, devices and medicines and in setting up the pharmacy,” Dr. McCall said. “Robyn worked the longest shift of 11.5 hours on Sunday. Teresa, among other duties, covered the night shift between Sunday night and Monday morning.”

In addition to those already mentioned, the following SOP faculty, students and staff deserve our praise for their work with Katrina evacuees:

*Dr. Beverly Abney (Clinical Instructor, Dept. of Pharmacy Practice – Lubbock)*

*Kandice Ballman (P4 - Amarillo)*

*Dr. Craig Cox (Asst. Professor, Dept. of Pharmacy Practice – Lubbock)*

*Dr. Allyson Gaylor (Asst. Professor, Dept. of Pharmacy Practice – Lubbock)*

*Dr. Shane Greene (Asst. Professor, Dept. of Pharmacy Practice – Dallas/Fort Worth)*

*Butch Habeger (Associate Professor, Dept. of Pharmacy Practice and Chief, Managed Health Care Pharmacy Services – Amarillo)*

*Jacob Hayes (P4 - Amarillo)*

*Dr. Brian Irons (Asst. Professor, Dept. of Pharmacy Practice – Lubbock)*

*Kami Jenkins (P3 – Lubbock)*

*Staci Lemon (P3 – Lubbock)*

*Salley Martinez (Unit Coordinator – Lubbock)*

*Dr. Danny McNatty (Pharmacotherapy Resident – Lubbock)*

*Brittany Meacham (P4 – Lubbock)*

*Heath O'Banion (P3 – Lubbock)*

*Chris Okolo (P4 – Lubbock)*

*Amy Padilla-Silva (P4 – Lubbock)*

*Tammy Ratliff (P4 – Lubbock)*

*Dr. Charles Seifert (Regional Dean – Lubbock)*

*Dr. Sarah Singh (Pharmacy Practice Resident – Lubbock)*

*Dr. Rebecca Irons Sleeper (Asst. Professor, Dept. of Pharmacy Practice – Lubbock)*

*Wilma Smith (Certified Pharmacy Technician, Dept. of Pharmacy Practice – Lubbock)*

*Latisha Tomlinson (P3 – Lubbock)*

*Jeanette Vasquez (P4 - Amarillo)*

*Amanda Wells (P4 - Amarillo)*

*Wes Wells (P3 – Lubbock)*

*Leigh Wilson (P3 – Lubbock)*

### **SOP Professor to Chair ACCP Committee**



*Dr. Krystal Haase*

The American College of Clinical Pharmacy recently selected *Dr. Krystal Haase (Asst. Professor, Dept. of Pharmacy Practice – Amarillo)* to chair its 2006 Educational Affairs Subcommittee C.

Dr. Haase was selected for the position by ACCP president-elect Joe DiPiro and will lead the subcommittee's effort to prepare a report on experiential education. The subcommittee will hold its first face-to-face meeting October 23 at the ACCP Annual Meeting in San Francisco and will meet again April 9 in Monterey, CA, during the ACCP Spring Forum.

## Memory Walk, Diabetes Walk

As they do every year, our students, faculty and staff turned out to support the Alzheimer's Association at its Memory Walk and the American Diabetes Association at its Walk for Diabetes.

In addition to participating in the Memory Walk, the Graduate Students Association at Amarillo (GSAA), which represents the MS and Ph.D. students at the School of Pharmacy, raised more than \$600 for the Alzheimer's Association.

Joachim Hartmann, who is a graduate student and treasurer of GSAA, said participating in events like the Memory Walk "is part of our commitment to reach out into the community and to foster the interaction between us junior scientists and the public."

At the Walk for Diabetes," which was held at the Amarillo Botanical Gardens, SOP faculty and students performed blood pressure tests and provided information about diabetes and flu shots.



Members of the GSAA team that participated in the Memory Walk for the Alzheimer's Association included (from left, standing) Lloyd Alfonso, Vikas Kumar, Jason Egbert, Werner Geldenhuys, Julie Gaasch, Dr. Neels Van der Schyf, Dr. Jochen Klein, Katie Bennett, Dr. Quentin Smith and Chandan Thomas. Sitting (from left) are Nikhal Vad, Markus Hillert, Joachim Hartmann and Cornelia Kiewert.



Kelly Branigan (P2 – Amarillo) and Dr. Jill Polk (Dept. of Pharmacy Practice – Amarillo) are ready to perform diabetes screening at the ADA Diabetes Walk.

## SOP Professor Proves Existence of Supernatural Forces



Dr. David Allen

The spirit world must have been hard at work in Amarillo during September. That's the only explanation I can think of for [Dr. David Allen \(Assoc. Professor, Dept of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Associate Dean for Curricular Affairs – Amarillo\)](#) scoring a hole-in-one at Tascosa Country Club.

David, or Tiger as he now likes to be called, says he used a three-iron to ace the 15<sup>th</sup> hole, a 212-yard par-3. And yes, he was using a Titleist.



## GETTING TO KNOW...

### **Kenneth “Mac” McCall, Pharm.D., BCPS, CACP**

*Assistant Professor*

*Head, Community Care Division*

*Department of Pharmacy Practice – Amarillo*



*Dr. Mac, Katie and Chandan McCall in Cote d'Azur, France*

Mac was raised in Norman, Oklahoma and says he will forever be a Sooner fan. He earned his bachelor of pharmacy and doctor of pharmacy 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.

In 1998 Mac joined the TTUHSC - SOP faculty and presently serves as Division Head of Community Pharmacy Practice. His research interests focus on the clinical and economic outcomes resulting from outpatient medication therapy management services.

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.

### **Margaret Weis, Ph.D.**

*Associate Professor*

*Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences - Amarillo*



*Dr. Margaret Weis*

Dr. Margaret “Marge” Weis was raised in Aurora, Illinois, which is located in the northeastern section of the state approximately 45 miles southwest of Chicago. Her parents still reside in North Aurora, and she has two sisters; one works for E.R. Squibb, the other is a C.P.A. and is a partner in her own firm). Her brother is a scientist, at the University of California, Irvine.

Dr. Weis earned her Bachelor of Science degree from Loyola University in Chicago. After working for Ortho Pharmaceutical Corporation, she earned her Ph.D. in pharmacology/molecular biology from the Medical University of South Carolina. She completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Tennessee Medical School in Memphis and joined the faculty there as an instructor. She also served on the faculty of The Philadelphia College of Pharmacy as an Assistant Professor and Associate Professor prior to joining the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences at TTUHSC. Her research interest lies in vascular endothelial cell function/metabolism (the vascular endothelium produces substances that regulate blood pressure) and she is studying an enzyme (a long chain fatty acyl CoA synthetase) that may modify the production of some of those vasoactive substances.

Dr. Weis enjoys cooking and traveling. She says her favorite food is chocolate and her favorite travel destination is Italy.



## **Mike Schwettmann**

*Director of Admissions*

*Staff – Office of Student Services - Amarillo*



*Mike and Suzanne Schwettmann enjoying some time together at a local restaurant.*

Mike earned his BBA in Finance from Southern Methodist University in Dallas and has been Director of Admissions at TTUHSC - SOP for five years.

Prior to joining us Mike was with the Texas Department of Transportation's Vehicle Titles and Registration Division in Amarillo for seven years. He also spent nearly twenty years with Sears where his assignments took him to Dallas, Beaumont, Port Arthur, Houston, Oklahoma City and Amarillo. Mike says his customer service experience in his previous employment has been invaluable in admissions, especially with the

volume of people with which he deals. He says he thoroughly enjoys working with and helping the applicants, students, faculty and staff at the school.

Mike and his wonderful wife, Suzanne, have two children: fourteen-year old Ryan and ten-year old Blake. Ryan is a ninth-grader at Amarillo High School where he plays in the Golden Sandies Band and is in the International Baccalaureate Program Mike says Ryan is a computer whiz with his Apple PowerBook and Final Cut Pro. Blake, a fifth-grader at Belmar Elementary, is an avid reader. Mike says Blake has achieved almost 200 Accelerated Reader points this year which is faster than any other fifth grader in the school's history according to Blake's English teacher.

Mike, Suzanne, Ryan and Blake love to do activities together as a family and have two West Highland Terriers—Angel and Kirby—and a mutt, Tiffy.