College of Pharmacy News

Dean Keith Olsen, PharmD Featured "Under the Microscope"

UNMC Chancellor Jeff Gold, MD, interviews College of Pharmacy Dean Keith Olsen, PharmD in a recent edition of the Under the Microscope series.

Corey Hopkins, PhD, Honored by UNeMed

UNeMed, the technology transfer & commercialization office for UNMC and UNO, recently honored Corey Hopkins, PhD, with the Most Promising New Invention award.

Dr. Hopkins is developing a novel series of inhibitors that hold promise as treatments for several inflammatory diseases, including chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, rheumatoid arthritis, psoriasis, atopic dermatitis and inflammatory bowel disease. His inhibitors also show promise in central nervous system diseases. Read more.

From left: Chancellor Jeffrey P. Gold, MD, Corey Hopkins, PhD, and UNeMed President and CEO, Michal Dixon, PhD.

Research Team Uses Dyes to ID, Analyze Bacterial Pathogens

Aaron Mohs, PhD, Associate Professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, has come up with a rapid, novel way of identifying and analyzing bacterial pathogens through the use of fluorescent dyes.

The method shows great promise in the potential to perform in the research and hospital settings, and even under harsh conditions in the field. Read more.
College of Pharmacy Hosts Zero-Waste Event at Preceptor Retreat

Kudos to the College of Pharmacy for hosting what was the first zero-waste event hosted by a UNMC College or Department at its annual development preceptor retreat. A zero-waste event occurs when it has at least 90 percent (by weight, not by volume) of all the material at that event being reused, recycled, or composted. A maximum of 10 percent can go to the landfill. In addition, UNMC’s annual all-campus BBQ was zero-waste for the first time this year. "The College of Pharmacy would like to thank our preceptors for their partnership and cooperation in making the zero-waste event a success," said dean Keith Olsen, PharmD.

Fall Honors Convocation

On October 15, the College of Pharmacy hosted the annual fall Honors Convocation ceremony, where presentations of scholarships were announced. Many alumni and others have made generous gifts to support our students. The College of Pharmacy extends its sincere thanks to the alumni and donors who help our students reach their dreams of becoming pharmacists. View more photos from the ceremony.

Pictured above: (at left) Joni Coover, Director of the Nebraska Pharmacists Association pictured with student Yasmine Al-Shdifat and (at right) Jennifer Foster, PharmD, pictured with student Megan Schuff Zimmerman. Dr. Foster is the Vice-Chair of the Scholarship & Awards Committee.

Distinguished Teaching Award

In addition, the students presented a Distinguished Teaching Award. This year, the students selected John Ridgway, RPh, Director of Experiential Programs in the Department of Pharmacy Practice. Mr. Ridgway has been a beloved faculty member for many years, and has built meaningful relationships with the College's alumni and preceptors. Mr. Ridgway has announced he will retire from his current position at the end of the year, but will stay on to teach students. It is a great pleasure that he will stay involved with the College and its students, but we wish him the best in his semi-retirement!

Sign John Ridgway’s Digital Retirement Card

John Ridgway, Director of Experiential Programs, will retire from his current position at the end of 2019. He has been with the College of Pharmacy since 2004. Leave him a message using this link, and we will share your good wishes with him.
Operation Immunization Vaccinates 1,000

This fall, UNMC College of Pharmacy students administered free flu vaccinations for the fifth consecutive year as part of their award-winning "Operation Immunization."

The groundbreaking annual project features a novel process in which pharmacist interns run the vaccination clinics and deliver the shots.

The project is the result of a unique collaboration between the college, student health, family medicine, employee health and the UNMC chapter of the American Pharmacists Association -- Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP). The activity provided over 1,000 flu shots this fall. Click here to watch a brief video about Operation Immunization.

Faculty News & Notes

Amy Pick, PharmD '03 was named Assistant Dean for Experiential Education. Dr. Pick will succeed John Ridgway, '71 RPh, Director of Experiential Programs (see above for additional info about Mr. Ridgway.) Dr. Pick is originally from Linwood, Neb and attended North Bend High School and Nebraska Wesleyan University. After graduating from UNMC, she completed a residency at the Nebraska Medical Center (now Nebraska Medicine) and also earned a Masters of Science in Organizational Leadership from Creighton University. Her research interests include: well-being and resilience for clinicians and students, leadership, professional development (preceptor, faculty, staff and student) and scholarship of teaching and learning.

Gary Yee, PhD was appointed to the Board of Directors for the Pharmacy Specialties Board. Dr. Yee is UNMC's associate vice chancellor for academic affairs and previously served as associate dean in the College of Pharmacy.

Ally Dering- Anderson, PharmD '86 was inducted into UNMC's Inter-professional Academy of Educators. The IPAE is an organization at UNMC that promotes education best practices, mentoring, and research collaboration amongst faculty.

Jeff Baldwin, PharmD was inducted as an emeriti member of the UNMC Inter-Professional Academy of Educators.
Charlie Krobot, RP ’69 was inducted as an emeriti member of the UNMC Inter-Professional Academy of Educators.

Sean Avedissian, PharmD is a new faculty member in the College. A native of Duarte, Calif.; he is an assistant professor in the department of pharmacy practice.

Paul Trippier, PhD is a new faculty member in the College. A native of Manchester, United Kingdom; he is an associate professor in the department of pharmaceutical sciences.

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**Alumni Council News**

**Upcoming Events**

**Alumni Night on the Court**

Wednesday, February 26, 2020
UNO & UNMC Alumni Party @ a Maverick Men's Basketball Game

Reception: 6 PM | Game: 7 PM
Baxter Arena, Omaha NE

Stay tuned for ticket purchasing details. Hosted by the UNMC Alumni Association & the UNO Alumni Association

**Showdown in O-Town**

Nebraska Cornhuskers vs. Creighton Bluejays Baseball
Tuesday, April 28, 2020

Tailgate: 4:30 - 6:30 PM at the Bullpen
Game: 6:30 PM at TD Ameritrade Park

Stay tuned for ticket purchasing details.
UNMC Alumni Association Cruises

The UNMCAA and Go Next are pleased to offer exceptional cruise opportunities for you, your family, and your friends. Below are the 2020 trip offerings and more will be available in 2021! Learn more or book [here](https://www.unmcaagoneext.com/cruises).

**Gaelic Inspiration**
- July 12-22, 2020
- Dublin to Dublin

*Discover the lush landscapes and fascinating heritage of Ireland aboard Oceania Cruises’ Nautica on this spectacular nine-night cruise.*

**Forests & Fjords of Alaska**
- July 30 - August 10, 2020
- Seward to Vancouver, BC

*Explore the forests and fjords of Alaska’s coastal cities on this unforgettable eleven-night trip aboard Oceania Cruises’ Regatta.*

**Cosmopolitan Havens**
- November 3-11, 2020
- Rome to Monte Carlo

*Sail to some of the most cultured cities on the western Mediterranean on this seven-night cruise aboard Oceania Cruises’ elegant Marina.*

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**Nominate a Colleague for the Distinguished Alumnus Award**

The Distinguished Alumnus Award is presented to a living graduate of the UNMC College of Pharmacy to recognize an individual's noteworthy contributions to the University of Nebraska Medical Center, the pharmacy profession and to the health of all people through patient care, research, teaching and/or health services administration. The recipient will demonstrate the highest principles of the pharmacy profession and serve as a role model for current and future pharmacists. Please [click here](https://www.unmcaagoneext.com/alumni/alumni-awards) to download the nomination form. The award will be presented at the College's convocation in May, 2020.

**Dean Olsen Visits Alumni in KC & Denver**

Continuing the tradition of visiting Pharmacy alumni, Dean Olsen added Shawnee, Kansas and Denver, Colo., to the list of cities he has visited to connect with College of Pharmacy alumni.

In visiting Shawnee, College of Pharmacy alumnus Tom Peddicord, PharmD ’94 served as local host at the Lake Quivira Country Club. Alums in the area discussed further engagement with the College and how to connect current students to opportunities in the area. View a photo album from Dean Olsen’s visits [here](https://www.unmcaagoneext.com/alumni/alumni-photos).
In October 2019, several Pharmacy classes gathered in Omaha as part of UNMC Alumni Reunion Weekend. In addition to class parties, the alumni participated in a tour of the College of Pharmacy, lunch with featured speakers from the UNMC Center for Global Health Security, and the alumni awards reception.

**Mark Your Calendar for Alumni Reunion Weekend: Oct. 23-24, 2020**

In 2020, classes ending in a “0” or “5” are considered honor years. Alumni in one of these classes who are interested in helping to coordinate a reunion for your class, please contact Catherine Mello.

**Thanks for Supporting the COP Innovation Fund**

The College of Pharmacy Innovation Fund was created to support the work of the UNMC College of Pharmacy in partnership with the College of Pharmacy Alumni Council and the UNMC Alumni Association. This fund replaces the former membership dues program and is the annual fund which supports: The people and programs of the UNMC Alumni Association; Continuing education for the college’s preceptors through sponsorship of the annual preceptor development retreat; the college’s digital initiative by providing the Notability App for all student iPads and Discounted point-of-care testing continuing education for alumni, a new and emerging trend in pharmacy practice. View the FY19 Impact report or pledge your donation of support here.

Taylor Thiele, a second year pharmacy student, says thank you.
UNMC News

Walter 'Ted' Carter Named Priority Candidate for University President

The Board of Regents appointed Walter "Ted" Carter, Jr., VADM (Ret.), a higher education executive with an extensive record of growing student and academic success, as the priority candidate to serve as the eighth president of the University of Nebraska.

Carter, a retired vice admiral in the U.S. Navy, is the immediate past superintendent of his alma mater, the U.S. Naval Academy; a former president of the U.S. Naval War College; and a Distinguished Flying Cross and Bronze Star recipient. He was unanimously supported by both the Board and the 23-member Presidential Search Advisory Committee that represented faculty, students, staff, business, agriculture and other university constituencies.

UNMC Has a New Front Door

In September 2019, campus leaders and invited guests gathered to thank philanthropists Bob and Polina Schlott for their contributions in making possible the new southern entrance, which has been named the Medical Center Plaza. The greenspace and lighted walkway, located on the northwest corner of 42nd and Leavenworth streets, features 18 ceramic columnar sculptures created by Omaha artist Jun Kaneko. The sculptures are incorporated into a grove of mature trees. Benches line the walk and provide visitors, medical center employees, and students the opportunity to seek calmness and beauty amid a tranquil park-like setting. View photos from the opening ceremony.

Renovations Underway in Williams Science Hall
(former College of Pharmacy building)

The former College of Pharmacy's administration and education space will be re-purposed. Click on the video at right to see a brief preview of the renovations.

We will keep you updated, but you can also follow the construction blog for more updates.
Ways to Stay Connected to the College, UNMC & the UNMCAA

- [College of Pharmacy Alumni Facebook](#)
- [College of Pharmacy Facebook](#)
- [UNMC Alumni Association Facebook](#)

- Download the (free!) UNMC Mobile App to connect with the University and the Alumni Association!

- [UNMC Alumni Association Twitter](#)
- [College of Pharmacy on Twitter](#)

- The [UNMCAA Connections Project Blog](#) is a place for UNMC Alumni to share real-world information and advice with students and fellow #unmcalumni. Information is shared in short written or video blog posts.
  - Some topics that have been covered are wellbeing, professional skills, personal finance, time, talent, and treasure. Send us an email if you'd like to learn more or get involved.
  - Alumni can participate in this from anywhere in the world, so connect with us today!

- [UNMC Alumni LinkedIn Group](#)