Alumni Council News

A Message from the Alumni Council President; Amy Hornig, Pharm.D. ’07

Welcome to the Class of 2022!

On behalf of the College of Pharmacy Alumni Council, it is my pleasure to welcome the Class of 2022 that earned their white coats on August 15, 2018. The white coat ceremony serves as the entrance into the profession of pharmacy with an emphasis on professionalism. We look forward to working with these students and future alumni.

Recently, our alumni council has been actively involved in supporting the students and engaging alumni with the priorities in the College. Here are some highlights of our work:

- Co-sponsored the 2018 Preceptor Development Retreat held in August. Thank you to all the alumni who continue to volunteer to educate the future pharmacists. Serving as a preceptor, I know that sometimes we stand to learn from the students just as they learn from us and find this process very rewarding.
- We supported the College of Pharmacy’s Digital Campus Initiative by purchasing a valuable practice and study app, Notability, for all students’ College-provided iPad.
- We are partnering with the College in its effort to offer Point-of-Care testing continuing pharmacy education (read more later in this newsletter).
- Supported a student-led initiative to purchase and install additional kitchen equipment in the student life area.

As an Alumni Council, we are dedicated to fostering and sustaining relationships between the college, students, and alumni. Many of our activities are supported by the Pharmacy Alumni Innovation Fund and I want to thank all the generous donors who have made gifts to this fund. If
you are interested in getting involved with our Alumni Council and giving back to the College of Pharmacy, don't hesitate to contact us.

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Alumni Council Supports Digital Campus Effort with Notability App

In an effort to support the College of Pharmacy's Digital Campus Initiative, the Alumni Council is sponsoring the Notability app for all students and their College-provided iPad. The app, in high demand from the students, is an easy note-taking and annotation app that will aid in both study and practice. The current Digital Initiative is a way to save costs as the curriculum has gone entirely "paperless." There are no printed materials in classes any longer and the course materials are all pre-loaded onto the iPads. The College of Pharmacy is the first College at UNMC to undertake this effort and the Alumni Council is proud to support this work.

Pharmacy Classes to Gather Sept. 21-22

Three College of Pharmacy classes are hosting gatherings this month during the UNMC alumni reunion weekend to mark milestone anniversaries. They include:

- Class of 1968 (celebrating their 50th anniversary reunion)
- Class of 1978 (celebrating their 40th anniversary reunion)
- Class of 1988 (celebrating their 30th anniversary reunion)

Information for members of these classes is available online. For more information or to register, call the Alumni Relations Office at 402-559-4385.
Tailgate with the UNMC Alumni Association October 20

Join the UNMC Alumni Association for a tailgate party prior to the Minnesota at Nebraska football game October 20 at the Apothecary Lofts in Lincoln, Neb. This is an inter-professional UNMC alumni event that is a great opportunity for socializing. Tickets are $22/person and include a game day spread and beverages. Purchase tickets online here or call 402-559-4385.

Support our work through the Pharmacy Alumni Innovation Fund

In the New Era of Alumni Engagement, College of Pharmacy Alumni are all welcomed into our organization with automatic membership. This enables us to focus our work on serving and engaging graduates, disseminating effective communications, forming meaningful connections between alumni and students, and facilitating opportunities for alumni to invest in their UNMC passions. Alumni who wish to give back and support the work of the Alumni Council may do so through the Pharmacy Alumni Innovation Fund.

We ask for your continued support in the form of time, talent, and treasure. As we value our fellow alumni who came before us and made our University stronger, we now have an important
opportunity to make a real difference for the next generation of proud health sciences students at UNMC. Thank you to all the alumni who have supported our work.

Submit your news for Class Notes

The UNMC Alumni Relations Office publishes class notes in the UNMC CONNECT magazine. We want to hear your stories! Please consider using this link to provide your personal or professional news, including:

- Employment news: new job, promotion, or retirement
- Awards: Professional or service related recognition
- Personal: Weddings and births

Submit your class notes and based on publication space, we will share your good news in an upcoming issue of Connect. And, be on look-out for the next issue of the magazine scheduled to hit mailboxes later this fall.

Engage With Us On Social Media

College of Pharmacy Alumni Facebook
College of Pharmacy Facebook
UNMC Alumni Association Facebook
UNMC Alumni Association Twitter
College of Pharmacy Twitter

College of Pharmacy News

College of Pharmacy Offering Point-of-Care Testing CPE
The UNMC College of Pharmacy and the POC Consultants, Inc. are hosting a NACDS Community Pharmacy-Based Point-of-Care Testing Certificate Program on Saturday, October 6, 2018. The event will be at the UNMC College of Pharmacy in Omaha.

The first 25 alumni receive 1/2 off their registration sponsored by the UNMC Pharmacy Alumni Council. The program includes up to 20 contact hours of continuing education. Sign up now as spots will go fast!

College of Pharmacy Class of 2022 Earns White Coats

The class of 2022 earned their white coats in August. The White Coat Ceremony symbolizes the entrance into the pharmacy profession. Here are some fast facts about the new class of pharmacy students:
61 total students
Average age: 21
Gender: 74% female; 26% male
Minority: 10 (16%)
Average GPA: 3.64
Nebraska residents: 48/61 (79%)
Rural Nebraska residents: 32/61 (53%)

College of Pharmacy Reaches Research Funding Milestone

The UNMC College of Pharmacy continues to climb the rankings of U.S. pharmacy-research powerhouses, cracking the national top 10 for the first time in annual National Institutes of Health (NIH) funding for fiscal year 2017. The ranking is compiled by the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP).

UNMC finished 10th among U.S. pharmacy schools in NIH research dollars with more than $10.5 million in funding. With only 40 full-time faculty, the college is one of the nation’s smallest among the 138 accredited U.S. schools and colleges of pharmacy.
The college continues to punch above its weight class as one of the nation's best pound-for-pound pharmacy-research institutions. When adjusted to dollars-per-FTE-faculty, UNMC's College of Pharmacy is No. 3 in the U.S., with an average of $263,943 per faculty member. This is the 10th consecutive year UNMC is in the top 10, based upon FTE. Read more.

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COP Kappa Psi to Host Bowling Event

By Cory Durbin, Class of 2021

The Kappa Psi Fraternity at the UNMC College of Pharmacy is hosting a bowling event on Friday, September 21 at Papio Bowl, 204 E Lincoln St., Papillion, NE 68046 at 10 p.m. Registration is open to alumni as well as current students. The registration fee is $20 but alumni get a discounted rate of $15 and are welcome to bring family and friends. Included in the registration is three hours of bowling and shoe rental. The event raises funds for admission to the Kappa Psi annual meeting. Here is a link to register or email Cory. (Checks can be made payable to Kappa Psi. Payment is encouraged before the event date. If you are unable to pay in advance, payment on the 21 will also be accepted.)

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College of Pharmacy Participates in UNMC High School Alliance

For the fourth year, Dr. Christopher Shaffer led the Introduction to Pharmacy course in the UNMC High School Alliance, a program that brings Omaha-area high school students to UNMC for health professions education. Within the course, students are exposed to the different aspects that make up the role of a pharmacist. They were also given the opportunity to learn the role pharmacists play as part of a medical team when caring for patients. Dr. Shaffer invited current Pharmacy students to present specific concepts to the students through lectures and activities. Dr. Shaffer’s
tag-line “Better living through Chemistry” guided instruction. Students were introduced to multiple concepts including: pharmacognosy, drug discovery, drug formulation, pathophysiology of cardiovascular disease, anti-cholesterol pharmacology and therapeutics, and personalized medicine. Through lectures and hands-on activities, students gained an understanding that the role of a pharmacist goes well beyond just being able to count by 5’s. In addition, the students had the opportunity to shadow a pharmacist at Nebraska Medicine. Learn more about the High School Alliance.

UNMC News

Finalists Named for College of Pharmacy Dean

UNMC has announced the field of four finalists for the role of dean of the UNMC College of Pharmacy. The finalists will be in Omaha later this month through early next month for further interviews and public campus forums. These finalists are vying to succeed Courtney Fletcher, Pharm.D., who is stepping down after a decade as UNMC’s pharmacy dean. Read more.

UNMC Sets Enrollment Record for 18th Straight Year

Student enrollment at UNMC set another record high for the 18th straight year with 3,970 students enrolled for the 2018-19 school year, an increase of 62 students or 1.6 percent over last year’s record of 3,908. Read more.

Learn More about the University of Nebraska Advocates

The University of Nebraska Advocates program is a coalition of individuals who are passionate about their University, informed about the issues impacting higher education, and prepared to raise awareness of the University’s contributions to the state of Nebraska and beyond. If you’d like to participate, can sign up for the University of Nebraska Advocates program.