

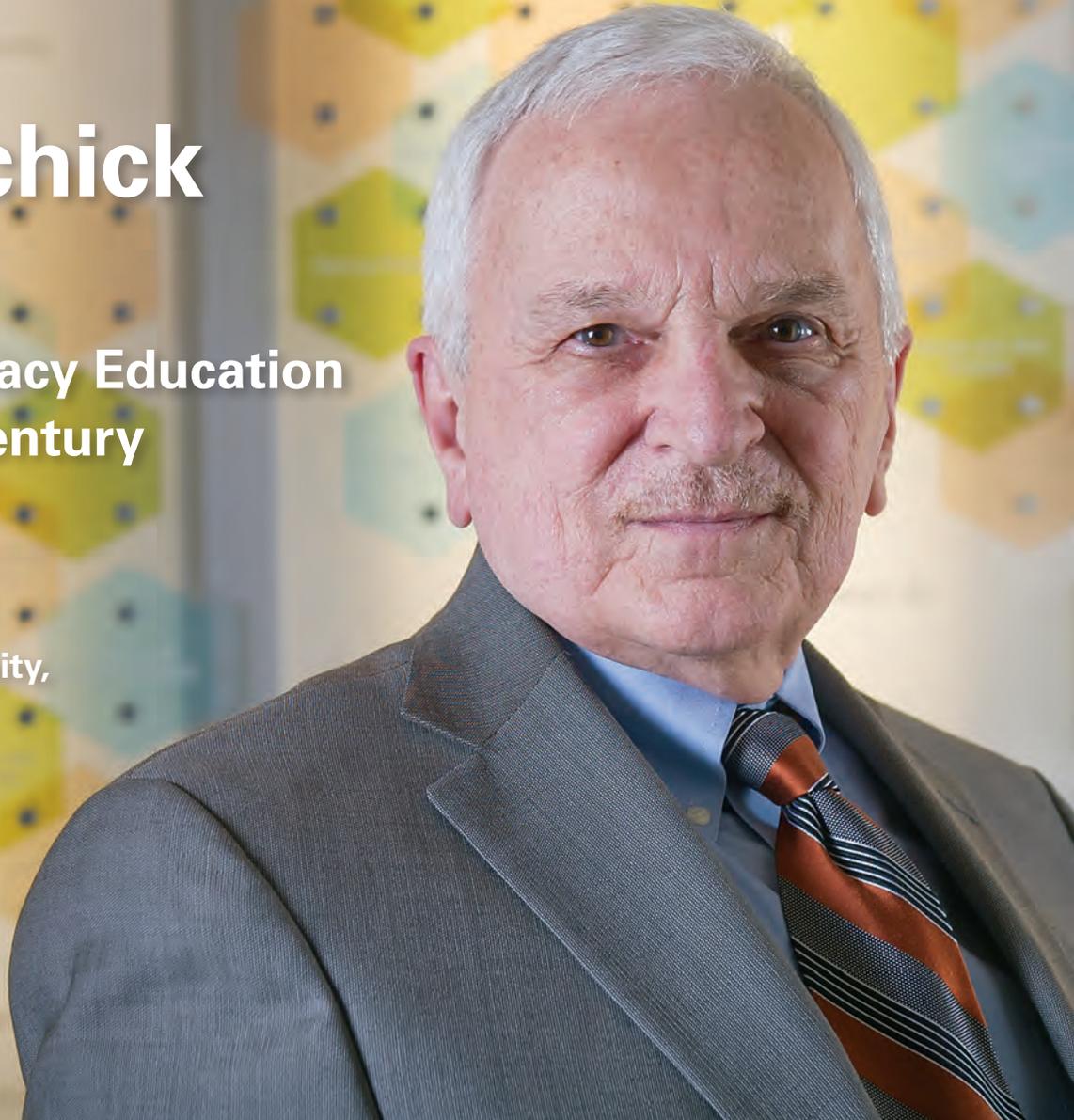
The Yanchick Legacy:

Leading Pharmacy Education Into the 21st Century

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

Engaging the Community,
Locally and Globally

Alumni, Students,
Faculty and Friends:
Picture This!



VCU School of Pharmacy

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BACK COVER PHOTO:

Standing, left to right: Catherine Wangari, Gray Scholarship; Mary Margaret Jones, Updike Scholarship; Tiffany Yoon, Weaver Scholarship; Kavita Iyer, Lowenthal Award; Pritpal Singh, Slifka Scholarship. Seated, left to right: Anne Masich, William Garnett (B.S. '69) and Mary Anne Garnett, Garnett Scholarship; Hilda Meth and Shirley Williams, Lowenthal Award.

DEAN'S MESSAGE



Dear Alumni and Friends:

There are so many things I would like to include in my last official message to you, but I would like to begin by saying “thank you” for the support you have given me and the School of Pharmacy. You have made my wife Donna and me feel welcome, and I have always sensed the immense pride that you have for your alma mater.

We have a history of 116 years of excellence, and we continue to be recognized not only here in the United States, but globally, as one of the premier programs in pharmacy education and research. This reputation exists because we have been able to recruit outstanding faculty, students and staff and because we have alumni and friends like you who support our mission.

I am extremely proud of what we have been able to accomplish over the past 18 years. We have undergone major renovations in the Smith Building to make it more student-friendly and to provide a better environment for learning and communication. Our curriculum has undergone a major overhaul to include experiential education throughout most of the four years of the Pharm.D. program. We have established two distant campuses — one at Inova Fairfax and one at the University of Virginia — that take advantage of these excellent facilities to expose our students to high-quality clinical training. Our graduate program has nearly tripled in size, and our research funding has increased fourfold to more than \$8 million last year.

All of these advances were made during a period of time when national research funding decreased substantially and when state funding for higher education was cut dramatically because of the economic downturn. Faculty

and staff raises were nearly nonexistent for at least five years. I am so proud of our faculty and staff who stood fast during this period of time.

It is going to be difficult for me to finally step away from what I have thoroughly enjoyed. I began my academic career 46 years ago and have been fortunate to have had the privilege to influence pharmacy education and pharmacy practice. I have been blessed to have the opportunity to make an impact on the personal and professional lives of so many students, and I am so very proud of them.

But I believe it is the right time to say goodbye and welcome a new administration to take the school and the profession of pharmacy to even higher levels of excellence. I am so pleased that our new dean, Dr. Joseph DiPiro, will be on board on July 1. I hope you have a chance to meet him and give him your support. Again, thank you so very much. It has been a privilege to serve as your dean. Please keep in touch.

Sincerely,

Victor A. Yanchick, Ph.D.
Professor and Dean
Archie O. McCalley Chair

COLLABORATION

Translating Care Model to Reality

Pharmacist Heidi Wengerd recently treated a patient suffering from adverse health effects that could have been avoided. Her patient had been prescribed two antihypertensive medications: one by her primary care physician and one from her cardiologist. When her blood pressure dropped too low, the cardiologist prescribed a third drug.

This scenario is all too typical in rural communities. Fortunately, Wengerd, a primary care clinical pharmacist at Carilion New River Valley Medical Center (CNRV) in Christiansburg, Va., is participating in a project designed to combat the problem.

Wengerd was able to work with the cardiologist to discontinue one of the antihypertensives as well as the new drug. The patient's blood pressure was stabilized, with two less medications prescribed.

The Improving Health of At-risk Rural Patients (IHARP) care model is a joint venture of CNRV pharmacy leadership and VCU School of Pharmacy faculty developed to address the reality that rural Southwest Virginia residents suffer a higher incidence of chronic diseases such as diabetes and hypertension and often receive disjointed medical care from a variety of health-care providers.

Gary Matzke, the School of Pharmacy's director of pharmacy practice transformation initiatives, says seeds for the project were planted following a 2011 school-hosted pharmacy transformation conference. The idea was to address continuity-of-care challenges by revising community and hospital pharmacist roles and placing primary care pharmacists in primary care physicians' offices.

The care model proposed by original principal investigator Dave Harlow (now chief pharmacy manager at Martin Health System in Stuart, Fla.) and Matzke, and now led by William Lee, principal investigator and system director of pharmacy for Carilion Clinic; Michael Czar, CNRV pharmacy site manager; Leticia "Tish" Moczygemba, SOP associate professor; and Matzke resulted in a three-year, \$4.3 million grant from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation Center.

It's actually a collaborative quality improvement project, not a prospective controlled clinical trial, says Lee; thus specifics can be developed or modified



Thanks to IHARP, Betty McDaniel (left), a patient at Carilion Clinic Family Medicine in Roanoke, is able to take advantage of primary care services provided by pharmacist Niki Blevins.

while the project is ongoing. For example, patient enrollment, which began in January 2013, went slowly at first. But as of December, more than 1,000 patients were taking advantage of the program in part because of eligibility criteria modifications. About 65 percent of participants' medication-related problems have been resolved during initial pharmacist visits.

"I think we are going to be increasing the level of care and the number of patients who are at therapeutic goals," says Czar, who serves as program director. He credits the School of Pharmacy partnership with effective data collection and analysis. "It really has been very powerful for us to partner with an academic institution. Having people like Tish and Gary focus on [the data] has meant an awful lot to the success we're having."

IHARP, he adds, is receiving positive feedback from many physicians. At this point, five primary care pharmacists are funded to cover 20 Southwest Virginia clinics, and two ambulatory care pharmacists are working with the program to cover two other clinics.

Finances are always a factor, of course. Estimated cost savings, due to the avoidance of emergency room, hospital or additional physician visits, already has surpassed \$1 million. Sustainability is an issue, notes Lee, as IHARP funding ends in June 2015. "But the savings numbers are there that I think will show the program is meaningful. . . . The overall response from not only patients but satisfaction from pharmacists is huge," he adds. "I think our model is working."

Czar notes that transforming the pharmacist's role must translate back to pharmacy education. "There will always be a need for hospital pharmacists. But if we can keep people out of the hospitals, we'll need more engaged in new community roles, like ambulatory care. It's ripe to grow."

Wengerd would second that: "The IHARP program has helped me as a pharmacist by providing me with excellent clinical experience in an ambulatory care setting."

"I think this care model is sustainable," Lee says. "We're excited to see what happens in the years to come." ■



FAR LEFT Tanvi Patil (right), working with patient Drema McClung, is a primary care clinical pharmacist at Carilion Clinic Family Medicine in Vinton.

LEFT Terry Rhodes (left), a patient at Carilion Clinic Family Medicine in Roanoke/Salem, appreciates the ambulatory care services offered by pharmacist Randi Carpenter.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Partnering Benefits School and Community Alike

Service learning is a key component at the School of Pharmacy, which emphasizes professionalism, leadership and giving back. Since 2001, collaborative community service programs, initiated by students and faculty in response to community need, have provided more than 20,000 patient care encounters in the Richmond metropolitan area. Just a sampling:

The Center for High Blood Pressure: Nine years ago, one faculty member began focusing on medication counseling and adherence for uninsured patients diagnosed with or at risk for hypertension. Since then, clinical pharmacy services have been expanded to treat more patients and improve quality of care. A collaborative practice agreement allows faculty, residents and students to co-manage hypertension, diabetes and hyperlipidemia with their physician partners.

CrossOver Healthcare Ministry: A partnership with the state's largest free health-care clinic began in 2008 at one site with an interdisciplinary diabetes-intensive care program. A pharmacist-integrated primary care model to improve chronic disease outcomes, medication access and patient education programs now is available at two CrossOver locations and one partnering rural site, Goochland Free Clinic and Family Services. The collaboration's success has resulted in five local and two national grants, as well as a collaborative pharmacy residency and interprofessional student service learning and primary care teaching clinic programs.

The Daily Planet: A partnership with this Federally-Qualified Health Care for the Homeless Clinic, which began in 2005, has expanded from a primary pharmacist focus on medication education for behavioral health patients to the pharmacist as a member of an interprofessional care team



Remote Area Medical: For seven years, School of Pharmacy volunteers have assisted with the three-day health initiative for the uninsured and underinsured in Wise County, Va.



Mission of Mercy: School of Pharmacy students and faculty work alongside School of Dentistry volunteers in Charlottesville, Va.

within an NCQA Accredited Medical Home. Ambulatory care rotation for community pharmacy residents and student pharmacists and service learning activities are offered at the site. The program has received four Health Resources and Services Administration awards for improving health outcomes and patient safety and three research merit awards.

Dominion Place: Since 2012, this apartment complex for low-income elders has offered residents an on-site wellness clinic. Interprofessional student pairs from the Schools of Pharmacy, Medicine, Nursing and Social Work provide care coordination through health screenings and counseling services. The partnership has received a three-year HRSA grant to develop the Richmond Health and Wellness Clinic and replicate it at additional low-income senior housing communities in the area.

Imperial Plaza: The School of Pharmacy has partnered with the largest retirement community in Virginia for more than a dozen years. Services and activities provided through an SOP-developed pharmacy clinic include patient counseling, medication reviews, blood pressure monitoring, immunizations, health screenings and medication therapy management. This has resulted in better care for residents; pharmacy practice, service learning and research opportunities for students; and several faculty service awards.

Richmond Area Compassionate Care Pharmacy: Designed to assist older patients who can't afford their necessary "brand name only" medications, RACCP is a collaboration of the school, Senior Connections (Richmond's Area Agency on Aging) and Riverside Health System. Since 2010, the nonprofit partnership has provided assistance to patients and a learning and community outreach venue for students.

Student medical missions: Pharmacy students have worked with hundreds of patients during the annual Remote Area Medical event in Wise County, Va.; Mission of Mercy; Virginia State University Cares; the Honduras Outreach Medical Brigade Relief Effort and more. Participating students have the opportunity to work in interdisciplinary teams serving uninsured and underinsured patients both locally and globally.

Una Vida Sana: The Schools of Pharmacy, Medicine and Nursing initiated this collaboration in 2009 to fill a need for cardio-metabolic screenings and outreach for uninsured Hispanic community members. Dozens of students have helped educate participants about screening results and have worked with lay health promoters and interpreters. If screenings indicate the need for further care and patients do not have a primary care provider, they are referred to a collaborating free clinic, CrossOver. Recognition includes the 2012 VCU Currents of Change Award for Service. ■



A DEAN'S FOND FAREWELL 'I've Been So Fortunate'

Like anyone nearing a new phase in life, Victor Yanchick has found that looking forward gives him pause, causing him to reflect on his career thus far.

His 18 years as dean of the Virginia Commonwealth University School of Pharmacy have sped by . . . but then again, so did his previous tenures at University of Texas at Austin and University of Oklahoma.

"I've been so fortunate," he says. "It's been amazing to me that I've been able to experience what I've experienced and had an opportunity to lead two schools and to be a major player in a third, to be in pharmacy education over the last 46 years while it's been totally transformed — not only education but practice.

"To have been partly responsible for that transformation is amazing. I feel I have been one of the agents of change and am very proud of that legacy."

In the beginning

Although he worked as a hospital pharmacy technician in high school in Joliet, Ill., young Vic Yanchick's original plan was to be a pediatrician.

A co-worker's suggestion that he obtain a bachelor's degree in pharmacy made sense; he needed a four-year degree before med school.

The idea was to earn a pharmacy degree — which he did, at University of Iowa — then work for two years while saving enough to pursue an M.D. He had been accepted by the medical school at University of Illinois in Chicago when, as often is the case, love intervened. In May 1963, just a year after finishing pharmacy school, he and Mary Jo Kietzman, a nurse, were married.

Marriage — and wanting to start a family — changed his mind about med school. He set his sights on a career as hospital pharmacy director and returned to Iowa for an M.S. and residency. "The Iowa residency program was really a forerunner," he says. "One of the first clinical pharmacy programs in the country, one of the first places pharmacists were permitted on the floor to look at patient records."

The conversation about clinical pharmacy was just beginning and, as it happens, Yanchick ended up teaching the first clinical pharmacy course offered at Purdue University. Serving as an instructor and pharmacy director while working on his Ph.D. and doing research in drug plastics, his new goal was to be a scientist at Abbott Laboratories.

“Dean Yanchick serves the entire MCV community as a leader, a mentor and as a visionary for the profession of pharmacy.”

ERICH BRECHTELSBAUER, PRESIDENT
Student Executive Council 2013–14, VCU School of Pharmacy

In an unexpected twist, Purdue Dean Varro Tyler took Yanchick under his wing. “He said, ‘The students like you. You need to be in an academic environment. Before you sign with Abbott, would you interview at some schools to see what it’s all about?’ ... He said he could see me as a dean one day!”

Fast track into academe

Yanchick took Tyler’s advice. First stop: University of Texas at Austin College of Pharmacy, in part because the university had a drug plastics research lab. Within a couple of years of joining the faculty, he was named assistant dean and progressed to associate dean.

“I was a great dean when Vic ran the school!” says UT College of Pharmacy Dean Emeritus James Doluisio. “He was called the ‘student dean.’ You can’t imagine how important he was to our program.”

Yanchick recalls his years at Texas as some of the best times of his life. But when his first Ph.D. student, Loyd Allen, headed the dean search team for the University of Oklahoma, Yanchick was persuaded to apply. (Allen, now professor emeritus of Oklahoma, went on to found the International Journal of Pharmaceutical Compounding.)

“I said no. Loyd said, ‘Are you sure? At least come and give us some advice.’” Thus began the talks that would lead Yanchick to the position of dean at University of Oklahoma College of Pharmacy.

“I loved it,” he says. “It was a great experience.”

Eleven years later came the call from VCU, where Dean John Ruggiero was retiring. Would Yanchick be interested in moving east? He would; Virginia Commonwealth University School of Pharmacy had a great reputation, and he liked Virginia.

Yanchick’s wife had been ill with non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma but was in remission and had returned to work. “We thought we got it,” he says. “We said, there’s one more move in us.” Their three children, Jeffrey, David and Jill Ann, were adults by that time.

Sadly, Mary Jo Yanchick died a year after the move.

Early years at VCU

Despite personal tragedy, Yanchick dove into his deanship. “We had a talented, diverse group of faculty, a high level of quality, but they weren’t pulled together.” He was concerned about departmental structure and the need to ramp up clinical pharmacy.

A 1997 faculty retreat resulted in the restructuring of departments: The Department of Medicinal Chemistry and the Department of Pharmaceutics and Pharmacy reorganized to become the Department of Medicinal Chemistry, the Department of Pharmaceutics and the Department of Pharmacy (the latter is now known as the Department of Pharmacotherapy and Outcomes Science). A wish list was formed: more focus on geriatrics, ambulatory care and community practice; residency fellowships; interdisciplinary programs in research and practice; faculty mentoring and development; off-campus programs and development; and integrating technology into the classroom. >



Snappy dresser Vic Yanchick (right) conferred with University of Texas at Austin colleague Dale Maness in the mid-1970s.

VICTOR A. YANCHICK: *In Brief*

- 1962** B.S. Pharmacy, University of Iowa
- 1966** M.S. Pharmacy, University of Iowa
- 1966** ASHP-accredited residency in hospital pharmacy administration, University Hospitals, University of Iowa
- 1968** Ph.D. Pharmacy, Purdue University
- 1968–84** professor and associate dean, University of Texas at Austin College of Pharmacy (and adjunct associate professor in the School of Medicine and School of Nursing)
- 1985–96** dean and professor, University of Oklahoma College of Pharmacy
- 1996–2014** dean and professor, VCU School of Pharmacy
- 1996** Purdue University Distinguished Alumni Award
- 2004** University of Iowa Distinguished Alumni Award
- 2004–05 and 2007** chairman, American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy, Council of Deans
- 2008–09** president, AACP
- 2010** Archie O. McCalley Dean’s Chair
- 2012** Virginia Pharmacists Association special award
- 2014** chairman, AACP’s Argus Commission
- 2014** MCV Foundation Robert Irby Award

“Vic Yanchick will absolutely be missed. ... He increased the enrollment of each class, tripled enrollment in the pharmaceutical sciences graduate program and created a national model by instituting team-based learning as a standard in School of Pharmacy courses ... Dean Yanchick has left an indelible mark on VCU and its School of Pharmacy.”

MICHAEL RAO, PRESIDENT
Virginia Commonwealth University and VCU Health System

“Soon after I arrived,” Yanchick says, “I put time and effort into seeing how we could catch up in technology as well as how to offer more modern delivery of classroom teaching.” He smiles, remembering that it took three or four years to talk the university into combining two smaller classrooms into what is now the Smith Building’s largest, the only one that can accommodate a full first-year class of Pharm.D. students.

Another goal was to expand the school, space-wise — both the faculty and student body were growing — and several years later, the Business Office, Office of Experiential Education, Division of Pharmacy Administration and a few conference rooms and labs made their way across the street to McGuire Hall (the building where most pre-1985 alumni spent the bulk of their student years). In 2008, the Department of Medicinal Chemistry moved

from Smith to Biotech One, part of the Virginia Biotechnology Research Park.

At the same time, Smith was being refurbished and technology was being upgraded — an office here, a lab there — until 2009-10, when a \$5 million allotment from the Virginia legislature allowed major reconstruction on the building’s first, second and fifth floors, resulting in state-of-the-science classrooms and a more student-friendly “commons” area.

Academic expansion

When Yanchick arrived, VCU School of Pharmacy, like many nationwide, had begun the curricular transition from a B.S. to Pharm.D. degree program. “When I got here,” he says, “it was part B.S., part postbaccalaureate Pharm.D. ... and there was also a nontraditional program for B.S. students who wanted to earn a Pharm.D. degree.”

The first all-Pharm.D. class graduated in 1999. The next major curricular change — in response to new ACPE standards — took place in 2008. Also, says Yanchick, “It was time for an overhaul, and we wanted to go much more team-based.”

The Office of Experiential Education also grew as a result of the new curriculum and accreditation requirements. More interprofessional rotations were developed for fourth-year Pharm.D. students participating in Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experiences, and the new Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experiences exposed first- through third-year students to more real-life pharmacy settings.

The increase in community service and community engagement has been one of the biggest changes for students, says Yanchick. “The School of Pharmacy has a strong commitment to community engagement, to serve populations that need help and to conduct research on how to improve wellness in the community.” (For more on current community partnerships, see pages 2–3.)

“Vic joined the school and committed himself to its development — he gave 100 percent to this job, and I thank him personally for his passion, drive and commitment.”

PETER BYRON, CHAIRMAN
VCU School of Pharmacy Department of Pharmaceutics

VCU SCHOOL OF PHARMACY 1996–2014: THE YANCHICK YEARS

1996

Victor A. Yanchick named professor and dean of VCU School of Pharmacy



1997

departmental restructuring, expanding to three departments

1998

first Research and Career Day for graduate students



1996-98

final transition from B.S. and postbaccalaureate Pharm.D. degrees to Pharm.D. program



1999

first all-Pharm.D. class graduates



School of Pharmacy Dean Victor Yanchick and his wife, Donna, attended the 2008 Galen Society Dinner at Richmond's Jefferson Hotel. The dinner is an annual event to acknowledge and thank the school's leadership donors.

The graduate program — offering master's and doctoral degrees — had been in place since the late 1950s, but the number of graduates had declined to the point of endangering the program. A new office, Pharmaceutical Sciences Graduate Programs, was created in 2004 to address the need; since then, the number of graduate students has tripled.

In tandem with the graduate program's growth, the school's research enterprise quadrupled, from about \$2 million in 1996 to more than \$8 million in 2012–13. That, Yanchick points out, was despite the fact that the school had to cut budgets for many years due to the economic downturn.

"We could have had a mass exodus," Yanchick says. "But we not only weathered the storm, we grew. We've been able to create an environment for learning, research and collaboration, and that's hard to achieve."

That environment continued to expand in 2007 and 2012, respectively, when satellite campuses opened in Fairfax and Charlottesville to allow third- and fourth-year students new opportunities.

"I'm very proud to have helped bring together a highly talented faculty, staff and student body who work together and respect each other," Yanchick says. "It's through them that we have seen all the successes."

Taking it to the world

In recent years, Yanchick notes, School of Pharmacy faculty have served as elected officials in a number of national pharmacy organizations. For example, Jeffrey Delafuente, associate dean for academic affairs, is 2013–14 president of the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists. Gary Matzke, director of pharmacy practice transformation initiatives, was 2007-08 president of the American College of Clinical Pharmacy. Professor and alumna Jean-Venable "Kelly" Goode has served for several years as an American Pharmacists Association trustee.

Yanchick himself served as president of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy in 2008–09, traveling the world to help promote pharmacy education. "A benefit of serving as AACP CEO is the close working relationship I have with our presidents," says Lucinda Maine, executive vice president and CEO of the association. "Vic was my 'lucky #7'! He challenged us all to think off the map and stimulated AACP's work in global pharmacy education. It represents his enthusiasm for thinking globally while acting locally to improve pharmacy education and health care." >

2001

first White Coat Ceremony for first-year Pharm.D. students



2003

Coagulation Special Studies Lab moves from School of Medicine (changes name to VCU Coagulation Advancement Lab in 2007)



Circa 2002

equipment and technology updates begin in labs and classrooms

Circa 2004

Office of Experiential Education expands

Circa 2005

Summer Research Fellowship program initiated for Pharm.D. students



Part of a dean's job is to attend and support school functions, including (from left) the school's annual Hooding and Diploma Ceremony, with 2009 Pharm.D. graduate Ayoyinka Ojutalayo; the 2011 White Coat Ceremony with first-year Pharm.D. student Jiyoung Cho and speaker and alumnus John Beckner; and a 2012 auction of Yanchick's watercolors, which raised nearly \$11,000 for pharmacy student scholarships.

“Vic has brought enormous recognition to the school from his own achievements, nationally as president of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy from 2008 to 2009. On a more personal note, I have appreciated Vic’s friendship and sage counsel through the past 11 years we have worked together.”

SHELDON RETCHIN

Senior vice president for health sciences, VCU, and CEO, VCU Health System

AACP is where Yanchick got to know Joseph DiPiro, the man who eventually would be his successor. “I have found him to be extremely competent,” says Yanchick. “I have always been very impressed with his leadership style and commitment to pharmacy.”

In a case of “small world,” it was Yanchick’s University of Texas dean, James Doluisio, who later would write a letter to DiPiro recommending Yanchick for AACP.

Back to the future

During his 46-year career — and particularly during the last 18 years — Yanchick has seen phenomenal change in pharmacy practice and education. “When I went to pharmacy school, we were taught basically to be chemists and dispensers of drugs. We didn’t have one day of patient care or pharmacotherapy. ... We were told to stay in our place, don’t talk to patients. If they had questions, we were to refer them to our physicians.”

This struck Yanchick, from the beginning, as wrong. He was pleased, in the 1970s, when the “huge debate” began. “We thought this was something pharmacists should be able to do.”

Now, he says, “Pharm.D.’s are the drug experts. They have the depth and scope; they’re the only health professionals educated in pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics.

“I think we’re reaching the tipping point now. In many environments, pharmacists are full-fledged members of health care teams. It’s already happening in hospitals; the last frontier is to bring community pharmacists into the team.”

With the issues involved in providing health care to all, he says, there is a need for more professionals directly involved in patient care and patient outcomes: pharmacists, nurse practitioners, physicians’ aides and the like. That can also have a direct effect on wellness and prevention. “Less is more. We need to get people on the least amount of drugs possible.”

THE YANCHICK YEARS (CONTINUED)

2006

Center for Biomarker Research and Personalized Medicine opens

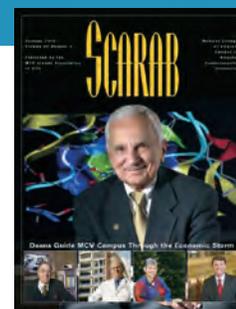


2007

Inova Fairfax Campus opens in Fairfax

2008

50th anniversary of the school's graduate program



Circa 2006

Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experience added to curriculum

2008

Virginia Legislature sets aside \$5 million for Smith Building renovations
new Pharm.D. curriculum introduced



2010

Smith Building first, second and fifth floor renovations complete
Pharm.D. class of 2014 matriculates with a record 140 students

“Dean Yanchick is a true mentor. When I was a student, he was always willing to listen to my ideas, and he encouraged opportunities that helped me grow as a future pharmacist.”

CATHERINE FLOROFF (PHARM.D. '13)
PGY1 Pharmacy Practice Resident, Medical University of South Carolina

The other big change agent, as Yanchick sees it, is technology. “It will be the biggest factor that will change the way health care is delivered. I can already electronically access my own records, contact the doctor and ask a question, order refills!”

Next up

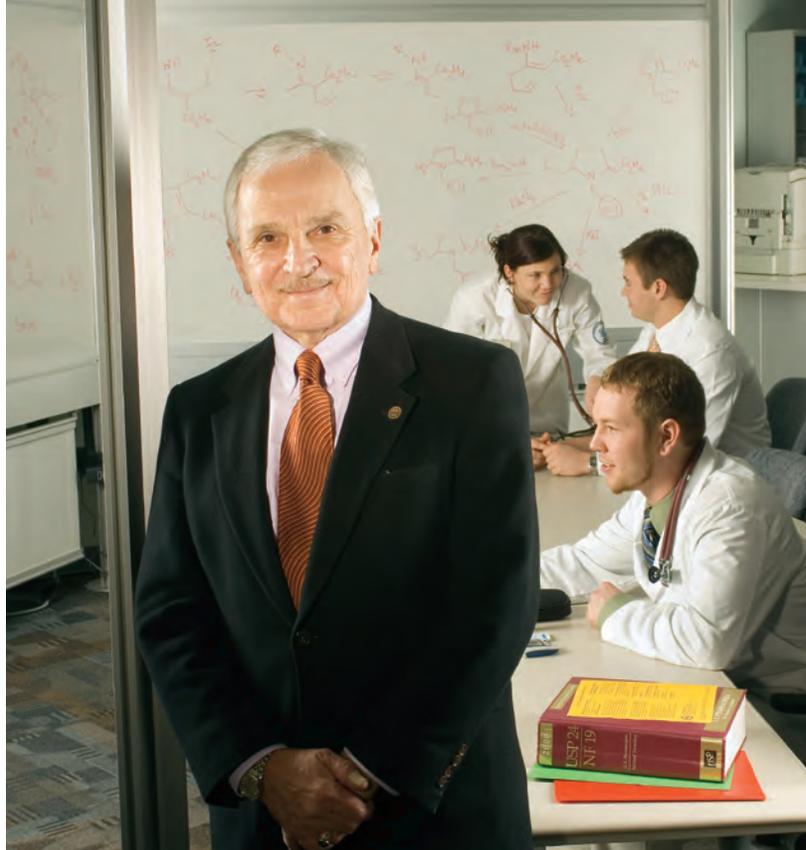
As pharmacy continues to evolve, so does the dean’s future. He and his wife Donna — a high school classmate with whom he reconnected at their 40th reunion in 1998 — plan to do some traveling. “We’d like to see our kids [and grandchildren] more than a couple of days at a time,” he says. He is pleased to note that his sons, both pharmacists, followed in his footsteps and that his daughter — not as big a fan of the sciences! — majored in interior design.

In retirement, Yanchick will continue to paint, an avocation he picked up about a dozen years ago that has provided satisfaction and relaxation ... not to mention thousands of dollars in pharmacy student scholarships via watercolor auctions.

“I want to learn new things. Maybe teach myself Italian. Take painting lessons in a different medium. ... I was taught by my parents that you can do whatever you want to do.”

VCU School of Pharmacy Dean-to-be DiPiro says, “I well know how much [Dean Yanchick] has accomplished in our profession. The faculty, staff, students and alumni of the School of Pharmacy have a lot to be proud of and are in a good position to lead the profession in the years ahead.”

“Vic has provided visionary leadership throughout his tenure at VCU,” says Jeffrey Delafuente, the school’s associate dean for academic affairs. “He can proudly retire knowing that he is leaving the school at its apex.” ■



Over the years, renovations to classrooms in the Smith Building included Room 221 (above). At last year’s fall picnic, Dean Yanchick (below, second from right) dressed down to recruit a few faculty members for a friendly volleyball competition with students.



2011

statewide school-sponsored Pharmacy Practice Transformation Conference

2012

Bioanalytical Laboratory recognized by Office of Research as a VCU core lab

2013

30 percent of graduating Pharm.D. class accepted into residency and fellowship programs

2014

research funding hits all-time high of more than \$8 million

VCU **SCHOOL OF**
Pharmacy
Virginia Commonwealth University



2012

U.Va. Division opens in Charlottesville



2013

first Jewell and Carl Emswiller Interprofessional Symposium



School of Pharmacy



PHOTO ALBUM

Images of 2014: School of Pharmacy



MCV Foundation Scholarship Brunch

Feb. 23: More than 320 scholarship recipients and beneficiaries from the MCV Campus of VCU gathered for brunch at the historic Jefferson Hotel. Nearly 90 School of Pharmacy donors and students were present to celebrate the tradition of giving and the tremendous impact endowed scholarships can make on the student experience. In 2013, 180 Pharm.D. students received over \$500,000 in scholarship assistance! Please see to the left and below for photos of a few of the scholarship recipients and donors.

LEFT Thomas Rorrer Jr. (B.S. '52) and Jackie Rorrer, Rorrer Scholarship; Donna Yanchick.



ABOVE Standing, left to right: Kristen LaCoe, Stone Scholarship; Lindsay Evans Donohue, Stanley Scholarship; Jaykumar Patel, Plunkett Scholarship; Lauren Flynt, Class of 1962 Scholarship. Seated, left to right: Mary Nicholas, Nicholas Scholarship; Kenneth E. Cooper Sr., LaVerne Cooper and Adeola Adeniji, Cooper Scholarship; Jennifer Patterson, Berkowitz Scholarship.



ABOVE RIGHT Standing, left to right: Mike Kelly and Jillian Stanton, Schlosser Scholarship; Katie Dane, Henry Addington Scholarship. Seated, left to right: Andrea Ravelo, Phi Kappa Phi and Schlosser Scholarships; Blair Rollings, Schlosser Scholarship; John Beckner (B.S. '78) and Brianna Hughes, Ukrop's Scholarship.



RIGHT Standing, left to right: Jessica Marie Parker, Phi Delta Chi Scholarship; Samantha Jaelene Fary, Rite Aid Scholarship; Andrew Whitman, Willey Scholarship. Seated, left to right: Virginia Lee Smith, Wert Smith, Abigail Arches and Whitney Zentgraf, W. Roy Smith Scholarship.



ABOVE LEFT Leah Belcher (Pharm.D. '11), Tana Kaefer (Pharm.D. '04), John Seymour (B.S. '83) and Bronwyn Burnham (B.S. '89) attended the alumni reception.

ABOVE RIGHT Eight of the 2014 Virginia Academy of New Practitioners "10 Under 10" winners were on hand, including Afton Wagner, Kelly Oliver, Jennifer Neal (Pharm.D. '09), Kerri Musselman (Pharm.D. '08), Kathryn Clasen (Pharm.D. '07), Lauren Caldas (Pharm.D. '11), Christine Bryant (Pharm.D. '05) and Andrea Brookhart. Not pictured: Heather Green (Pharm.D. '04), Lisa Marie Marston (Pharm.D. '08).

VPhA Midyear Conference

Feb. 22-23: The Virginia Pharmacists Association's 2014 Midyear Conference, following the theme "Preparing You for the Future of Pharmacy," took place in Colonial Williamsburg. The annual Reginald Rooke Lecture was delivered by Rear Adm. Scott Giberson, acting U.S. Deputy Surgeon General and chief professional officer, pharmacy, on "Transform Healthcare in 2014: A Call to Action for Pharmacy." The VCU School of Pharmacy Dessert Reception featured a silent auction of acrylic paintings by Al Schalow (B.S. '61), with proceeds benefiting the MCV Pharmacy Heritage Collection. Other highlights included the first Student Pharmacist Policy and Advocacy Forum Colloquium.



UPPER RIGHT Al Schalow (B.S. '61) donated several original paintings, prints and notecards for sale and auction to benefit the new Heritage Collection.



LEFT Lauren Caldas (Pharm.D. '11) joined School of Pharmacy students Mimi Baker, Ben Iredell and Thuy Tran, who attended the Student Pharmacist Policy and Advocacy Forum.

LOWER LEFT Bill Smith, retired SOP executive associate dean; Keith Hodges (B.S. '89); and Gary Matzke, SOP director of pharmacy practice transformation initiatives, caught up at the reception.



LOWER RIGHT Sarah Melton (B.S. '91, Pharm.D. '94) and Johnny Moore (B.S. '71) spoke on "Pharmacy's Role in Prescription and OTC Drug Abuse."



PHOTO ALBUM *continued*

SNPhA Regions I and II Meeting

Feb. 28-March 2: More than 350 students from about 40 schools and colleges of pharmacy convened in Richmond for the Student National Pharmaceutical Association's 2014 Region I and II Meeting. Hosted by the VCU chapter of SNPhA, the meeting's theme was "Interprofessional Care: Leading Into the Future." Just before the meeting, VCU chapter members were delighted to receive word that their Prescription for Service Scholarship Competition video had been named Region I finalist. The \$2,500 video grant will benefit an interprofessional clinic for patient assessment at Richmond's Center for High Blood Pressure.



UPPER RIGHT Nellie Jafari is president of the VCU chapter of SNPhA.

LOWER RIGHT SNPhA members Uzma Khan and Tuan Curley Pham attended the opening session reception.

LOWER FAR RIGHT Felix Tran, national president of SNPhA, joined keynote speaker Alan Dow, VCU assistant vice president of health sciences for interprofessional education and collaborative care, and Nellie Jafari.



ABOVE School of Pharmacy assistant professor K.C. Ogbonna contributed to a study of the Richmond Health and Wellness Program.



LEFT Jewell Emswiler gives credit to School of Pharmacy Dean Victor Yanchick for kickstarting and supporting the symposium.

RIGHT The first-place poster award went to "IMPACT: Diabetes" and its presenters, School of Pharmacy faculty Sallie Mayer (center) and students (left to right) Kimberly Means, Linda Barstow, Shelby Evans and Lindsay Martin. Not pictured: Michael Dail, SOP-CrossOver ambulatory care resident.



Jewell and Carl Emswiler Interprofessional Symposium

March 1: VCU's second Emswiler Interprofessional Symposium featured keynote speaker Barbara Brandt, director of the National Center for Interprofessional Practice and Education, and panelists from pharmacy, dentistry, medicine, nursing and other health-care professions. The symposium was endowed by Jewell Emswiler in honor and memory of her late husband Carl, a 1962 alumnus of the School of Pharmacy. Emswiler — a leader and innovator in community pharmacy practice — and his wife shared a passion for the kind of collaborative, patient-based care that now is in the forefront of health care reform.

CHANGING OF THE GUARD

Welcome, Dr. DiPiro!



Joseph T. DiPiro has been named dean of the VCU School of Pharmacy, effective July 1, 2014. He will succeed Victor A. Yanchick, dean of the school since 1996.

DiPiro has served as executive dean and professor for the South Carolina College of Pharmacy at the University of South Carolina and the Medical University of South Carolina since 2005.

"It is a great privilege to be following Dean Yanchick as dean of the VCU School of Pharmacy," he said. "During his 18 years in leadership, he has assured that the school has the most progressive pharmacy education and is among the top schools in research and practice."

Most Pharm.D. students need no introduction to DiPiro. They are familiar with his work as editor of "Pharmacotherapy: A Pathophysiologic Approach," which Doody's Review service calls "a gold standard reference in pharmacy." The ninth edition was published this year.

His peers are also aware that he built the South Carolina College of Pharmacy research program to its top 25 national ranking and fueled a large growth of the college's endowment.

"We are excited that Dr. DiPiro will be part of VCU as he continues on a track of leadership, distinction in education and research and innovation in pharmacy practice to develop the strategic academic and research visions for VCU School of Pharmacy," said Sheldon Retchin, senior vice president for VCU health sciences and CEO of the VCU Health System.

DiPiro has served as president of the American College of Clinical Pharmacy, chairman of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy

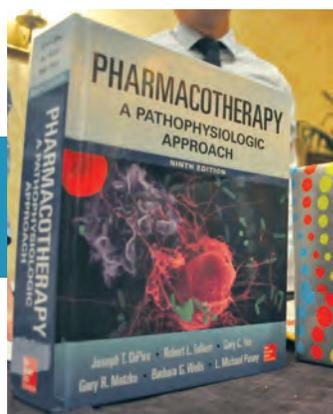
Council of Deans and editor of the American Journal of Pharmaceutical Education. In 2013, he was one of six scholars nationwide selected as fellow in the American Association for the Advancement of Science Section on Pharmaceutical Science.

Recognition includes AACP's Robert K. Chalmers Distinguished Educator Award, ACCP's Russell R. Miller Literature Award and Education Award, American Society of Health-System Pharmacists' Award for Sustained Contributions to the Literature, and Rho Chi Distinguished Lecturer.

He has published more than 200 journal papers, books, book chapters and editorials in academic and professional journals, reflecting research primarily in antibiotics, drug use in surgery and pharmacy education.

Previously, DiPiro held faculty and administrative positions at Medical College of Georgia School of Medicine and University of Georgia College of Pharmacy. He earned his B.S. degree in pharmacy from the University of Connecticut and his Pharm.D. degree from the University of Kentucky. He served a residency at the University of Kentucky Medical Center and a fellowship in clinical immunology at Johns Hopkins University.

An 18-member search committee headed by VCU School of Medicine Dean Jerome Strauss recommended DiPiro for the job. His on-site interviews included an open presentation on "Competing in a New Era of Pharmacy Education." One of DiPiro's points of emphasis as dean will be collaborations through the VCU Center for Interprofessional Education to further align pharmacy programs with the university's team approach to health-care solutions. ■



Joseph DiPiro, VCU School of Pharmacy's next dean, published the first edition of "Pharmacotherapy: A Pathophysiologic Approach," in 1989 while working at Medical College of Georgia School of Medicine and University of Georgia College of Pharmacy. Co-authors of the ninth edition, which came out in February, include VCU School of Pharmacy professor Gary Matzke.



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See inside front cover for caption.

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Alumni giving supports student activities and scholarships, as well as faculty teaching and research, and provides the key resource for excellence in our programming. As a result, the School of Pharmacy has remained a leader in pharmacy education in the nation and the world. With your renewed support, we continually strive to be the best.

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