



Health professions: A family affair?

If you attended VCU School of Pharmacy's 2009 convocation, you would be forgiven for thinking that health professions – especially pharmacy – run in families.

At last count, the Pharm.D. class of '09 boasted two sets of twins – Eric and Steven Colpo and Akil and Bassim Mousa – and a married couple, Jon and Bridget Lowe Gallahan.

That doesn't even include three graduates who were hooded by relatives: Erika Bailey, who was hooded by her grandfather, William Barr; Melissa Carroll, whose father-in-law, Norman Carroll, did the honors; and Kathryn Krieg, whose hooder was her father, Richard Krieg Jr.

Most School of Pharmacy classes have some students whose parents are alumni or who work as health professionals. In Barr's case, the trend is multigenerational and pharmacy-oriented.

"I was the first pharmacist in the family, as far as I know," said Barr, a professor at the School of Pharmacy since 1972. His daughter, Deborah Lee Wingfield, earned her B.S. in pharmacy in 1982, and *her* daughter, Erika Bailey, received her Pharm.D. degree in May.

"You'd think Erika would have rebelled," Barr said, laughing. Erika's father, David Bailey, also is a pharmacy alum of the class of '82.

Barr believes students are actually less likely to follow family members into pharmacy than used to be the case. Now, he said, the field speaks for itself. "Pharmacy is one of the Top 10 professions in terms of opportunity, and it's been getting good press."

Barr originally considered engineering – and was offered a music scholarship – but decided he'd prefer a career that combined the biological and basic sciences.

As for Erika, he said, "She has always been a person who has thought things through thoroughly. I was very pleased when she decided to enter the field, but I wouldn't have pushed her one way or the other."

The same is true of Carroll, whose daughter-in-law was torn between veterinary and pharmacy school. "I definitely let [Melissa and my son] go their own way."

Carroll, also like Barr, was the first in his family to study pharmacy. But given that his father was a drug wholesaler and that Carroll worked at a pharmacy in high school, it's not entirely surprising he ended up in the field. A professor of pharmacy administration, he arrived at the School of Pharmacy in 1989.

His family has carried on the health-profession tradition: Daughter Elizabeth is a dietitian at a dialysis center and son Nathan earned a master's degree in health administration at VCU.

Nathan and Melissa were dating when she found herself at a crossroads. "I had to figure out which I wanted to do," she said. "I was getting married and had accepted both offers [to veterinary and pharmacy school] to buy a bit of time.

"I had to soul-search to see what I wanted out of life.... Veterinary medicine became more what I was striving for than what I wanted to do. I decided to go to pharmacy school ... and get a dog!"

She applauds her husband and father-in-law for removing themselves from the situation. "They didn't want to sway me."

That might have made her hooding experience even more special. "It was amazing. It meant a lot to me that [my father-in-law] really wanted to do that."



Norman Carroll, professor of pharmacy, hooded his daughter-in-law, Melissa Carroll, at the School of Pharmacy's 2009 convocation. (Photo by Cabay-Fine Photography)

It meant a lot to the Kriegs, too, despite a slight glitch at convocation. "It was great," Krieg recalled. "Everybody laughed because I had just hooded Kathryn, and she walked off. I said, 'Kathryn, don't I get a hug?'"

His daughter, of course, returned for her hug. "She was just anxious to get her diploma."

Krieg is a professor of anatomy and neurobiology with the School of Medicine. He also has taught anatomy for the School of Pharmacy and has served on its Admissions Committee. Both fields are in his blood: His grandfather, Peter Barone, was a physician, and his great-grandfather, William Wallace Hayden, was a pharmacist.

"I think Kathryn did what she liked," he said.

Her approving dad considers pharmacy an excellent profession for women because of the flexibility it offers. Plus, he said, "You can go anywhere you want."

And then there's the paycheck: "Kathryn is going to be making only \$2,000 less than I will be making this year. And I've been here since 1975!"

But pharmacy wasn't his daughter's first choice. "Since I was young, I always knew I wanted to work in the health-care field, maybe a veterinarian, doctor, radiologist," she said. "Pharmacy had never crossed my mind because I didn't know much about the profession."



Kathryn Krieg was hooded by her father, Richard Krieg, professor of anatomy and neurobiology. (Photo by Cabay-Fine Photography)

After her father set up a meeting with Thomas Reinders, associate dean for admissions and students services, she was hooked.

Kathryn's brother Peter, by the way, is a pharmacy technician. "Who knows," she said, "maybe there will be two pharmacists in the family one day."

Her advice for prospective pharmacy students? "Absolutely, go for it! Patients see the physician for diagnoses and routine health-care maintenance, but ... pharmacists have the wonderful role of helping patients make the most of their medication therapies."

Kathryn just began training as a floating pharmacist for Kroger in Richmond. Another benefit of her field of choice is that she met her boyfriend, Fabio, on an experiential rotation last summer in Messina, Italy.

Erika Bailey, whose mother works at a Richmond-area CVS/pharmacy, has moved to Florida to pursue a career in community pharmacy. At one point, she considered clinical pharmacy.

"I hope she explores the possibilities and opportunities and finds something she's satisfied with," said her grandfather. "That's the only goal I would have for her, the real goal."

Melissa and Nathan Carroll have moved to Ann Arbor, Mich. She began a pharmacy residency at the University of Michigan on July 1, and he will pursue a Ph.D. in health finance. Melissa's goal is to work in a hospital pharmacy, although she might first consider a specialty residency.

Whether students follow in their families' footsteps or independently choose a health profession, Reinders said, it's cause for celebration.

But, he added, this is also true: "When young people grow up in an environment of helping and caring professions, it's kind of a powerful message."

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DEAN'S MESSAGE

Dear Alumni and Friends,

We have just begun our new academic year, and I have completed my 13th year as dean, which is hard for me to believe. It has been a year of ups and downs for us. On the up side, I mentioned in the last newsletter that we had been visited by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education as part of our customary reaccreditation process, and I am very pleased to report that we met all 30 Accreditation Standards and were given a full six-year accreditation. My hat's off to the faculty, staff and students who made this happen.

Also, we are making progress in renovation plans for the Smith Building. Watch for more on that in the fall/winter issue of Rx Exchange.

This year, our graduates included the first class from our off-campus program on the Inova campus in Fairfax, Va. Feedback from students who completed their third and fourth years in Northern Virginia was very positive. We look forward to our continued relationship with the Inova campus and health system. We have finalized our admissions process for the fall semester and anticipate another exceptional class of 130 Pharm.D. students. These highly talented and motivated students were chosen from an applicant pool of more than 1,600. We also are experiencing a significant increase in graduate student enrollment and expect to have about 100 graduate students on board this fall.

On the down side, the Commonwealth of Virginia continues to experience a budget shortfall, so our state budget was cut by nearly 10 percent. Faculty and staff have not had raises for two years and do not expect salary increases for the next year or two. Tuition increases continue to be imposed on our



Victor A. Yanchick, Ph.D., Dean

students, many of whom are having increasing difficulty making ends meet. Nonetheless, I am hopeful that the state's economy soon will be on the upswing and that we can return to a more stable financial situation in 2009–10. I am very grateful for the terrific support we've received via gifts and endowments that help support our students through scholarships and awards. Last year, we gave over \$500,000 in scholarship support to our doctor of pharmacy students. We will be naming two faculty to newly established professorships and

an additional faculty member to an endowed chair.

I have had the privilege of serving as president of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy for the past year, traveling across the U.S. and abroad in the name of pharmacy education. It is very clear that there is an international shift in pharmacy practice to a more patient-centered, medication-therapy outcome role. I have seen this movement in countries such as Libya, Korea, South Africa, Japan and China. Many of these countries look to the United States to help change the face of pharmacy education. I can say without reservation that the new curriculum at our School of Pharmacy leads the way in innovation to prepare future pharmacists for direct patient-care responsibilities as primary-care providers. Our School of Pharmacy is known nationally and internationally as a leader in pharmacy education and research, and I continue to be proud of what we are able to accomplish.

Best wishes,

Victor A. Yanchick, Ph.D., Dean



The RxExchange is a publication of the VCU School of Pharmacy. Readers are encouraged to submit comments or questions to Cynthia McMullen by calling (804) 828-6470 or e-mailing chcmullen@vcu.edu.

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Class of '53 legacy lives on in Lafrenaye



Lafrenaye

Six years ago, the class of 1953 gave the School of Pharmacy the kind of gift that keeps on giving: a permanently endowed fund that provides scholarships for students with demonstrated financial need. And Jonathan Lafrenaye of Yorktown couldn't be more pleased.

Lafrenaye, who received his Pharm.D. degree from the School of Pharmacy in May, is the 2008–09 recipient of the Class of 1953 Scholarship Fund. The class established the fund in honor of its 50th reunion and in memory of classmates who had died.

What did receiving the scholarship do for Lafrenaye? First, he said, laughing, "It helps with the \$80,000 in debt. That's an obvious benefit.

"But," he added, "it also inspired our class to do the same thing."

The class of 2009 recently announced its own scholarship fund, based on an initial \$10,000 in contributions.

But that's not all. The class of 2008 was also inspired by the class of 1953's generosity. In fact, Mahmoud "Moo" Sultan (Pharm.D. '08), a previous recipient of the 1953 scholarship, is the student who announced that his class had decided to establish a scholarship.

Lafrenaye earned a B.S. in biology, with a minor in chemistry, at Old Dominion University. He was born in Indiana, but grew up in New Hampshire ... then moved to Washington state, then Virginia. Four years ago, he settled in at the School of Pharmacy ... until his fourth year, at which point a number of his rotations were "back home" in the Yorktown area.

Like most pharmacy students, he was active in a number of organizations, including serving as second vice regent for Kappa Psi, class of 2009 treasurer, vice president for the Student Executive Council and as a member of Phi Lambda Sigma, the Accreditation Steering Committee and the Admissions Committee.

In August, he will begin work on a master's of health administration degree at VCU.

"Even outside of school, my life pretty much revolves around pharmacy," he said. He hopes one day to manage pharmacies or pharmacy-related organizations. "I'm a very adaptable person, so if I find something that involves both pharmacy and management, I won't be averse to it."

Meanwhile, Lafrenaye is part of a new generation of alumni that thinks the class of '53 had the right idea: Making a pharmacy education possible – and continuing that tradition – is among the greatest of legacies.

Upward and onward!

About 570 students, parents, faculty and staff attended the class of 2009 Senior Banquet on May 15 at the Greater Richmond Convention Center. Joanne Peart, associate professor of pharmaceuticals, was honored with the Faculty Award for Excellence in Teaching, and Laura Georgiadis, office manager for the Department of Pharmaceuticals, received the Outstanding Employee Recognition Award.

The next day, the School of Pharmacy conferred 128 Pharm.D. degrees and 15 graduate degrees at its annual convocation at St. Paul's Baptist Church. William Zellmer, American Society of Health-System Pharmacists' writer-in-residence (and now an affiliate SOP faculty member), delivered the address, "Toward a More Perfect Profession."



Ashley Alexander (left), Swati Amin and Vikas Arora listened intently to convocation speakers.



The class of 2009's Leah Boardwine (right) helped pave the way for her sister, Ashley, who will be in the class of '13.



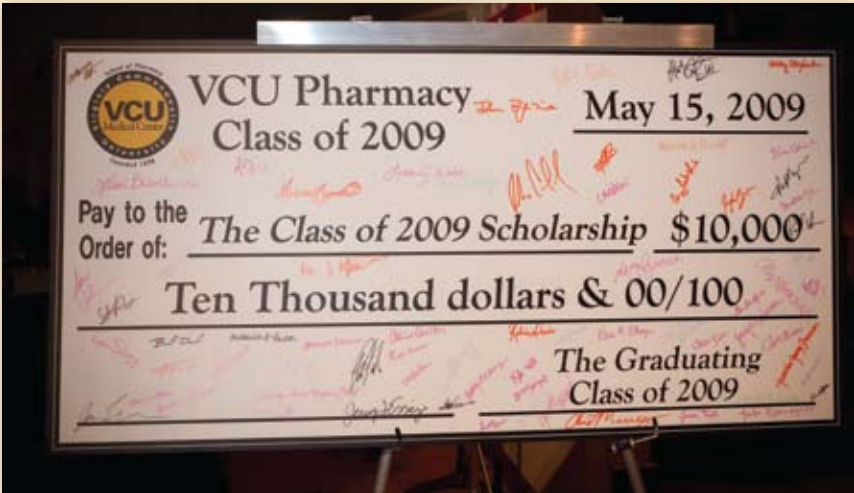
It took 57 flower-bedecked tables to accommodate Senior Banquet attendees.



The Department of Pharmaceuticals' Joanne Peart (left) and Laura Georgiadis were honored at the Senior Banquet.



Convocation speaker William Zellmer credited School of Pharmacy faculty for helping to fill the field with "bright, energetic and creative individuals."



Class president Michaiah Parker presented the Class of 2009 Endowed Scholarship to the school. The class goal, she said, is to pay it forward.

What's up, alumni?

Your alma mater – and former classmates – are interested in what you've been up to recently. Career? Travel? Kids? Grandkids? Keep us informed by e-mailing your news to pharmacyalum@vcu.edu or filling out this form and returning it to: Office of Public Relations and Communications, VCU School of Pharmacy, P.O. Box 980581, Richmond, VA 23298-0581. Or you may fax it to the attention of the Office of Public Relations at (804) 827-0002.

Your news will be added to our online alumni notes page. To visit, go to www.pharmacy.vcu.edu, click on Alumni, Donors and Friends, then on PharmFlash: Alumni Edition. Thank you!

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Reunion highlights education, entertainment



Attending the School of Pharmacy's class of 1959 golden reunion dinner were: (sitting, left to right) Betty Somerville Taliaferro, Cynthia Slavin Becker, Christine Pippin Dunn and Judy Labson Tomic; and (standing, left to right) John Taliaferro, Robert K. Marks, R. Lee Litchfield, Ann Marks, M. Franklin Jefferson, Donna Marshall, Forrest R. Marshall Jr., George Karos, Rene Karos, Betty Currin and Carthan F. "Sonny" Currin Jr. (Photo by Thurston Howes)

Reunion Weekend School of Pharmacy events kicked off – or teed off, rather – with the Second Pharmacy Alumni and Student Golf Tournament the morning of April 24. The tournament was coordinated by the brothers of Kappa Psi fraternity at Birkdale Golf Club. All proceeds benefited Richmond ALS.

That afternoon, the third annual Warren Weaver Continuing Education Lectureship featured a talk on “The Face of Pharmacy Education Today” by Dean Victor Yanchick and Cindy Kirkwood (B.S. '82, Pharm.D. '85), associate professor of pharmacy. Three first-year Pharm.D. students – Bobby Krzyzanowski, Brad Martin and Sara Tittermary – joined Kirkwood in helping explain the curriculum's most recent changes to alumni.

“...hard work produces a great product.”

Alumni awards were presented later that evening to Bronwyn Burnham (B.S. '89) and Jennifer Edwards (Pharm.D. '99) at the Pharmacy Cocktail Reception and Awards Ceremony. (For details, see next page.) The reception was followed by the class of 1959's 50th reunion dinner.

The Pharmacy Alumni Block Party on April 25 featured entertainment by The English Channel, a Richmond-based British invasion band whose keyboardist, Bob Quarles (B.S. '79), also happened to be celebrating his 30th reunion. Earlier in the day, pharmacy students offered tours of the R. Blackwell Smith Jr. Building; later that day, the Pharmacy Grand Alumni Dinner for classes of 1958 and earlier took place.

Hilda Meth, widow of emeritus faculty member Werner Lowenthal, was on hand during the weekend with copies of “Earth Sculptures,” a collection of award-winning photographs by Lowenthal. (If you're interested in purchasing a copy at \$35, Meth is donating proceeds to the School of Pharmacy via the Werner Lowenthal Endowment Fund.)

The weekend weather couldn't have been nicer as pharmacy alumni took advantage of the opportunity to meet and greet.

Carthan “Sonny” Currin Jr. (B.S. '59) of Chester offered his take on being a School of Pharmacy alumnus: The school teaches every graduate a great lesson for life, he said.

“And that is that hard work produces a great product.”

For more reunion photos, visit www.pharmacy.vcu.edu. Click on Alumni, Donors and Friends, then on Special Events.

Previous Distinguished Pharmacy Alumnus Award Recipients

- 1981 R. Reginald Rooke (B.S. '21)
- 1982 Edward Willey (B.S. '30)
- 1983 E. Claiborne Robins (B.S. '33)
- 1984 W. Roy Smith (B.S. '41)
- 1985 J. Curtis Nottingham (B.S. '35)
- 1986 Linwood S. Leavitt (B.S. '41)
- 1987 Ralph M. Ware Jr. (B.S. '42)
- 1988 John W. Hasty (B.S. '56)
- 1989 Eugene V. White (B.S. '50)
- 1990 Marianne R. Rollings (B.S. '63)
- 1991 Carl F. Emswiller Jr. (B.S. '62)
- 1992 Harvey B. Morgan (B.S. '55)
- 1993 R. Michael Berryman (B.S. '63)
- 1994 William F. Pillow (B.S. '54)
- 1995 R. David Anderson (B.S. '47)
- 1996 Nelson L. Showalter (B.S. '67)
- 1997 Daniel A. Herbert (B.S. '66)
- 1998 Charles E. Green III (B.S. '66)
- 1999 Marie A. Smith (Pharm.D. '80)
- 2000 John O. Beckner (B.S. '78)
- 2001 Alvin J. Schalow Jr. (B.S. '61)
- 2002 S. Chris Jones (B.S. '82)
- 2003 Ronald G. Davis (B.S. '73)
- 2004 Susan L. Wyant (B.S. '74, Pharm.D. '78)
- 2005 Kelly Hasty Kale (B.S. '85)
- 2006 Cynthia Pigg (B.S. '84)
- 2007 Retha M. Robinette (B.S. '87, Pharm.D. '01)
- 2008 Stephen Fuller (B.S. '85, Pharm.D. '88)

Previous Pharmacy Alumnus Service Award Recipients

- 1989 Nick G. Nicholas (B.S. '52)
- 1990 Henry W. Addington (B.S. '51)
- 1991 Bertha C. Rolfe (B.S. '47)
- 1992 R. Blackwell Smith (B.S. '37)
- 1993 Alvin J. Schalow Jr. (B.S. '61)
- 1994 Ralph M. Ware Jr. (B.S. '42)
- 1995 Charles F. Kingery (B.S. '49)
- 1996 E. Claiborne Robins (B.S. '33)
- 1997 Thomas W. Rorrer Jr. (B.S. '52)
- 1998 Marianne R. Rollings (B.S. '63)
- 1999 C. Eugene White (B.S. '56)
- 2000 Michael E. Stredler (B.S. '64)
- 2001 Thomas Talamini (B.S. '61)
- 2002 L. Preston Hale (B.S. '72)
- 2003 Rebecca P. Snead (B.S. '85)
- 2004 Janet Silvester (B.S. '79)
- 2005 Harvey Morgan (B.S. '55)
- 2006 John W. Hasty (B.S. '56)
- 2007 Charles A. Baker (B.S. '72)
- 2008 Amy L. Whitaker (Pharm.D. '98)

Alumni honored for contributions, service, loyalty

Two School of Pharmacy alumni were honored on April 25 at the Pharmacy Cocktail Reception and Awards Ceremony in the R. Blackwell Smith Jr. Building. Dean Victor Yanchick thanked the audience for helping to celebrate “the tremendous contributions of two very special alumni.” His remarks follow:

DISTINGUISHED PHARMACY ALUMNUS AWARD



Jennifer Edwards and Dean Victor Yanchick

The Distinguished Pharmacy Alumnus Award was created to recognize an alumnus for significant contributions to the pharmacy profession and/or the community. This year's recipient is the youngest ever to have received this honor: Jennifer Edwards, class of 1999.

Jennifer is a clinical pharmacist for HCA CJW Medical Center, on the Chippenham Campus. She is also a staff pharmacist for the Walgreen Company, where she has spent the last nine years dedicated to developing patient-care models within Richmond-area stores. Jennifer developed and implemented diabetes and immunization programs for Walgreens and served as the district diabetes representative for all Walgreens stores in the Commonwealth.

Since graduating from VCU School of Pharmacy, Jennifer has served the people of Virginia as a community pharmacy representative to the Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services Drug Utilization Review Board. She has been an active member of the Virginia Pharmacists Association, where she has served as membership chairwoman and as a member of the Education Committee. She is also a member of the board of directors and serves as treasurer for the Richmond Pharmacists Association. Jennifer was honored with the Pharmacists Mutual Distinguished Young Pharmacist of the Year Award for VPhA in 2002.

After losing her 23-year-old brother in 2003 to prescription medication drug abuse, Jennifer became passionate about the pharmacist's role in preventing prescription drug abuse. She served as the only appointed pharmacy representative on

the Virginia Advisory Board of the Prescription Monitoring Program. Since 2006, Jennifer has served as the governor's appointee on the Virginia Board of Pharmacy. Through this honor she participates on the CQI, Informal Conference, Regulation Review, Drug Disposal, Examination and Item Review Committees. She was also appointed by the governor to serve as pharmacy representative on the board of the Virginia Department of Health Professions. Jennifer also serves on the Legislative Affairs Committee to the National Association Boards of Pharmacy to help promote and change pharmacy throughout the country.

Jennifer remains active with the School of Pharmacy by serving on the Curriculum Committee, Office of Experiential Education advisory board and the Admissions Committee. She also is an associate clinical professor. She enjoys guest lecturing and precepting students throughout their advanced community practice clerkships and co-mentoring the Community Pharmacy Residency Program. In 2005, she was recognized as VCU School of Pharmacy preceptor of the month. She assisted in the development and implementation of the Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experience (IPPE) module for community pharmacy and was a conference leader for this program.

PHARMACY ALUMNUS SERVICE AWARD



Dean Victor Yanchick and Bronwyn Burnham

The Pharmacy Alumnus Service Award is given in recognition of outstanding loyalty and service to the school.

Two past recipients of the Service Award are with us. They are: Rebecca Snead (B.S. '85) and Amy Whitaker (Pharm.D. '98).

This year's recipient of the Pharmacy Alumnus Service Award is tireless in her efforts on behalf of pharmacy education, service and care. She is a remarkable leader, a courageous advocate and a good friend: Bronwyn Burnham.

Bronwyn received her B.S. in pharmacy from VCU School of Pharmacy in 1989. She has focused her passion for patient care and service through the community practice environment.

Bronwyn's patient-centered approach to pharmacy practice has been put to use by CVS. She pioneered the CVS Pharmacy Care Centers, meeting with patients monthly to monitor disease states and acting as a liaison between patient and physician. She was a designated outreach coordinator for the Richmond and surrounding markets and was responsible for organizing and implementing outreach programs in the community.

From 2001 to 2004, Bronwyn held the position of pharmacy supervisor with CVS, managing pharmacies in the Richmond and Williamsburg areas. She recently completed the Pharmacy-Based Immunization Delivery Program through APhA and plans to participate in flu clinics organized by CVS/pharmacy this fall.

Bronwyn's true calling and passion is for energizing, organizing and motivating people. Her unwavering commitment to both the Virginia Pharmacists Association and the MCV Alumni Association Pharmacy Division are a testament to this fact. Bronwyn currently serves as president of the Virginia Pharmacists Association and has led the organization through a difficult financial year with focus, bravery and resilience. She has served Virginia pharmacists on the local and state level through VPhA.

Similarly, Bronwyn has embraced the opportunity to serve VCU School of Pharmacy alumni through service on the MCVAA Pharmacy Division board. Currently completing her second year as division chairwoman, she is working with alumni, staff, faculty, community and university leaders to spearhead a strategic plan for the MCVAA Pharmacy Division and the greater association. Through Bronwyn's commitment, the MCVAA will grow to provide a new level of service leadership.

Bronwyn also commits volunteer time directly to the VCU School of Pharmacy as a conference leader for Communications in Pharmacy Practice (PHAR 525) and as an affiliate faculty member in the Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience (APPE) program.

(Photos by Thurston Howes)

CHANGING OF THE GUARD

Virginia Commonwealth University and VCU Health System welcomed a new president, Michael Rao, on July 1.

Rao, who will also be a tenured professor in the School of Education, had been president at Central Michigan University in Mount Pleasant, Mich., since 2000. He previously served as chancellor of Montana State University-Northern in Havre, Mont. (1998–2000), and as president of Mission College in Santa Clara, Calif. (1994–98).

The 42-year-old Florida native holds a bachelor's degree in chemistry from the University of South Florida and a Ph.D. in higher education from the University of Florida. His wife, Monica, will serve as international alumni relations liaison at VCU. The couple have two sons: Miguel, 9, and Aiden, 1.

Sending greetings via the Rx Exchange, Rao said, "It is a pleasure to extend my warmest regards to the School of Pharmacy alumni. Thanks to each of you, the School of Pharmacy has had an enduring legacy as a leader in the field since its beginnings in 1898 and continues to excel in pharmacy education, research and outreach.

"My new colleague, Dean Victor Yanchick, has built upon that well-deserved and long-held tradition both within the school through his exemplary leadership, as well as across the U.S. through his role as current president of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy, which represents nearly 60,000 pharmacy students and faculty nationwide.

"Pharmacy alumni, faculty, staff and students are a vital part of the outstanding reputation of Virginia Commonwealth University. I look forward to meeting



VCU's new president, Michael Rao, says one thing that drew him to Richmond is the diversity of the university and the area. (Photo by Alexa Welch Edlund/ Richmond Times-Dispatch)

with you and partnering with you, as we engage ourselves to embark on a new era of excellence in learning, research and outreach."

Rao is VCU's fifth president. His predecessors were Warren W. Brandt (1969–74); T. Edward Temple (1975–77); Edmund F. Ackell (1978–1990); and Eugene P. Trani (1990–2009). Since Trani arrived at the university, research technology transfer has resulted in more than 30 start-up companies, and about 230

patents have been issued. Total enrollment has increased 47 percent, making VCU the largest university in Virginia. Also, VCU and the VCU Health System have undertaken or have been authorized to undertake more than \$2.2 billion in capital construction and renovation projects.

Trani will remain as a University Distinguished Professor.

When Rao's hiring was announced, Ed Bersoff, chairman of the Presidential Search Committee, said, "Mike and VCU are about the same age, and they both are just now hitting their strides.

"Our expectations and standards are high for each of them, and I am confident that those expectations and standards are likely to be exceeded."

In Memoriam

The School of Pharmacy extends sympathy to family and friends of our departed alumni:

Randolph L. Arthur Jr. (B.S. '50)

Mr. Arthur, 86, of Colonial Heights, died Dec. 16, 2008, at Sitter and Barfoot Veterans Care Center in Richmond. He was predeceased by his wife, Charlotte, and is survived by his son, Stephen and wife Lori; daughter Janet Bishop and husband Ronnie; daughter Joanne Davis and husband Craig; two grandchildren and one sister, June Wilburn. An Army veteran of World War II, he retired from Peoples Drug Store as a registered pharmacist.

Walter Louis Barnes Jr. (B.S. '61)

Mr. Barnes, 79, died in Virginia Beach on Dec. 26, 2008. He is survived by Charlotte, his wife of 58 years; two daughters, Debra Taylor and husband Arthur, and Judith Suldo and husband Michael; six grandchildren; two great-grandchildren and his sister, Octavia Soule and husband Peter. Born in San Francisco and raised in Petersburg, he enlisted in the Air Force during the Korean War and later spent 20 years in the Army Reserve. He was a hospital pharmacist at Duke University before working at Sentara Virginia Beach General Hospital for 26 years.

J. Ronald Beaver (B.S. '57)

Mr. Beaver died March 16, 2009, in Dublin, Va. He is survived by his wife, Tracy.

Jody Groobey Bowker (B.S. '82)

Mrs. Bowker, 50, died April 13, 2009, in Richmond. She is survived by her mother, father and stepfather; her husband Mark; daughter Rachel and son Colby. She was a pharmacist for CJW Medical Center. An obituary in *The Richmond Times-Dispatch* noted that she loved horseback riding, the ocean, the Rappahannock River, her two dogs and, most of all, her family.

Gerald B. Brooks (B.S. '61)

Mr. Brooks died Aug. 20, 2009, in Churchville.

Jack B. Carson (B.S. '50)

Mr. Carson, 81, died April 26, 2009, in Richmond. He is survived by two sisters, Irene McGraw and Eleise Stout; and two brothers, Leroy Wilhelm and Preston Carson. After serving in the Medical Corps during the Korean War, he was employed as a field inspector in 1954 by the Virginia Board of Pharmacy. In 1962, he was appointed executive director, and in 1976, the governor appointed him director of the Health Regulatory Board. He retired in 1991.

Samuel Wilson Crickenberger Sr. (B.S. '57)

Mr. Crickenberger, 79, died Sept. 10, 2008. He is survived by his wife, Bobbie, and her children, Sandy Harris and husband Bill, Rick Halder and wife Nancy, and Scott Halder and wife

Karen; and by his children, Sam and wife Cynthia, and Leslie Blair and husband Charlie. He was a second lieutenant during the Korean War. He had two drugstores in Charlottesville until he moved to Richmond in the 1970s, where he served as executive director of the Virginia Pharmaceutical Association from 1976 to 1979.

Emily Morrison Ellis (B.S. '56)

Emily Morrison Ellis, 73, of White Stone, died Sept. 27, 2008, of acute leukemia. She is survived by her husband of 52 years, Col. Gary Ellis; her daughter Erin Mayer and husband Charles; her daughter Eve Ellis and husband Cmdr. Andrew Burden; and three grandchildren. A member of Rho Chi, Kappa Epsilon and the Virginia Pharmaceutical Association, she worked as a pharmacist for Peoples Drug Store, Dart Drug and Wal-Mart Stores until her retirement in 1995.

Roland G. Garrett Jr. (B.S. '54)

Dr. Garrett, 75, died on April 25, 2009, following a brief illness. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Nancy, and a daughter, Virginia Wilcocks. He is survived by his wife of 34 years, Catherine; his son Robert and wife Marisa; his daughter Brooke Tiller and husband Michael; and six grandchildren. A native of Blackstone, he earned his M.D. degree in 1958 from MCV School of Medicine. He maintained a surgical practice in the Yorktown area from 1963 until his retirement in 1994.

Jerry Allen Looney (B.S. '87)

Mr. Looney, 59, died Aug. 21, 2008, at CJW Medical Center following an extended illness. He is survived by his fiancé, Debra Lynn Isenhower; his mother, Lois; sisters Mary Ann and husband Alan Howell, Connie and husband Doug Matney, and Emma and husband Edwin Miller; and brothers Joseph and wife Judy, and Terry and wife Lana. He was preceded in death by his father, Ules. A retired pharmacist with the Veterans Administration, he taught at Grundy Senior High School for 12 years and also served as athletic director.

Adolph Carl Lueckert, Jr. (B.S. '47)

Mr. Lueckert died Oct. 31, 2008, in Matthews, N.C., from complications of ALS. He was a lifelong native of Norfolk until June 2008, when he moved to live with his daughter. He was predeceased by his wife, Jessie, and his sisters, Marie Ellis and Kathlyn Tillage. He is survived by three children – Carl III and wife Patty; L. Shane Purcell and husband Rich; and Donald and wife Kathy – and four grandchildren. A registered pharmacist for 60 years, he worked at Peoples Drug Store, then Norfolk General Hospital and the Children's Hospital of the King's Daughters.

W.B.C. "Bill" Morley (B.S. '54)

Mr. Morley, 78, died Nov. 6, 2008, at Augusta Medical Center in Fishersville. He is survived by his wife, Sue, of Staunton; a daughter, Elizabeth; a brother, Henry Russell Davis; a sister-in-law, Sally Crickard; and a brother-in-law, Lewis Crickard. He was preceded in death by his stepparents and a sister-in-law, Helen Davis. An Army veteran, he was employed by Peoples

Drug Store and Neighborhood Drug Store. He retired as chief pharmacist at Western State Hospital.

E. Carlyle Phillips (B.S. '42)

Mr. Phillips died March 4, 2009. He was predeceased by his wife, Marie, and is survived by their four children, Johnny, Tommy, Joan and William. Retired as a pharmacist for Central Drugs, he lived in Salisbury, Md.

Sherrie L. Pittman (Pharm.D. '01)

Dr. Pittman, 57, died April 28, 2009, at the Johnson City (Tenn.) Medical Center. She is survived by her husband of 39 years, Joseph; her daughter Jennifer Carr and husband Tobias; son Anthony; sister Carol Chevreuil; and her parents and grandmother. She was a staff pharmacist for Kmart but, according to her obituary in the *Johnson City Press*, "She considered her number one job in life to be a loving and supportive wife and mother to her family." She was preceded in death by her son Phillip.

Bryan Puckett Jr. (B.S. '50)

Mr. Puckett, 80, died at home in Richmond on Nov. 23, 2008. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Barbara; his son Ryland; his son Bryan and wife Paige; and his brother Edwin and wife Harriet. A veteran of the Korean War, he served in the Medical Corps and in a MASH unit. A pharmacist for 32 years and executive vice president of Drugway Stores, he retired in 1982. He also served as president of Couture Fabrics for 35 years, through 2006.

Jonah Milstein Slipow (B.S. '39)

Mr. Slipow died at home May 30, 2009. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Bernice; his son Larry and wife Sharon; his daughter Janet Meyers and husband Stanley; and four grandchildren. Orphaned as a toddler in the Ural Mountains area, he was adopted by his grandparents in Richmond. Following graduation, he became a principal in the Lafayette Pharmacies. As president of the Richmond Pharmaceutical Association, he was instrumental in the 1961 citywide oral polio vaccination campaign. And as a member of the MCV Alumni Association, he was active in helping to organize pharmacy class reunions.

Thomas B. Talamini (B.S. '61)

Capt. Talamini, 75, died March 16, 2009, at Muskogee (Okla.) Veterans Hospital. He was predeceased by his wife, Peggy, his parents and one sister. He is survived by one sister, Orsolina Alberghini. He worked as a pharmacist in Newport News and Hampton before taking a job as chief pharmacist for Oklahoma's Claremore Indian Hospital, working his way up to Navy captain and then hospital director. He was hospital CEO for 24 years. In 2001, he received the School of Pharmacy's Pharmacy Alumnus Service Award.

Thomas O. White Jr. (B.S. '72)

Mr. White died April 13, 2009, in Richmond.

NEWS CAPSULES

The accomplishments of the School of Pharmacy's alumni, faculty, staff and students are far too numerous to include here. Here's just a smattering of what they – and you – have been up to since the holidays.

ALUMNI

Alumni members of the School of Pharmacy's National Advisory Council, which met May 1, are: **Rick Baxter** (B.S. '78) of Richmond; **Catherine Cary** (B.S. '89, Pharm.D. '95) of Mechanicsville; **Ron Davis** (B.S. '73) of Richmond; **Frank Harvey** (B.S. '84) of Williamsburg; **John Hasty** (B.S. '56) of Hayes; **Keith Hodges** (B.S. '89) of Urbanna; **Susan Learned** (Pharm.D./Ph.D. '97) of Pittsboro, N.C.; **Rusty Maney** (B.S. '87) of Mechanicsville; and **Ron McFarlane** (B.S. '80) of Raleigh, N.C.

Also: **Bruce McWhinney** (B.S. '70) of Macon, N.C.; **Phillip Morris** (B.S. '85) of Providence Forge; **Bertha Rolfe** (B.S. '47) of Richmond; **Thomas Rorrer** (B.S. '52) of Fredericksburg; **Alvin Schalow Jr.** (B.S. '61) of Midlothian; **Janet Silvester** (B.S. '79) of Troy; and **Rebecca Snead** (B.S. '85) of Chester. Emeritus alumni members are **Carl Emswiler Jr.** (B.S. '62) of Sarasota, Fla., and Bayse; and **Timothy Lucas** (B.S. '93) of Roanoke.

Non-alumni members of the National Advisory Council are: **Lenn Murrelle** of Midlothian; **Joseph Oley** of Richmond; **Edith Rosato** of Fairfax Station; **Larry Small** of Midlothian; **Jermaine Smith** of Nottingham, Md.; and **Daniel Wandres** of Falls Church.



Ron and Nancy McFarlane, who met as students, own MedProRx Inc., an accredited specialty infusion pharmacy.

Nancy and Ron McFarlane (both B.S. '80) of Raleigh, N.C., donated \$250,000 to the School of Pharmacy for an endowed professorship in pharmacy practice. The professorship is in addition to the Phi Delta Chi Scholarship and the Nancy L. and Ronald H. McFarlane Scholarship, which the couple previously established. "The school is doing a lot of great things," says Ron McFarlane. "We are happy to be able to help them achieve and grow their mission."

The Pharmacy Division of the MCV Alumni Association is helmed by **Bronwyn Burnham** (B.S. '89). Other members are **Kenneth Kolb** (Pharm.D. '82), who also serves as treasurer of the MCVAAB board, and pharmacy trustees-at-large: **Hill Hopper** (B.S. '89), **Timothy Robertson** (B.S. '92), **Mark Szalwinski** (B.S. '85) and **Amy Whitaker** (Pharm.D. '98). Whitaker is also an assistant professor of pharmacy at the school.

For more alumni news, visit www.pharmacy.vcu.edu. Click on Alumni, Donors and Friends, then on PharmFlash: Alumni Edition. To submit your news, e-mail pharmacyalum@vcu.edu.

FACULTY AND STAFF



McClay

Joseph L. McClay, research assistant professor of pharmacy, received a 2009 NARSAD Young Investigator Award. The National Alliance for Research on Schizophrenia and Depression is considered the world's leading charity for mental-health research.

William Garnett (B.S. '69), professor of pharmacy, and **David Holdford**, associate professor of pharmacy, were named APhA Academy of Pharmaceutical Research and Science fellows at the American Pharmacists Association's Annual Meeting and Exposition in San Antonio, Texas, in April.

New faculty and staff include:

Business Office: **Rachel Mocny Salinas**, fiscal administrator for the Department of Pharmaceutics; and **Tremayne Thompson**, fiscal administrator for the Department of Medicinal Chemistry.

Dean's Office: **Scott Crenshaw**, building manager and administrative support specialist; and **Renee L. Murray**, director of the Office of Experiential Education's IPPE program.

Departments of Pharmaceutics and Pharmacy: **Cristy Davis**, office services assistant.

Department of Pharmacy: **Ann Weisner**, who's finishing an AmCare residency at University of Kentucky, will join the faculty Aug. 17. New affiliate faculty are **Matthew Banks**, **Rebecca Collins**, **Monty Kier**, **Edward Murrelle** and **William Zellmer**.

Transitions:

Dean's Office: **Beverly Talluto**, assistant dean for experiential education, left to join Texas A&M's Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy as associate dean for clinical programs.

Department of Medicinal Chemistry: Most of the department moved from the fifth floor of the R. Blackwell Smith Jr. Building to Biotech One at 800 East Leigh Street.

Department of Pharmaceutics: **Wesley J. Poynor**, associate professor, retired.

Department of Pharmacy: **Kimberly Cappuzzo** (Pharm.D. '01), assistant professor, working as a senior regional scientific liaison with Amgen Inc. (She will remain an affiliate associate professor with the school.)

Norman Carroll, professor of pharmacy, is on a one-year sabbatical.

Don Brophy, associate professor and vice chairman for clinical pharmacy programs, became interim chairman, effective July 1. **Ron Polk**, professor, stepped down after five years to allow more involvement in research and graduate program development.

In memoriam:

James Fisk Stubbins, emeritus professor of pharmaceutical chemistry, died April 29 at age 78. *The Richmond Times-Dispatch* ran a feature story about him on May 2. To read the story, including comments by **Richard Glennon**, chairman of the Department of Medicinal Chemistry, and **Monty Kier**, emeritus professor of medicinal chemistry, visit www.timesdispatch.com and site search the word Stubbins.

For more faculty news, visit www.pharmacy.vcu.edu and click on Departments.

EVENTS

Dean Victor Yanchick was invited to deliver commencement addresses to the University of Connecticut School of Pharmacy on May 9, the University of Iowa College of Pharmacy on May 14 and the University of Texas at Austin College of Pharmacy on May 22. He also made opening and closing remarks at the VCU School of Pharmacy convocation on May 16 and will preside at the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy's 2009 Annual Meeting in Boston in July.

Eve Bell of HCA Henrico Doctors' Hospital-Forest in Richmond was named 2008–09 Preceptor of the Year at the Office of Experiential Education's annual Preceptor Appreciation & Awards Night on April 25. Also honored as Outstanding Preceptors were: **Robert Carson** of Ukrop's Pharmacy, Virginia Center Commons, Richmond (community rotation); **Jennifer Chow** of Children's Hospital of the Kings Daughters, Norfolk (acute care-pediatrics rotation); **Neil Davis** of Sentara Virginia Beach General Hospital, Virginia Beach (acute care-critical care rotation); **Michael Dupree** of Federal Correction Institution, Petersburg (elective – infectious disease rotation); **Tim Lucas** of DownHome Pharmacy, Roanoke (advanced community rotation); **Cherri Mohler** of Walgreens Clinic Pharmacy, Chippenham Campus of CJW Medical Center, Richmond (advanced community rotation); **Tiffany Ngo** of Giant Pharmacy, Fairfax (community rotation); and **Sheri Ober** of Carilion Medical Center, Roanoke (elective – infectious disease rotation).

Recipients of the 2008–09 Outstanding Mentor Awards were: **Daniel Tassone** of the School of Pharmacy's Inova Campus in Falls Church (faculty) and **Patricia Pecora Fulco** of VCU Health System (nonfaculty). Outstanding Service Award winners were: **Joe Hoyle** of HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital of Virginia, Richmond (geriatric and IPPE hospital rotations); and **Rodney Stiltner** of VCU Health System (elective – hospital pharmacy administration rotations and more than 20 IPPE hospital rotations).

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It's the biggest School of Pharmacy graduation since ... well, since 1898! A big thumbs up to classmates from John Ejezie, Pharm.D. '09. Page 3.



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COVER STORY

The School of Pharmacy's class of 2009 is its biggest ever: 122 Pharm.D. degrees, six nontraditional Pharm.D. degrees, six M.S. in pharmaceutical sciences degrees, five Ph.D. in pharmaceutical science degrees and four combined degrees with Certificates in Aging Studies. To ensure that pharmacy education continues to flourish, the school – on behalf of alumni, individual and corporate donors – is also offering a record amount in scholarship funds, totaling \$550,000. Are you interested in investing in pharmacy's future? Visit www.pharmacy.vcu.edu and click on "Alumni, Donors and Friends" or contact Ellen Leverich at (804) 828-3016 or emleverich@vcu.edu.

Cover photo by Cabay-Fine Photography.