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### Message from the Dean

Dear Alumni and Friends of the UF College of Pharmacy,

Be grateful. Count your blessings. Acknowledge them. In the midst of a fast-paced world, we are reminded to do these things. Now, more than ever, when health, political, financial, and social justice concerns are simultaneously heightened, it is *vital* to affirm the positive things in our lives. I am grateful for many things - my husband and three children, my faith, for a career that affords opportunity to impact thousands of lives by educating future pharmacists, and for an institution and a team in our College that allows me to do that. I am also grateful for YOU. As a current student, an alumnus, a preceptor, board member, or other friend of this program, I am grateful for your support of this College of Pharmacy. When you provide your time, your talents, and your treasures to support this program, you make a difference that matters. I am proud of the efforts and outcomes of the Oiler Pharmacy Family, and I hope you will join me in celebrating them in this newsletter.

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We are #Oilerstrong!

Debra L. Parker, PharmD

Dean, College of Pharmacy



## **UF Pharmacy Students Advocate for the Profession**

Making the most of American Pharmacists Month, University of Findlay pharmacy students and faculty met with US Representative Bob Latta for an in-person meeting to discuss and advocate for National Provider Status (photo above, Rep. Latta 2nd on left). This would allow for a continuum of the services to underserved Medicare patients that pharmacists are currently able to provide Medicaid recipients. UF students and faculty also met with two of Senator Rob Portman's aides on October 18 to advocate for the same. Both events were informative for both politicians and students alike.

Students also gathered to write

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Medically Underserved Areas
Enhancement Act (see photo
below), a bill that would enable
Medicare beneficiaries to access
essential patient care services
provided by pharmacists in medically
underserved areas. The bill aligns
Medicare state laws, which allow
pharmacists to provide a variety of
care services, including medication
management, monitoring chronic
conditions such as diabetes and
hypertension, smoking cessation
services, and coordinating transitions
of care.





# 2021 Ohio Pharmacists Association (OPA) Legislative Day

Associate Dean Tonya Dauterman and Dean Debra Parker represented

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The day provided the opportunity to learn about important legislation in Ohio that would affect the practice of pharmacy. Pharmacists also had the opportunity over lunch to discuss issues important to them with their respective state senators and representatives. Sixth year UF pharmacy student, Addison Sember, played an active role in planning the event and learning about organization leadership over her month-long APPE experience with OPA.

Dr. Dauterman commented about the experience, "It is important to set the example for our students on the importance of advocacy for our profession. We all have to do our part to ensure the best opportunities for our profession and our graduates."

According to Ernie Boyd, Executive Director of the Ohio Pharmacists Association, "There is nothing more powerful than for pharmacists to have face-to-face meetings with legislators and their aides." Dean Parker added, "I couldn't agree more. I would add that the opportunity to network with alumni and colleagues from across the state is valuable. We can accomplish more when we work together."

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Dean Parker & Mohammed Jaber, UF PharmD Class of 2010, reconnected at Legislative Day.



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## **UF Students Win State-Level Clinical Skills Competition**

University of Findlay College of Pharmacy students Matthew Buchfellner and Mercedes Snyder (pictured above) placed first UF's local American Society of Health Systems Pharmacists Clinical Skills Competition. Not stopping there, they competing against the winning counseling teams from other Ohio pharmacy programs and took home bragging rights again by placing first against in the Ohio Society of Health Systems Pharmacists counseling competition. Next stop? Nationals! Mercedes and Matthew will represent UF at the American Society of Health Systems Pharmacists Midyear Clinical Meeting in December. Good luck, team!

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## National Drug Take Back Day

This year On National Drug Take
Back Day, volunteers from one of our
pharmacy fraternities, Alpha Zeta
Omega, worked with the local law
enforcement to help collect over 220
pounds of expired or unused
medication from the Findlay area!



L-R: Dr. Akesha Edwards, Dr. Susan Lewis, & Dr. Ryan Schneider

## Faculty Recognition Event

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year, the College of Pharmacy had not one, but three our faculty members recognized for their outstanding work. Dr. Susan Lewis was awarded the College of Pharmacy Faculty Excellence Award for teaching, service, and support of students. Dr. Akesha Edwards received the inaugural College of Pharmacy's William Ruse Service Award for her work in serving and supporting the underserved, including immunization of area migrant workers. Finally, Dr. Ryan Schneider received one of the University's highest honors, the Harriette Smith-Ritz award for sustained service to the university. Congratulations to all three for their exemplary work!





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### **Appreciation Month**

For National Pharmacist Appreciation Month, two organizations on campus, AZO and SNPhA, teamed up to provide blood pressure screenings for the community. This was done during a Mobile Food Pantry held by the Buford Center and Chopin Hall. The students were able to provide food and health services to many members of the community!



# UF Collects 214,559 Pounds of Food with Helping Hands Food Drive

The 16<sup>th</sup> Annual <u>Helping Hands Food</u> <u>Drive</u>, organized by the University of Findlay and Sodexo, shattered all expectations with a record-breaking collection of 214,559 pounds of food! All non-perishable and monetary donations benefit <u>CHOPIN Hall</u>, a Findlay nonprofit that serves people within the region and has been providing food to families in need for nearly 40 years.

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Drive continued the trend of surpassing the previous year's collections by setting a new personal record for the University. To date, the total amount collected through Helping Hands at UF is 1,097,963 pounds of food. UF's College of Pharmacy placed third in donated "pounds/person". "We are proud and pleased to have such a strong showing. Our faculty and students care deeply about the surrounding community.", shared College of Pharmacy Dean Debra Parker,

#### Other noteworthy statistics:

- Total amount of peanut butter collected (most requested item): 2,759 jars
- 47 pallets of food (two truckloads)
- 280 total students made a donation
- Students donated 16,430 pounds
- 164 people volunteered for a total of 278 hours

UF thanks Garner Trucking Inc. for generously supplying two semi-trucks to accommodate all food transportation to CHOPIN Hall; Campbell's Soup Company, which made a substantial donation; and Walmart, which also donated a large amount along with providing community donation locations for food drop-offs. The 2021 sponsors

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Community Markets, Axe Ventura: Premier Axe Throwing, AMF Sportsman Lanes, and Dietsch Brothers.

To learn more about Helping Hands Food Drive or view past collection numbers, visit the <u>Helping Hands</u> <u>webpage.</u>







Dean Dr Debra Parker, University of Findlay College of Pharmacy, parker@findlay.edu

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