



Message from the Dean Grateful for our Oiler Pharmacy Family

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.

Debra L. Parker, PharmD
Dean, College of Pharmacy



2020 University of Findlay White Coat Ceremony: Tradition Meets Pandemic

The White Coat ceremony is an important milestone in each pharmacy student's career path. There, students receive their first white coat (the symbol of professionalism), take the Oath of a Pharmacist, and commit themselves to their chosen profession. In the Fall of 2020, however, in light of many safety restrictions implemented as a result of COVID-19, many institutions across the country either did not hold this ceremony or converted it to a virtual event. According to UF's Pharmacy Dean, Debra Parker, "We wanted to find a way to provide an in-person experience for our students. In a time when so many components of our lives are now

important care to patients. We just needed to find a way to do so safely, which meant modifying the event.” In order to allow for appropriate social distancing as well as other safety precautions, this year’s White Coat ceremony was limited to white coat recipients, faculty, and guest speakers. Speakers honoring the student pharmacists included UF President, Dr. Katherine Fell, Dean Debra Parker, Dr. Ernie Boyd (Executive Director of the Ohio Pharmacists Association), and Ms. Karen Beard, Chair of the College’s Advisory Board. The event was live-streamed to family and friends, and students each received a gift to mark the occasion. “I believe we were the only program in Ohio able to pull this off. The size of our program and campus community allowed us to be nimble and creative. We are grateful to the UF community for its support in hosting the event, to CVS Health for providing sponsorship, and to the family and friends of these student pharmacists,” said Parker. “This is the first pharmacy class to begin its professional level coursework and practice in the midst of a pandemic. They will persevere through this and many challenges in their professional careers, and I am very confident they have the grit and the skills to see them through.”

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Social Justice and Belonging – It Starts Here

In an earlier newsletter issue this year, I wrote to you regarding the realities of social injustices in the spotlight of the country, starting by acknowledging that individuals in our own community are impacted and affected by the inequities in the world. I asked if any of you would like to be involved as we begin addressing these topics by examining our own college and university community, and by identifying ways we can work to create a culture right here that supports diversity and equity, and where people can feel a true sense of belonging. Thank you to the students, faculty, and alumni who responded. We are grateful for your help. I write to you this month to provide you with a few updates on progress. Led by a group of passionate students, an event involving both the College of Pharmacy and the College of Health

on inequities in healthcare and what we can do about them. We are updating our college's faculty hiring process to intentionally include language about expectations to support and foster diversity and equity in our program. We are launching a "lunch and learn" series, open to faculty, staff, and students, with the aim of helping each of us grow and become more culturally humble. Finally, early in 2021, with the help of UF's Buford Center for Diversity and Service, we will further our work by assessing our college's current environment and the sense of belonging that exists in our own faculty, staff, and students. Having this baseline information will inform subsequent alumni focus group discussions (to be conducted by the Buford Center staff) and then be used to help guide College activities in the future. If you are interested in being a part of an alumni focus group, you are welcome. Please click [HERE](#) to let us know we can contact you for input. This is a subject that matters. It is important to say that. It is also important to follow up with actions. Thank you for your support as we work to constantly improve and to provide an environment in which everyone can thrive.



APPEs During A Pandemic

COVID-19 has left its infamous mark on experiential education both in IPPEs and APPEs. It was an unprecedented ending to the 2020 academic year. However, all APPE students did meet ACPE accreditation requirements and finished all their required rotations thanks to the efforts of many sites. The college understood that each site had their own special dynamics and challenges which sometimes didn't include student learning due to the uncertainties and extra requirements of the pharmacy department to care for patients. Other sites were able to step up and helped students finish their degree requirements. Some sites were able to maximize telehealth features and allow students to participate remotely. [READ MORE](#)



UF's College of Pharmacy Works to Raise Awareness During American Pharmacists Month

In support of American Pharmacists Month, University of Findlay College of Pharmacy faculty and students are rallying to raise awareness.

American Pharmacists Month is a celebration in support of pharmacists around the country. According to the American Pharmacists Association, the purpose of this celebration is to, “bring awareness to the wide array of services pharmacists provide, emphasizing pharmacists’ accessibility and expertise in patient care.” Tonya Dauterman, Pharm.D., assistant professor of pharmacy practice, associate dean of external affairs and advocacy, and chair of experiential education, said, “American Pharmacists Month celebrates and recognizes the value among the public, patients, policy makers, and others to the vast array of health care services that



Rachel Hartman, Class of 2021

This month, we introduce you to Rachel Hartman, Class of 2021. She is a current P6 from Danville, Pennsylvania. During her time at Findlay, Rachel was active on campus as President of SNPhA, Membership Vice President of APhA-ASP, and a member of Rho Chi. She also enjoyed her position as a pharmacy intern at Wood County Hospital, in Bowling Green. During her P5 year, she coauthored her first manuscript, “Novel therapeutic agents for the treatment of diabetic kidney disease,” with Drs. Susan Lewis and P.S. Shantanu Rao. She is currently completing her APPEs at the Cleveland Clinic; her main

care. Her most impactful rotation thus far was her first rotation in diabetes management ambulatory care, with her preceptor Diana Isaacs, PharmD, BCPS, BCACP, BC-ADM, CDCES. Rachel stated, “I have a passion for diabetes management because I grew up watching my brother manage his type 1 diabetes. My rotation exposed me to many patients that were passionate about improving their diabetes management through a multimodal approach, including medication, exercise, and nutritional management.” While on this rotation, Rachel was able to meet other students and develop the poster “2020 New Drugs on the Horizon” for the National Association of Diabetes Care and Education Specialists Annual Conference. She also worked to develop a research project for the Annual Midyear Clinical Meeting; gauging ambulatory care pharmacist interest in expanding their clinical research interests at the Cleveland Clinic. Rachel furthered her passion for writing by serving as a coauthor for the publication “Pharmacokinetics and Clinical Implications of Oral Semaglutide for Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus,” an article published in *Clinical Pharmacokinetics* outlining the recently approved oral GLP-1 agonist, Rybelsus. To students beginning to think about their

opportunities to develop skills you don't feel you are strong in. "APPEs will expose you to so many experiences, so keep an open mind and take every learning opportunity as it comes!"



**Advisory Board
Spotlight:
Joseph V. Conda –
Entrepreneur,
Adviser and
Philanthropist**

Allow us to introduce you to College of Pharmacy Advisory Board member Joseph “Joe” Conda! Before joining our advisory board, Joe spent 47 years in the pharmaceutical

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4th largest pharmaceutical wholesaler in the U.S. There, he served as Sr. VP for Strategic Planning and Business Development, and President of H.D. Smith Specialty Solutions. Joe's education is grounded in business; he received his Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration and Marketing from Rutgers University and has a Graduate Level Certification in Finance from the University of Virginia, Darden School of Business. He is the past recipient of the 1998 Nexus Award from the *Healthcare Distribution Alliance for Lifetime Achievement in the Pharmaceutical Distribution Industry* honoring exceptional character, accomplishments and leadership in HDA, the industry and the community. In 2010 he received the Harold Pratt Award from the National Chain Drug Store Association for outstanding contributions to pharmacy in the Chain Drug Store Industry. Joe is one of only four executives to have ever been honored with both awards since their inception. While these accomplishments are quite impressive, Joe brings a spirit of humility and philanthropy to all he does. In fact, he and his wife Judith, recently accepted the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) Northwest Ohio Chapter Outstanding Philanthropist Award. Click [HERE](#) to

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and the College of Pharmacy.

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