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## Message from the Dean

Dear Alumni and Friends of the UF College of Pharmacy,

I hope this college update finds each of you well. When I last wrote, we were just a few weeks ahead of classes beginning, and cautiously hopeful for a smooth return to campus for our community. I am pleased to share that with masks, appropriate hygiene, and social distancing, and strong endorsement of the COVID-19 vaccine, on-campus in-person activities have resumed and there

is a feeling of optimism and gratitude to be with one another. I know that all of you are also dealing with changes in personal, professional, and family lives, and I pray you and your loved ones are taking care of your physical as well as mental health. I am pleased to share highlights from the beginning of the academic year with you!

We are #Oilerstrong!

Debra L. Parker, PharmD  
Dean, College of Pharmacy



## **UF Student Pharmacists Recognized by American Institute of the History of Pharmacy**

The American Institute of the History

of Pharmacy (AIHP) is a national organization dedicated to advancing knowledge and understanding of the history of pharmacy and medicines. In the spring of 2021, AIHP awarded seventeen Student Certificates of Recognition for their achievements or activities related to the history of pharmacy, two of whom are UF College of Pharmacy students. Congratulations to Zoey C. Cook, P3 of Mount Vernon, Ohio, and Ryan Gildow, P3, of Warsaw, Ohio!

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Dr. Rachel O'Malley, UF PharmD '21

**College of Pharmacy**

# **Telehealth Center Launches a Second Fellowship in Population Health**

For several years, the College of Pharmacy's Telehealth Center (THC) has offered a fellowship in collaboration with Bon Secours Mercy Health. In Fall 2021, the THC has expanded its postgraduate training opportunities with an additional fellowship position.

According to Dr. Sothea Phon-Xue, Director of the THC, "We now serve over 50,000 clients, and the range of services our center provides continues to expand. With clients including insurance companies, health systems, employers, and more, the center provides an amazing environment for gaining experience in telehealth, population health, and truly refining business and communication skills." We are proud to announce our newest fellow, Dr. Rachel O'Malley, UF PharmD '21.

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## **V.I.P.<sup>2</sup> Day (Very Important Potential Pharmacist) October 8, 2021**

What do pharmacists actually do?  
Explore the profession at our  
V.I.P.<sup>2</sup> Day!

Findlay's College of Pharmacy would like to invite high school students to join us for our V.I.P.<sup>2</sup> day of learning and exploring. Students will get an overview of pharmacy practice as they spend time in the lab compounding chemicals, learning about physical assessment and filling prescriptions under the supervision of our College of Pharmacy faculty and teaching assistants. They will get an overview of Findlay's pharmacy program as well as some souvenirs to take home.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

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## **Class of 2023 Initiates to Rho Chi Pharmacy Honor Society**

On Thursday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, ten new members of the Delta Theta chapter of Rho Chi joined the esteemed group of academic scholars. This year marks the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the UF chapter and the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Rho Chi Society.

Family, friends, faculty, and staff happily joined together this year for

the ceremony held in the backyard of President Fell's home. Dean Parker, Vice President Fields, and the members of the Class of 2022 led the ceremony for the new initiates from the 2023 cohort.

The new members are Jack Adams, Lauren Bull, Brooklyn Cassady, Mackenzie Deitsch, Racheal Hendershot, Kallee Higgins, Madison Milby, Tila Nguyen, Emma Pruzan, and Alison Lynee Shutt. Dean Parker, Vice President Fields, and outgoing President Calynn Murphy kicked off the ceremony, sharing comments and congratulations. Officers for the upcoming year, President Brooklyn Cassady, Vice President Alison Shutt, Secretary Lauren Bull, Treasurer Emma Pruzan, and Historian Tila Nguyen, were installed, and a celebratory reception followed.

The group looks forward to a year where they will demonstrate philanthropy by hosting a local food drive and "pay it forward" by assisting fellow students in their studies.



# **UF Hosts its Sixteenth Annual White Coat Ceremony**

After a modified 2020 White Coat Ceremony, the College of Pharmacy was pleased to once again host its annual White Coat Ceremony on August 27, welcoming the Class of 2025 to the profession of pharmacy. With guests representing the Ohio State Board of Pharmacy (Trina Buettner), the Ohio Society of Health Professions (Bob Parsons), the Ohio Pharmacists Association (Ernie Boyd), and CVS Health (Sarah Edington), UF President Dr. Katherine Fell and College of Pharmacy Dean Debra Parker, impressed upon the students the significance of this moment in the careers of these student pharmacists. Said Dean Parker, "You are studying and working not just for grades but for your current and your future patients. It's a big deal. You are held to an extremely high standard of honesty, integrity, and professionalism in all you do. Inside and outside class. They are depending on you... It is serious. It is important. And it is exciting. We believe in you. I believe in you. You each have such potential to do great things wherever you go from here, and we are all pleased to support



you and to celebrate with you!"  
Congratulations to the Class of 2025!

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Dr. Chad Shepherd,  
[chad.shepherd@findlay.edu](mailto:chad.shepherd@findlay.edu)





Sheri Leatherman,  
[sheri.leatherman@findlay.edu](mailto:sheri.leatherman@findlay.edu)

## **Staff Highlights: College of Pharmacy Welcomes Two New Staff Members**

Two key components of the college's strategic plan focus on enrollment management and supporting student success. Putting action behind those words, we have been hard at work operationalizing initiatives to promote the profession and our program *and* to ensure once students are here, they have every support to help them be successful in their studies and in their careers.

Dr. Chad Shepherd, Coordinator of Pharmacy Student Success, joined the college in August. With a BS from Heidelberg, College, an M.S. from The University of Akron, a PhD from the University of Toledo, and years of experience working with students in higher education, he is already proving to be a tremendous asset to the program, working to identify earlier predictors and threats to student success and providing one-on-one coaching and guidance to pharmacy students. He is working

closely with Dr. Sandra Earle, Associate Dean for Assessment and Student Success who shares that “Chad is already proving to be an valuable resource to our faculty and our students, and his contributions truly underscore the commitment of our program to the success of our students.”

Also joining the college this fall is Ms. Sheri Leatherman, Coordinator of Pharmacy External Engagement and Enrollment. Sheri hold a Bachelors degree from Capital University, a Masters degree from the University of Findlay, and has a variety of experiences in higher education admissions and recruiting from Bluffton University and Bowling Green State University. With goals of increasing and deepening our connections to other institutions of higher education as well as K-12 schools, and promoting the profession of pharmacy and UF’s College of Pharmacy, she has already hit the ground running.

Welcome Chad and Sheri! I encourage you to contact them directly to learn about their efforts and to provide ideas or suggestions. As part of the UF College of Pharmacy family, your input is important to us.



## **Q & A with Dr. David Hartzell, UF College of Pharmacy Advisory Board Member**

Meet Dr. David “Dave” Hartzell, PharmD, Clinical Account Manager, Gainwell Technologies, and UF College of Pharmacy Advisory Board member. Dave sat down with us this month to share his perspectives on board service, his career, and advice for others.

### **What interested you in joining the UF College of Pharmacy Board?**

“I want to help UF students consider alternative career paths and evolve training around management and

leadership. These are skills that many future pharmacy leaders don't consider soon enough; more exposure to these concepts can help provide better work relationships and improve overall workplace performance."

**To the layperson, how would you describe what you do and how it ultimately affects patients?** "I'm responsible for the relationship between Gainwell and Ohio's Department of Medicaid as well as Gainwell's clinical, operational, and financial performance. I work to identify processes and programs that work well to serve large populations of people in an efficient and cost-effective manner."

**What is the most gratifying part of your job?** "Having the freedom to try new approaches and be exposed to a broad set of companies and people."

**What is your best advice to current pharmacy students who want to pursue a more non-traditional pharmacy career (i.e. not community or retail as they have historically been practiced)?** "Foster your curiosity, focus on creating results, and be open to opportunities that broaden your experience."

**What keeps you busy when you are not working?** "I'm the Treasurer for Boys and Girls Club in Dayton. Family events, hiking, snow

skiing, and travel take up the rest of my free time!”

According to Debra Parker, Dean for the College, “Dr. Hartzell is another great example of the variety of experiences pharmacists can enjoy, including both direct and indirect patient care responsibilities. We are so appreciative of what he brings to the table for our program and our students.”



## **Pharmacy Career Fair Alive and Well in 2021**

On September 16<sup>th</sup> the college of pharmacy hosted its annual Career

Fair for its P4, P5 and P6 pharmacy students. In 2020, due to COVID-19-related restrictions, the event was held virtually; while it was a success, we were pleased to have our students and potential employers, recruiters, and residency/clinical directors interact in person once again this year. This year, over 20 sites (including the US Navy) attended.

P6 students returned to campus from their experiential rotations for a day packed with networking and professional development. They had the opportunity to meet with numerous community pharmacy, industry, and health systems recruiters regarding residency programs and potential job openings. Board preparation took place with participation in the pre-NAPLEX. These senior students participated in an etiquette luncheon hosting guest speakers who shared aspects of being a Clinical Research Associate for a research organization providing services for Phase I-IV clinical trials - a new practice areas for pharmacists. They were also provided information about being a Medical Liaison, about the possibilities with Industry Fellowships, and Clinical Pharmacy and Residency programs. They also heard valuable information about securing their future financial stability

from a financial advisor.

The Career Fair provided the P4 and P5 students the opportunity to plan for their advanced pharmacy practice experiences as well as internship opportunities. Students were provided opportunities to be engaged in conversation with pharmacy directors, clinical coordinators and residents about the various offerings and what makes each pharmacy site unique in providing health care.

Dr. Tonya Dauterman, Director of Experiential Education, whose department coordinated the day's events, commented, "A lot of work goes into this day, but the value it provides our students is tremendous. We truly appreciate all those that were able to attend this year's Career Fair and look forward to next year's career fair, which is set for September 15, 2022."







## **UF's Homecoming 2021 is Back in (Orange) & Black!**

UF will host its annual homecoming and family weekend October 7 – 9<sup>th</sup>. Please click [HERE](#) to check out all that's going on! There is a lot happening, but we will just point out a few activities that you may want to make particular note of (and we hope you will join us)!

**Homecoming 5K** – Saturday morning, October 9<sup>th</sup> at 8am - sponsored by UF's American Pharmacists Association Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP) chapter in collaboration with UF's Track & Field team. Participate virtually or in person to raise awareness for heart health, and to raise funds for the American Heart Association.

**The College of Pharmacy**  
“Pharmal” will take place Friday evening, October 8<sup>th</sup> from 7-11 pm at the Hilton Garden Inn, Findlay. Students AND alumni are invited to an evening of fellowship and fun.

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

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