A Message from the Chair

I am very excited to introduce the inaugural issue of the newsletter of the Department of Pharmacology & Toxicology at the University of Utah. We hope that this will provide a great forum for keeping you updated on the accomplishments of our talented faculty, trainees, and alumni and on news from the College of Pharmacy and the Health Sciences Center. I encourage alumni to keep in touch, especially when you have news to share with the PharmTox community. This is a great place to thank Dr. William Crowley for his 16 years of service as the Chair of the department. He did a wonderful job and now that I sit at his former desk, I realize how much goes on behind the scenes to make things run smoothly – and I am grateful that his office is right around the corner! I would also like to congratulate Dr. Michael Franklin, who is retiring in July. Luckily for us, he will be an active emeritus professor (when he and his wife Margaret aren’t camping!) and his advice and wisdom will continue to be sought after by faculty and students alike. I hope you enjoy this issue of the “The Dose” and we look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,
Karen S. Wilcox, Ph.D.

Remember to ‘Like’ us on Facebook and Twitter:
Calendar of events & news

**July 8, 2015 (Wednesday), 5:00 – 8:00 PM:** The Molecular Biology / Biochemistry Summer Picnic will be held in Sunnyside Park

**July 30, 2015 (Thursday), 9:00AM, HSEB 2680:** SURF and Waterford School Summer Student Research Symposium

**July 31, 2015 (Friday), 9:30AM, HSEB 2680:** Juan Diego Catholic High School Summer Student Research Symposium

**JOB OPENING:** We are hiring an Associate Professor! We welcome applicants with expertise in any area of Pharm/Tox, with particular interest in applicants involved in cross-cutting research in genetics/genomics, personalized medicine, analytical sciences, and/or mechanistic and/or translational pharmacology and toxicology, particularly as they relate to cancer, neurological, cardiovascular, and metabolic and inflammatory disorders and diseases. The candidate must also have a record of excellence in teaching graduate and professional pharmacy/medical students, and should have strong leadership and interpersonal skills.

[https://utah.peopleadmin.com/postings/39372](https://utah.peopleadmin.com/postings/39372)

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**Alumni News**

**Jay R. Vargas, Ph.D.** began his faculty appointment as an assistant professor of Criminal Justice at the California State University, Los Angeles. We wish him all the best!

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**Dr. Michael Franklin**

After 43 years as a faculty member of the Pharmacology and Toxicology Department at the University of Utah, Dr. Michael Franklin has decided to retire. We are sad to see him leave as he played such an integral role in the department and College of Pharmacy as an educator, mentor, and colleague. We thank him for his many years of service and we wish him the best of luck on his future endeavors and on becoming an emeritus professor!
Did you know…

The tradition of throwing your graduation cap in the air began at the 1912 US Naval Academy graduation ceremony. The navy gave its newly appointed graduates their officers’ hats at graduation, so the no longer needed midshipmen’s caps they’d been wearing for the past four years were thrown in celebration. The tradition caught on nation-wide over time.

~http://www.kic.org.uk/pathways/blog/graduation-traditions-explained

2015 College of Pharmacy Convocation

The 2015 College of Pharmacy Convocation was held at the Olpin Student Union building on May 8th, 2015. Several of our faculty donned their regalia to honor our graduating PharmD, MS, and Ph.D. students as well as our colleagues receiving awards for their exceptional teaching and service. Many congratulations to all whom were honored.

2015 Student & Faculty Rock N’ Bowl

We came, we saw, we bowled….

While the scores weren't always as high as hoped and form sometimes gave way to function, the 2015 Rock N’ Bowl sponsored by the Association of Pharmacology and Toxicology graduate students on May 1st at the Crimson Commons Bowling alley at the Student Union was a huge success. Everyone in attendance had an excellent time. Thank you to all who participated and made it such a fun event!
2015 ADD Symposium a success!

In conjunction with its 40th anniversary, the Anticonvulsant Drug Development (ADD) Program sponsored an international symposium entitled “Therapy Development in the Era of Team Science and Big Data: What will the future bring to the patient with epilepsy?” on May 17-20, 2015, in Park City, UT. Over 20 travel awards were given to students and attendees from 3 continents participated! The organizing committee thanks the speakers and all pharmacology and toxicology faculty, staff and students whom attended or participated in this event. View the speaker list and see a photo gallery at: http://www.addsymposium.com

Student News:

The following Grad Students have been awarded $400.00 toward travel from the Graduate School:

- Chandni Sheth, Society for Neuroscience 2015, October 17 – 22 in Chicago

The following students have been awarded Graduate Research Fellowships from the Graduate School:

- Erica Larson, (Barrow Lab) "Mechanism of Action of Pyrrolocins against Mycobacterium tuberculosis."

Graduate Student Dipan Patel received a predoctoral fellowship from the American Epilepsy Society entitled: Role of TNFα System in Causing Hyperexcitation in Hippocampus
Faculty News: Recent Publications


Faculty News: Recent Grants

- Discovering Roles of Mitochondrial Movement and Distribution in Glia: (Principal Investigators: Dr. Janet Shaw - Biochemistry; Dr. Karen Wilco - Pharmacology & Toxicology). Seed grant from the Neuroscience Initiative

- 5-HT6 localization and function: a prototype target for cognitive therapies (Principal Investigator: Dr. Peter J. West). Pilot Grant from the Center on Aging at the University of Utah