Alumni from six College of Pharmacy classes were honored at a formal banquet on the evening of Friday, September 16, 2004. The Golden Anniversary Class of 1954 was joined by the Silver Anniversary Class of 1979, plus the Classes of 1964, 1974, 1984 and 1994. Dean Stephanie Gardner hosted the event and we were pleased to have Dr. I. Dodd Wilson, Chancellor of UAMS, as an honored guest.

A social hour preceded the banquet, featuring tables for displays related to each of the honored classes. Associate Dean Jon Wolfe ('77) acted as master of ceremonies. After the excellent meal, Dean Gardner spoke briefly, remarking on the importance to every college of commemorating its achievements. She particularly noted the significance for innumerable patients of the careers represented by each of our fifty year alumni.

The evening proved quite enjoyable. Guests used disposable cameras placed on each table to take their own photos during the dinner. Dr. Kara Smith ('98) of Walgreens, Inc. has kindly arranged to develop and print the photos for us.

Plans are already under way for the Fall 2005 Reunions Weekend. In order for it to be even better, and to include many more alumni, we need your participation. Regardless of your class, you are welcome at the Reunion Weekend. However, if you graduated in the next Gold or Silver Classes (1955 and 1980), we particularly want to hear how we can make this next event just the sort of thing you will enjoy. Please contact us at the college to become part of the planning.
New Arrivals

Brady Alan Johnson, daughter of Heath and Bridget ('03) Johnson was born June 13, 2004 and weighted 8 pounds, 11 ounces.

Alumni News

Scott Hansen ('99) married Janay Jacobs of Springfield Missouri on August 14, 2004 and the couple is making their home in Springdale.

Gold Certificate Continuing Education Program

The Arkansas Pharmacists Association generously arranged to host a live continuing education program for pharmacists holding Gold Certificates from the Arkansas State Board of Pharmacy. Mark Riley ('77 & ‘98) and his staff provided the use of the Lester Hosto Center and luncheon for the occasion.

Dr. Cindy Stowe, Director of Continuing Professional Education and other faculty members -- Dr. Jan Hastings ('79 & ‘94), Dr. Jon Wolfe ('77), Dr. John Kirtley ('02) and Dr. Lisa Hutchison -- were pleased to play a role in this important event. The only negative to report is that we now have so many active 50+ year alumni that the Hosto Center could barely hold them. Dean Gardner has already promised that the College of Pharmacy will work with APA to host the 2005 Gold Certificate CE program on our campus.

All of us at the college are proud to help honor those graduates who have faithfully served the profession. Their achievement of a half-century of service has earned our support to recognize them professionally. We value even more their insight and participation in directing the affairs of the profession in Arkansas.
The year 2004 is nearly over! Time has passed so quickly. Looking back over the year, we have accomplished many goals. Our membership has grown to 444 as of this writing and we are still receiving more enrollments each day.

Our first full year was filled with many important events. We enjoyed a beautiful day of horse racing at Oaklawn in April. With the help of the college staff, we prepared “Survival Kits” for the students during their final exam week in May. Our membership drive was in high gear during the APA Annual Convention in June at the Double Tree Hotel in Little Rock, culminating with a full board meeting with representatives from Arkansas Alumni nationwide.

Our first annual Family Vacation/CE trip to Orange Beach, Alabama during August was a HUGE success thanks to Cindy Stowe and her fine staff. I personally enjoyed getting some much needed CE, walking on the beach, playing a couple rounds of golf, and socializing with friends and classmates.

We were very pleased that Chancellor Wilson was able to attend our Reunion Banquet in September. There were a total of 80 attendees with graduates from the Class of 1954 (50 years), Class of 1964, Class of 1974, Class of 1979 (25 years), Class of 1984, and Class of 1994. The fellowshipping and the shared memories were priceless! The Tailgate Party was at the PERFECT place: the corner of West Markham and South Monroe was highly visible and convenient! Corky’s Bar-B-Q was enjoyed by over 50, which included alumni and their families. Of course, the Razorbacks winning the ballgame completed a fantastic fall football day.

We offer many thanks to Trey Gardner and Ed Pat Wright for putting together a great golf tournament at Harbor Oaks in Pine Bluff on Sunday, September 19th complete with WONDERFUL WEATHER. The weekend could not have gone any better.

On Saturday, October 23rd, we enjoyed our Second Tailgate Event at the Arkansas Alumni House in Fayetteville. The staff and facilities have always been gracious to our group, and plans are to make this an annual event. Arkansas came close to winning the game before succumbing to injuries and lack of offensive movement.

Let me take this opportunity to express my heartfelt appreciation for all the work, time and efforts put forth by Sherry Shinn in helping to create and coordinate the behind the scenes work of our Association. We will miss her smile and charm as she is leaving to take a new job with the Little Rock Chapter of the American Cancer Society. We wish her nothing but the best and look forward to hearing great things from her work with this wonderful cause.

Many more exciting events are planned for the year 2005. I invite you to join our Alumni Association to continue receiving news, alumnus updates and notification of all events. Please note this is the FINAL newsletter sent to all UAMS COP graduates. In the future only current Alumni Association members with continue to receive this newsletter. We look forward to hearing from you so that we may continue to notify you of future Alumni events.

Have a happy and safe holiday season. May God richly bless you and your family with health, happiness and success!

Michael D. Smith, P.D., Class of 1978
President, UAMS COP Alumni Association
Reunion Weekend Golf Tournament

Thanks to Drs. Trey Gardner ('98) and Ed Pat Wright ('93) for organizing the Reunion Weekend Golf Tournament at Harbor Oaks Golf Club in Pine Bluff. Special thanks to Walsh Healthcare Solutions for sponsoring this event.

Reunion Weekend Banquet
Thanks to Kristin (’97) and Jeremy (’99) Veteto for all of the work they did in organizing the Fayetteville tailgate party for the Alumni Association.

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**Personal Information Change**

To be listed in the Class Notes of *Connections*, you can use this form to send us your news.

Mail it to *Connections*, UAMS College of Pharmacy, Alumni Association, 4301 West Markham #522-1, Little Rock, AR 72205, or fax it to 501-686-8315. Please email us your news at COPAlumniConnections@uams.edu.

- [ ] Enjoying retirement?
- [ ] Take a trip recently?
- [ ] New family member?
- [ ] Special achievement?
- [ ] Career change?
- [ ] Just married?
- [ ] New address?

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**New Alumni Association Members**

- James Averitt
- Bill Bloodworth
- Karen Christian
- Rob Christian
- Mary K. Davis
- Jennifer Dayberry
- Stacy Hargrove
- Darla Harrington
- Barbara Jeans
- Carla Jenkins
- Kacey Kellebrew
- Brian McGalliard
- Gary McGarity
- Jason McKewen
- Ronnie Norris
- Brent Panneck
- Gregory Keith Perry
- Eugenia Raper
- Andy Rinchuso
- Mike Richardson
- Julie Sedlacek
- Kevin Sedlacek
- Renee Shoppach
- Marilyn Sitzes
- Peggy Stanley
- Heather Stevens
- Fran Stotts
- Charles Tiller
- Lenora Totten
- Pat Turner
- Dean Watts
- Karen Watts
- Teresa Williams

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Thanks to Kristin (’97) and Jeremy (’99) Veteto for all of the work they did in organizing the Fayetteville tailgate party for the Alumni Association.
Reunion Weekend
Brad Martin, Pharm.D., Ph.D. Joins Department of Pharmacy Practice

The Department of Pharmacy Practice is pleased to welcome Dr. Bradley Martin. Dr. Martin received his Pharm.D. from the University of Illinois in 1989 and earned his Ph.D. from the University of Georgia in 1993. Brad came to UAMS from the University of Georgia where he was Director of the Pharmacy Care Administration M.S. and Ph.D. programs. He was hired to head up a new Division and Graduate Program of Pharmaceutical Evaluation and Policy currently in development. The Pharmaceutical Evaluation and Policy (PEP) graduate program will train future researchers and managers to assess the value of pharmaceutical products, services, and policies. Students will receive both theoretical and practical training in pharmacoeconomics, social behavioral health theory, pharmaceutical economics, and large health claims data base analysis. It is anticipated that the PEP program will accept their first class of students in Fall 2005 as a track in the Pharmaceutical Sciences M.S. graduate program.

Dr. Martin’s research efforts have focused on conducting retrospective population based economic and epidemiologic studies using large administrative data sets and national health surveys. He has performed investigative research for a variety of corporations and research groups including the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (formerly AHCPR), Pfizer, GlaxoSmithKline, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Georgia and Merck and Company.
Alumni and guests enjoyed the Tailgate Party at War Memorial Stadium on Saturday, September 17, 2004. A buffet picnic lunch was served in the big tent decorated with Alumni Association banners in a prime location. The tent was clearly visible to most fans approaching the stadium for the game between the Hogs and the University of Louisiana/Monroe. Corky’s catered a terrific barbecue spread. It was the ideal place to party and to watch the unique show that accompanies a Razorback game.

Once again, we must thank Walsh Heartland for its generous support of the entire tailgate party. Their generosity made possible first-class accommodations for our first football event in Little Rock.

Nearly 100 guests were registered for the Tailgate. We acquired and sold at cost over 50 tickets to the game for alumni who needed them. Many alumni and other friends of the college also stopped by. It was particularly enjoyable that many alumni from the classes honored the night before stayed to attend the game. The response to the Tailgate was so entirely positive that the only question is when we will have the next party. If you are a member of the Class of 1955 or of 1980 who wants to get in on the ground floor for planning the Second Little Rock Tailgate, please contact Dr. Wolfe at the college. His number is 501-686-6498. You can email him at: jjwolfe@uams.edu. We hope to hear from many of you soon!

The Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences has continued to enjoy success in its teaching, research and service missions. We implemented a significant change in the basic science curriculum this fall with the introduction of our Pharmaceutical Biotechnology course. While pharmacists have been dispensing and counseling biotechnology drugs for many years (e.g. human insulin), more recent growth in development and FDA approval of biotechnology drug products has driven our need to organize our teaching of biotechnology into one course. Students are now learning about the techniques utilized for production of recombinant human proteins, monoclonal (chimeric, humanized, and human) antibodies, and antisense oligonucleotides as well as the pharmaceutical considerations that affect formulation, delivery, and pharmacokinetics of these products. Students are also learning the foundations of gene therapy and pharmacogenomics as well as bioethical concerns related to these topics. This course will continue to evolve as we ask ourselves what pharmacy practice will be like 10 or 20 years from now. Will pharmacists be counseling for gene therapy products?

Dean Gardner has been very supportive of our research activities as she has dedicated funds for renovation and upgrade of our laboratories. The Department has received funding from the National Institutes of Health totaling over $730,000 this year. Considering the 2003 American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy ranking of colleges of pharmacy in terms of NIH funding, this amount would place our college in the top half of U.S. colleges of pharmacy. Our five-year strategic plan is aimed at improving our extramural funding by 10 percent each year. Overall, our research and development activity has been strong. We look forward to future growth through continued activity of department faculty and recruitment of new faculty to complement existing strengths.

Despite all the teaching and research activities, our department faculty and staff continue to enthusiastically serve the students, the campus, and the state. I am very excited about the future for the College of Pharmacy, and I look forward to serving in my new capacity as Department Chair.
Ninety members of the new freshman class took part in the annual White Coat Ceremony marking their entry into the UAMS College of Pharmacy on August 22, 2004.

Dean Stephanie Gardner, Associate Dean for Student Affairs Charles Born and a committee of Senior and Junior students then provided an impressive and meaningful introduction to academic life at the College of Pharmacy.

Dean Gardner greeted all the guests, and shared remarks with them about the importance of the profession. She also included personal reflections on the centrality of service in our profession, and on the need for each student to develop “a servant’s heart” as part of the educational process. Dr. Born shared sage advice with the students about how best to ensure their academic success. Each student was invited to come forward and be enrolled in the White Coat Book. As their names were announced, each new student came to the stage, were assisted in putting on their white coat for the first time and signed the register. New students stood together and took the Pledge of Professionalism – their first activity as a class. Afterward, students, faculty and guests enjoyed a social hour.

We are pleased to announce that WalMart Pharmacy, as a mark of their interest in professional education, has agreed to purchase the white coats for next year’s Freshman. We are particularly grateful for Dr. Bob Dufour for arranging this significant benefit.
PERSONAL INFORMATION

First Name___________________ Middle__________ Last________________ Maiden Name________________________
E-mail Address________________________________________
UAMS Class Year _____________________________Degree_________________________________________________
Street Address _______________________________________________________________________________________
City ____________________________________________ State___________ Zip/Postal Code ______________________
Home Phone Number   ______________________________ Fax Number ________________________________________
Practice Type  □ Community  □ Institutional  □ Clinical □ Consultant □ Other
I work at: __________________________________________________________________________________________

SELECT YOUR MEMBERSHIP OPTION

Annual Membership:  □ Active $25  □ Joint $40  □ Associate $25

If joint memberships please complete:
Joint Member Information:

First Name___________________ Middle__________ Last________________ Maiden Name________________________
E-mail Address________________________________________
UAMS Class Year(s) ________________________________ Degree (s) _______________________________________
Practice Type:  □ Community  □ Institutional  □ Clinical □ Consultant □ Other
I work at: __________________________________________________________________________________________

- Active member is any graduate of the UAMS College of Pharmacy.
- Joint members are two active members living at the same address who receive one copy of each issue of the alumni magazine and Alumni Association, college and department mailings.
- Associate members are any persons associated with the practice of pharmacy in Arkansas and not a graduate of the UAMS College of Pharmacy.

CREDIT CARD INFORMATION

☐ Check Enclosed  ☐ Credit Card Payment

Name as it appears on Card Statement: _____________________________________________________________
Credit Card Number _____________________________ Type of Card:  □ MasterCard  □ Visa  □ Discover
Signature ____________________________________________________Expiration Date _______/ _________

1. Please make payment by credit card or check
2. If credit card payment you may fax this form to: 501-686-8315
3. Make checks payable to:  UAMS College of Pharmacy Alumni Association
4. Mail to:
   UAMS College of Pharmacy Alumni Association
   Attention: Dean’s Office
   4301 West Markham, #522-1
   Little Rock, AR 72205-7199
5. For other inquiries please contact the Dean’s Office at: 501-686-5558
Let us know your ideas for spring programs

The officers of the Alumni Association want to hear from you about future programs. Please let us know which events you would like to have repeated. Do you want another day in the exclusive Jockey Club at Oaklawn? What about Tailgate Parties – not only in Little Rock, but in Fayetteville, Jonesboro, or the homes of other Arkansas teams? Do you want to have a Big Screen to watch the Razorback Basketballers? What would you say to a trip to a nearby Civil War battlefield, with a nationally recognized expert as a guide? Is it shopping that you desire? Perhaps you would want to host a luncheon or dinner in your home. This is the time to make your wishes known. Please contact us at the college, or get in touch with your Association officers. We want to make sure that next year is even more active and more enjoyable.

Join your Alumni Association today to continue receiving the Newsletter!

The Alumni Association has had a successfully launch, and is now more than a year old. As the Board provided, members will need to renew by paying their annual dues in March, 2005. Graduates of May 2004 will need to start their dues, so that we can offer May 2005 PharmD graduates a year’s complimentary membership.

It promises to be a great year for the Association. The officers are working on a slate of events. Alumni in northeast and in northwest Arkansas are looking at what sorts of events they can have in addition to the statewide activities.

This marks a time of transition for the Newsletter, as well. The College of Pharmacy and Dean Gardner, along with a generous grant from Pfizer, have provided the Newsletter to all alumni up to this point. However, after this issue we will only be able to send the Newsletter to alums whose dues are paid. If you are a member, please renew. If you are not, please join.