College reviews standards ahead of ACPE site visit

College of Pharmacy faculty and staff sharpened their focus on Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education requirements during a weekend retreat in early February.

The faculty’s primary mission was to review and approve 30 standards in a self-study report. This prepares the College for its next step in the accreditation process: the March 23-24 ACPE site visit. The ACPE will evaluate the College for its final year of candidate accreditation status, with the College’s goal of becoming fully accredited by 2011.

Faculty members also met with and received input from members of the Dean’s Advisory Council. Eighteen council members attended the meeting at the Waikoloa Beach Marriott on the Big Island.

STANDARDS, NEXT PAGE
A message from the dean

As the College of Pharmacy prepares for its next step in the accreditation process, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to members of the Dean's Pharmacy Advisory Council for their valuable input in ensuring that the College meets its goals and continues to excel.

Support throughout the state of Hawai‘i has been instrumental in the College of Pharmacy's success. That level of support will be evident in March when members of the Accreditation Council for Pharmaceutical Education make another site visit to measure our progress. We have solidified our goals in anticipation of the visit and we fully expect to exceed them as our College continues its growth in the next year.

The College of Pharmacy continues to interview students for selection to be part of Class of 2014. When we welcome them in August, our College will have reached its steady-state of about 350 students and we will begin preparing for our inaugural class's graduation. The next 12 months will be one of the most exciting times in our young College's history.

Because of the hard work and aloha of our lawmakers and university administration, the community and, of course, our faculty, staff and students, we are realizing our vision of improving the quality of healthcare in Hawai‘i and throughout the Pacific Basin.

Standards

Advisory Council members offered their input on the accreditation goals. Some members have been involved with the College's creation and development since 2002. Others have joined to help guide the College's expanded role on neighbor islands beginning this year.

The ACPE visit will be its last prior to considering full accreditation status for the College in June 2011. Ron Taniguci, the College's Director of Community Partnerships, said the retreat strengthened the alliance between the College and the community in the final push to full accreditation.

The College's accreditation standards include a wide range of goals for the school's mission, planning and evaluation; organization and administration; curriculum; students, faculty and staff; and facilities and resources.

The entire College has been involved in the self-study since the last ACPE site visit in 2008. The ACPE affirmed the College's candidate accreditation status in June 2009 after reviewing admission criteria, policies and procedures, faculty and staff continuing professional development and performance review, physical facilities and practice facilities.

Dr. John M. Pezzuto, the College of Pharmacy's Dean, talked about the College's origin, beginning with the concept that state pharmacy leaders introduced in 2000. That was followed in 2002 with a pharmacy clinical training grant funded through the Health Resources and Service Administration and spearheaded by U.S. Sen. Daniel Inouye of Hawai‘i, a longtime College of Pharmacy supporter.

A feasibility study began in 2003, and the search for a dean started the next year. Dean Pezzuto was named to the post in 2006, and the College’s first class of 90 students arrived in August 2007.

The College now has three classes, with interviews continuing this month for prospective students for the Class of 2014. The inaugural class will receive Pharm.D. degrees in May 2011.

The College expects to have more than 100 faculty and staff members and a steady-state of about 350 students by the 2010-11 school year.

The College of Pharmacy’s three class presidents — Jessica Toyama (2011), Marisa Kellett (2012) and Victor Lin (2013) — also attended the retreat.

The College's vision is to drive improvement in the quality of healthcare in Hawai‘i and throughout the Pacific Basin. The College expects to achieve this vision by focusing on Hawai‘i’s unique cultural, physical and geographic features; employing world-class faculty and graduating exceptional professionals.

Dean Pezzuto said part of the strategic plan is to strive to become a Top 25 College within 10 years. "Our goals are not modest," he said.
Dean’s Advisory Council

Brian Fukunaga, Health System Director, AmerisourceBergen

Jan Henry, Executive Director, PharMerica

Kathy Hirano, Registered Pharmacist

Todd Inafuku, Director of Government Affairs, Hawai’i CVS/Longs

Barbara Kashiwabara, Director of Pharmaceutical Services, Kaiser Permanente

Kent Kikuchi, Director of Pharmacy Services, Wilcox Memorial Hospital

Les Krenk, Independent Pharmacist, Maui Clinic Pharmacy

Valerie Matsunaga, Manager, Formulary Management and Drug Information, Kaiser Permanente

Joy Matsuyama, Director of Pharmacy Services, Straub Clinic & Hospital

Marvin Mitchell, Director of Pharmacy Services, Maui Memorial Medical Center

Nelson Nako, Director of Pharmacy Services, Hilo Medical Center

Lois Nash, System Director of Pharmacy, Hawai’i Pacific Health

Kristine Nishimura, Pharmacy Manager, Clinical Services, HMSA

Kerri Okamura, Director of Pharmacy Operations, KTA

Ron Okamura, Registered Pharmacist

Kurt Schanzenbach, Director of Pharmacy Services, Queen’s Medical Center

Brian White, Chief of Clinical Pharmacy & Informatics, Tripler Army Medical Center

Roy Yamauchi, Registered Pharmacist

Sue-Ann Yasuoka, Director of Pharmacy Operations, Times Supermarket

Byron Yoshino, President and CEO, Pharmacare
The College of Pharmacy showed its strength in December with a strong representation at the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists’ 44th Midyear Clinical Meeting and Exhibition in Las Vegas.

Pharmacy Practice faculty members Carolyn Ma, Douglas Adriance-Mejia, Anna Barbato, Anita Ciarleglio and Scott Holuby took part in four days of continuing education programs and interviewed more than 100 hopefuls to be seated in the Class of 2014. They also interviewed more than a dozen candidates for faculty positions at a Personnel Placement Service booth.

Dr. Ma said she was able to connect with several of the College’s experiential sites and participated in experiential training workshops.

ASHP programming offered education and instruction on topics that enable practitioners to provide high-quality pharmacy care. The programs were designed for pharmacists and pharmacy technicians in hospitals, managed-care facilities, clinics and home-care settings, as well as academia and the pharmaceutical industry.

Third-year students from the UH Hilo College of Pharmacy gained valuable experience by attending case competitions and CE programs, as well as presenting four posters that showcased their research. About 25 students attended.

"I first want to congratulate my students for having the courage and drive to prepare and present a poster at ASHP Midyear," said Dr. Adriance-Mejia, who oversaw the student presentations. "They gained such an invaluable experience representing not only their research, but also representing UH Hilo College of Pharmacy as well as Hawai‘i. I had to step back and remind myself a few
times that they are only P3s and most – if not all – students presenting research at ASHP Midyear are in their final year of pharmacy school.

"In addition, it was a great opportunity to show at a national level that our College of Pharmacy can successfully present healthcare-related information at a high level."

Dr. Adriance-Mejia said the students' work creates an awareness that even the new program at UH Hilo can contribute to the education of others.

All four student posters were IRB exempt.

Dr. Adriance-Mejia also presented two posters dealing with pharmacy practice in a rural, underserved, isolated community hospital.

"Assessment of clinician satisfaction with clinical pharmacy services in a small rural hospital (D. Adriance-Mejia, K. Pellegrin) was my initial assessment of the current opinion of clinical licensed staff (non-pharmacist) at Hilo Medical Center. Oral anticoagulation outcomes in an isolated, underserved, community hospital (D. Adriance-Mejia, D. Keliihoomalu, D. Saito, C. Ma) was an evaluation of initial outcomes in the transition to pharmacist driven oral anticoagulation management of patients at Hilo Medical Center, in order to comply with policies and procedures set forth by The Joint Commission," he said.

"The bottom line message that I disseminated at Midyear is that a large, teaching hospital environment is not necessary for one to have an impact as a clinical pharmacist, and one that I am further researching."

The exhibition's educational sessions ranged from general interest to content geared toward experts.

Actor Dennis Quaid was the keynote speaker for the opening session. He and his wife, Kimberly, launched the Quaid Foundation to help minimize the effects of human error in patient care. The Quaids' infant twins survived after receiving 1,000 times the pediatric dose of heparin twice within an eight-hour period while hospitalized for infections when they were 3 days old.

The Quaids are using their influence to improve systems such as barcode medication administration and drug labeling to help prevent errors.
A team of third-year College of Pharmacy students consisting of Keegan Sugimoto, Matthew Kirkland, Quynh Dao, Zoe Chun-Dela Cruz and Steven Evans won the fall semester’s Management and Marketing case competition, which featured ideas to help the Target Corp.’s pharmacy system. Hawai’i-based Target officials served as judges.

The winning group devised the OnTarget comprehensive patient monitoring system. The “smart” system records a patient’s measurements, including cholesterol, blood pressure, weight and ovulation, from a wide range of monitors. The system then organizes the data for easy retrieval by a Target pharmacist or by the patient for personal use or to take to doctor appointments.

“We are all very grateful to the Target Corporation for their thoughtfulness in considering the College of Pharmacy to host and partake in this prestigious event,” Sugimoto said. “It was an exhilarating feeling for our group to take an idea, build upon it and bring it to fruition.”

He said the experience solidified camaraderie among the students and exemplified teamwork essential to all future pharmacists.

Marketing teams presented their proposals in four rooms earlier in the morning. The judge in each room selected the best proposal for a final round of presentations in front of all the judges and the entire class.

Target also provided store-branded items for the students, including reusable shopping bags, mints, a Target dog beanie baby dressed in a pharmacist’s coat as well as recruiting materials.

Target also approved a $4,000 Target Campus Grant for the University of Hawai’i Foundation. Dr. Carolyn Ma, Associate Professor and Chair, Department of Pharmacy Practice, was notified of the grant’s approval.

“Congratulations on your grant. We are proud to support school programs such as yours to help develop and influence future leaders of Target. Thank you for the work you do to strengthen your community,” Target Community Relations told Dr. Ma.
Holiday feast

The Pezzutos opened their home to well over 100 guests in late November for a Thanksgiving dinner complete with turkey and all the trimmings. Students, faculty and staff added personal touches to the festivities by bringing plenty of side dishes and desserts. “With so many people staying here on the island over the short holiday break to prepare for the final weeks of classes,” Dean Pezzuto said, “Mimi and I wanted to make sure everyone was able to celebrate the day with their pharmacy ‘ohana.”
Faculty and staff notes

Coqui frog researcher joins faculty

Until recently, Dr. Gary Ten Eyck had to travel thousands of miles to conduct research on the reproductive habits of coqui frogs. Now that he has joined UH Hilo’s College of Pharmacy, he can just walk out the back door.

Dr. Ten Eyck hopes his research will aid in the understanding of the reproductive biology of an introduced, alien species that is cause for economic and environmental concern to Hawai’i residents.

“Some people love them, some people hate them,” Dr. Ten Eyck said. “As a biologist, I just find them very interesting. Studying the problem sheds an overall light on the species. A better understanding of the coqui will help us to know the consequences of controlling them on the environment and other issues.”

Dr. Ten Eyck joins UH Hilo from New York University. He plans to continue his research at the College of Pharmacy to work towards controlling the coqui.

“The addition of another world-class researcher to the College of Pharmacy is another step towards building Hilo into a community that will be able to survive the new economy,” said John M. Pezzuto, Dean of the College of Pharmacy.

“Dr. Ten Eyck’s enthusiasm and faith in moving here serves to reaffirm our commitment to improving the quality of life in Hawai’i, and we’re happy to welcome him to the UH Hilo ‘ohana.”

Coqui frogs are different from other frogs because, much like humans, their young directly develop from an egg. Also, coqui males after mating will brood and guard their developing young up until 3 to 5 days after hatching.

“These paternal males are very faithful fathers,” Dr. Ten Eyck said. “Due to these characteristics, this small frog serves as an excellent model system for our research into aggressive behavior.”

Results of studies in Dr. Ten Eyck’s laboratories have made a connection between the noise coquis make at night to territorial, or aggressive behavior. By using a drug called an agonist, they were able to cease calling and aggressive behavior altogether in coqui males.

“We have also found that a selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor, such as Prozac, has profound effects on the development of male social and aggressive behavior,” Dr. Ten Eyck said. “Frogs that are given this drug in our laboratory study typically do not develop calling or aggressive behaviors.”

Dr. Ten Eyck was born and raised in southern Michigan, and received his bachelor’s degree from Central Michigan University specializing in animal behavior. He also earned his master’s degree from Central Michigan University with a concentration in evolutionary morphology, and his doctorate in biological science (neuroscience) at the University of South Dakota.

NAPLEX presentation

College of Pharmacy Dean John M. Pezzuto, left, listens during a faculty meeting as Dr. Scott Holuby, Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice, describes the function of the North American Pharmacy Licensure Exam (NAPLEX) to new faculty and talks about the new exam blueprint that goes into effect in March. Dr. Holuby attended the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy’s standards setting conference in November in Mount Prospect, Ill. The panel focused on knowledge and performance levels expected of a pharmacist to protect the public’s health and welfare. According to the NABP, this type of study helps to ensure that the performance standard is valid and appropriate for contemporary practice standards. Dr. Holuby has been invited back for an exam-writing session in late March.
Faculty and staff notes

• Dr. Russell Molyneux has joined the College of Pharmacy as an affiliate faculty. Prior to joining the College of Pharmacy, Dr. Molyneux was a Research Chemist with the Agricultural Research Service in the United States Department of Agriculture's Western Regional Research Center. He also held appointments at the University of Oregon and Oregon State University, and was a consultant for the U.S. Brewers Association. He received bachelors and doctoral degrees from the University of Nottingham (UK) and is an elected Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry (FRSC) and of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). He also was awarded a McMaster Fellowship by the CSIRO (Australia). His major research interests are the chemistry of a wide variety of natural products, particularly alkaloids, phenolics, quinones, and terpenoids. Dr. Molyneux is internationally recognized for his research on the chemistry of poisonous plants, particularly those causing hepatotoxicity and abortion, and those giving rise to the classic "loco" disease and its associated syndromes. The latter investigations resulted in the development of the novel field of bicyclic polyhydroxy alkaloid glycosidase inhibitors, the majority of which he has isolated and identified. As a result of his expertise in the isolation and structural elucidation of bioactive natural products, Dr. Molyneux assumed leadership in 1995 of a project designed to control and prevent formation of aflatoxins in tree nuts through identification of natural phytochemical resistance factors. Dr. Molyneux hopes to continue research collaborations in natural products here in Hilo, and become involved in graduate education programs. He is Associate Editor of the American Chemical Society’s Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry, which now lists his affiliation as UH Hilo College of Pharmacy.

• Dr. Lara Gomez has been named Clinical Education Coordinator. Dr. Gomez grew up on the Big Island in Mountain View and graduated from Waiakea High School. She received her Doctor of Pharmacy degree at the University of New Mexico College of Pharmacy in 2001. Following an Infectious Disease residency at UNM/Health Sciences Center in 2002, she joined the Lovelace Sandia Women’s Hospital as a staff and clinical pharmacist. She has had teaching experience in the University of New Mexico Doctor of Pharmacy program and is certified in APHA Immunization Therapy, Diabetes and Tobacco Treatment programs. She has worked with KTA Pharmacy since returning to the Big Island in 2005. She holds professional licensure in the states of Hawai‘i and New Mexico. In her free time, she likes to shop and spend time with her family, which includes her husband, Matthew, and daughter, Janea, who is almost 2 years old. Dr. Gomez’s goals in her College of Pharmacy role are to continue to improve the IPPE and APPE rotations and to encourage more pharmacists in the state to become preceptors for UH Hilo students.

• Dr. Anthony Wright, Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, co-authored a paper titled "Detailed NMR, Including 1,1-ADEQUATE, and Anticancer Studies of Compounds from the Echinoderm Colobometra perspinosa" published in Marine Drugs, Volume 7, Issue 4.

• Dr. Dianqing Sun, Assistant Professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, co-authored a paper titled "Identification of triazinoidol-benzimidazoles as nanomolar inhibitors of the Mycobacterium tuberculosis enzyme TDP-6-deoxy-D-xylo-4-hexopyranosid-4-ulose 3,5-epimerase (RmlC)" in the January issue of Bioorganic & Medicinal Chemistry. Additional co-authors were S. Sivendran, A.D. Napper and S. L. Diamond from University of Pennsylvania; V. Jones, A.E. Grzegorzekwicz, M.S. Scherman and M. McNeil from Colorado State University; Y. Wang and J.A. McCammon from the University of California at San Diego; and R.E. Lee from St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital.

• Eun-Jung Park, post-doctoral associate in College of Pharmacy Dean John M. Pezzuto's lab, presented a poster of an abstract co-authored with Dean Pezzuto, Tamara P. Kondratyuk, Assistant Specialist and Laboratory Manager, Andrew Morrell, Evgeny Kiselev and Mark Cushman titled "Induction of RXR transcriptional activity and consequent up-regulation of p21 by 3-amino-6-(3-aminopropyl)-5,6-dihydro-5,11-dioxo-11H-indeno[1,2-c]isoquinoline dihydrochloride in CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE
Faculty and staff notes

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MCF-7 breast cancer cells” at Frontiers in Cancer Prevention Research, 8th annual American Association for Cancer Research International Conference in Houston in December.

- Tamara Kondratyuk, Assistant Specialist and Laboratory Manager, co-authored a paper with Dean John M. Pezzuto, M.A. Ghufran, R.A. Qureshi, A. Batool, J.M. Guilford, L.E. Marler, and L.C. Chang, titled “Evaluation of selected indigenous medicinal plants from the Western Himalayas for cytotoxicity and as potential cancer chemopreventive agents” published in Pharmaceutical Biology.

- Dr. Leng Chee Chang, Assistant Professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, and Eun-Jung Park co-authored a paper with Dean Pezzuto, Sarot Cheenpracha and Bahman Rostama titled "Inhibition of Nitric Oxide (NO) Production in Lipopolysaccharide (LPS)-activated Murine Macrophage RAW 264.7 Cells by the Horsesterterpene Peroxide, Epimuqubilin A" to be published in March edition of Marine Drugs.

- Dr. Ken Morris, Professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, co-authored an invited review with Mazen Hamad of the UH Hilo Chemistry Department, Keith J Bowman of Purdue University, Nathan J. Smith and Xiaohong Sheng titled “Multi-Scale Pharmaceutical Process Understanding: from Particle to Powder to Dosage Form Corresponding” that was accepted for publication in Chemical Engineering Science.

Dr. Tom Lemke has joined the College of Pharmacy for six months as a consultant and acting Chair Pro Tem of the Assessment Committee. Dr. Lemke, a medicinal chemist, was previously the Associate Dean at the University of Houston, and Director of Assessment at the University of Houston and Texas A&M University-Kingsville College of Pharmacy. Dr. Lemke is an editor of Foye’s Principles of Medicinal Chemistry, a textbook in use by College of Pharmacy students.

Continuing education program

Dr. Forrest Batz, Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice, discusses “Natural Medicines in Pharmacy Practice” during a continuing education program Feb. 6 at the Waikoloa Beach Marriott. Dr. Batz’s presentation was part of a weekend retreat during which the College of Pharmacy prepared for the upcoming ACPE visit. The free event targeting primary-care physicians and pharmacists was supported by a grant from the U.S. Department of Education. Dr. Batz talked about the legal classification and regulation of natural medicines as well as safety issues and references appropriate for use in daily pharmacy practice. The College of Pharmacy is accredited by the Hawai‘i Medical Association to provide continuing medical education for physicians, and by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education as a provider of continuing pharmacy education.
Get your walking shoes (or at least you wallets) ready! College of Pharmacy students are once again planning to walk in the Relay For Life, the American Cancer Society’s signature event to raise money for cancer research and treatment.

The College of Pharmacy’s student and faculty team raised $3,101 last year during a muddy, 12-hour walk on the UH Hilo baseball field. This year’s event will begin March 12 on the same field, and conclude the next morning.

The team’s 2009 fund-raising total was enough to earn a second-place finish in the university event. Class of 2011 President Jessica Toyama says the goal this year is to be the top fund-raising team.

Third-year students Ashley Ann Fukumae and Erika Miyahira are the team’s co-chairs this year.

To donate in support of the College of Pharmacy team, or to join the team, visit the UH Hilo Relay For Life Web site at http://main.acsevents.org/site/TR?pg=entry&fr_id=23688

Student notes

Dean’s Academic Honor List

Ninety College of Pharmacy students achieved academic excellence during the fall semester by attaining a grade-point average of 3.50 or greater in full-time, didactic course work. The students have been placed on the College of Pharmacy Dean’s Academic Honor List.

“The entire faculty of the College of Pharmacy applauds your accomplishments and wishes you continued academic success,” said College of Pharmacy Dean John M. Pezzuto.

The distinguished students are:

Class of 2011

• Ashley Ann Fukumae
• Angelina Eustaquio
• Daniel Navas
• Matthew Kirkland
• Jennifer Zbyiski
• Elissa-Marie Kahahane
• Cari Niimi
• Sarah Kaufman
• Ben Sabbah
• Erika Miyahira
• Jenny Higa
• Lisa Hagiwara
• Tess Blankenship
• Dan Feng Cai
• Mark Reeves
• Enoch John Ronduen
• Amber Schwarz
• Nelson Nakatsu
• Annie Mar
• Oh Young Kim
• Jonathan Tam
• Ellen Loney
• Jason Braithwaite
• Kela Mano
• Natalie Codianne
• Jessica Toyama
• Ryan Mashiyama
• Rochelle Oledzki
• Casey Ogata
• Quinn Taira
• Veneta Tsonev
• Ashley Hori
• Cherie Chu
• Ceslee Fukuhara

Class of 2012

• Bryceson Tanaka
• Amy Song
• Sally Van
• Megan Venegas
• Justin Arias
• Jenna Fujimoto
• Alexandra Perez
• Brian Vo
• Billy Cheng
• Susan Kang
• Jessie Wong
• Kari Kurihara
• Megan Ching
• Brian Niimi
• Raeanne Fuller
• Marina Yeh
• Anthony Thai
• Christine Knecht
• Paul Kim
• Daralyn Kawamoto
• Bernie Cheng
• Richelle Hirata
• Carol Lynn Goo
• Wendy Yamasaki-Herring
• Amber Laird
• Candice Carbaugh

Class of 2013

• Rosa Quan
• Irving Veilleux
• Shih-Chia Lu
• Jordan Shibata
• Elizabeth Lee
• Alison Kobayashi
• Kurt Adkins
• Daniel Lupas
• Ryan Gaspar
• Aaron Lani
• Ahmad Musheinesh
• William Engen
• Jackwayne Fernandez
• Byoung Hak Jun
• Modani Young
• Diem Le
• Tyler Prescott
• William Walker
• Flora Kim
• Mathew Mullahy
• Victor Lin
• May Yu
• Tina Marie McDonald
• Marcus Kouma
• Kaylene Peric
• Christopher Ayson
• Matthew Sasaki
• Christopher Kamei
• Jason Okazaki
• Prabu Segaran
Second-year students Marisa Kellett, Lee Hoang and Justin Arias thank Dr. Richard Chung, second from left, Senior Vice President of HMSA, during his visit to Hilo on Nov. 4. The HMSA Foundation granted $75,506 to the College of Pharmacy to provide students in the inaugural three classes with handheld personal computer devices that enable students to load software tools that can assist with diagnostic and therapeutic decision-making.

College of Pharmacy students Richelle Hirata, from left, Marina Yeh, Lisa Hagiwara, Cari Niimi and Lindsey Aoki covered screening stations at the Health Fair for Diabetes Prevention and Kidney Health at Hilo Medical Center on Nov. 20. The health fair was a partnership among HMC, Bay Clinic and the National Kidney Foundation of Hawai‘i. Thirty-two pharmacy students conducted tests for body mass index, blood pressure, glucose, cholesterol and kidney health while HMC educators helped educate, train and oversee the screenings. Drs. Forrest Batz and Carolyn Ma and Instructor Mimi Pezzuto of the College of Pharmacy assisted students with the post-counseling screening. Photo courtesy of Hilo Medical Center.