Attendees at Spring 2008 commencement ceremony

from left to right

Jon Schommer, Professor, DGS
Ronald Hadsall, Professor
Yingli Yuan, Ph.D. Graduate
Angeline Carlson, Clinical Assistant Professor
Jiayin Huang Yingli’s husband, and ECP Track Ph.D. Graduate
Stephen Schondelmeyer, Professor

Editor: Ms. Randi Tesdahl
Graduate Program Executive Office and Administrative Specialist
tesdta001@umn.edu
As of May 2008, the Social and Administrative Pharmacy Graduate Program at the University of Minnesota has had 115 Ph.D. students complete the Ph.D. degree.

Graduates of our program are contributing to improving our health and wellness systems throughout the world by working in diverse settings. Examples of these diverse jobs are demonstrated by the following organizations that hired our 10 most recent graduates.

Mahidol University, Bangkok, Thailand
College of Pharmacy, Concepcion, Chile
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC
Abt Associates, Lexington, MA
Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand
IMS Health, Philadelphia, PA
D.O.D. Pharmacoeconomics Center, San Antonio, TX
Midwestern University, Phoenix, AZ
Fond du Lac Human Services, Minneapolis, MN
IMS Health, China

Jon C. Schommer, Ph.D., Professor
Director of Graduate Studies & Associate Department Head for Research & Communications

PCHS Department
Staff
(left to right)

Tola Ou-Quinlan, PRIME Institute and PCHS Department
Lynn Harpel, PCHS Department
Randi Tesdahl, Social & Administrative Pharmacy Track and PCHS Department
2007 Graduates

Joni Buffalohead, Ph.D.

New Students – 2007-2008

Mateus Alves
Holly Epperly
Sue Haight
Siting Zhou

New Students – Fall 2008

Madeline Carpinelli, Denver, CO
Timothy Cernohous, MN
Sheiren Farag El-Massah, MN
Tao Hwan Park, S. Korea
Elita Poplavsk, Latvia
Veena Rajanna, N.C.
Akeem Yusuf, Nigeria

Current students in the program

Jonathan Abdul-Haqq
Mateus Alves
Chirstine Bartels
Michael Bilden
Jennell Bilek
Jose William Castellanos
Yen-Wen (Cindy) Chen
Holly Epperly
William Fischer
Sue Haight
Chamika Hawkins-Taylor
Tao Jin
Tony Kaufenberg
Lindsey Kelley
Andrea Kjos
Victoria Losinski
Jagannath Muzumdar
Moustapha Omar

Kimberly Zemke received the 5th Annual Wertheimer Fellowship Award
Fall 2007

To make a donation to this Fellowship Fund, please make your check payable to University of Minnesota/Wertheimer Fellowship
and mail to: Jon Schommer
College of Pharmacy
University of Minnesota
308 Harvard Street SE
Minneapolis, MN 55455
Honors and Awards continued:

At the 2007 ISPOR meeting, SAPh Ph.D. Student, Yingli Yuan, was a finalist for the Poster Award titled: “Suicidality and Antidepressants Use in Children and Adolescents”.

Also, 2006 SAPh Program Ph.D. graduate, Dongmu Zhang, received the Best New Investigator Podium Presentation Award. Dr. Angie Carlson serves as co-advisor for both Yingli and Dongmu.

Congratulations to each of you!

In the ISPOR student research competition, The University of Minnesota team received recognition for their submission and received a reference book that they will be donating to our SAPh Library. Congrats!

Finally, our current students were able to meet several of our SAPh Alumni during The ISPOR International meeting.

AFPE Award for 2007-2008 academic year—2007 AFPE Pre-Doctoral Fellowship in the Pharmaceutical Sciences

Andrea Kjos, received the award for the University of Minnesota titled: “Medication Information Seeking Behavior: The Role of Social Networks and Communicative Processes”.

In May 2008, Andrea received word that her Fellowship was renewed for 2008-2009.

The 7th Annual Deep Portage Conference—“A Conference on Current Issues in Pharmaceutical Care,” was held January 7-9, 2008 at the Deep Portage Conservation Reserve in Hackensack, MN. The Peter’s Institute of Pharmaceutical Care sponsors this annual event. This year’s main topic was “Understanding the Lived World of the Patient: Exploring the Medication Experience.”

Lindsey Kelley, currently in our combined MS & Residency Program – Pharmacy Systems Management, was appointed to American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) New Practitioners Forum Executive Board (vice chair)
The 13th Annual ISPOR International Meeting was held May 3-7, 2008 at the Sheraton Centre, Toronto, Ontario, Canada. The theme: "Vive la Difference—Enhancing & Expanding Outcomes Research One Country at a Time"

2007-2008 Officers of the ISPOR Student Chapter

Yingli Yuan, President
Yen-wen (Cindy) Chen, President-elect
Tao Jin, Vice President
Jagannath Muzumdar, Secretary/Treasurer

2008-2009 Officers of the ISPOR Student Chapter

Yen-Wen (Cindy) Chen, President
Mateus Alves, President-elect
Siting Zhou, Vice President
Jagannath Muzumdar, Secretary/Treasurer
Graduate Students Hard at Work

Chamika Hawkins-Taylor  Moustapha Omar

Yingli Yuan  Jagganath Muzumdar

Andrea Kjos’s desk

To learn more about our students watch our “I am a Scientist” Video at the following Web site:
https://mediamill.cla.umn.edu/mediamill/embed/12804  (or)
https://www.pharmacy.umn.edu/saphtrack/news/home.html
**Senior Members:**

Robert Cipolle  
Richard Cline  
Ronald Hadsall  
Paul Ranelli  
Jon Schommer, DGS  
Stephen Schondelmeyer  
Stuart Speedie  
Wendy St. Peter  
Linda Strand  
Tim Stratton  
Vernon Weckwerth

**Affiliate Members:**

Puree Anantachoti  
Joshua Devine  
Patrick Gleason  
Paul Langley  
Chulaporn Limwattananon  
Supon Limwattananon  
Sauwakon Ratanawijitrasin  
Thomas Rector  
Samuel Wagner  
Xin (Sam) Ye

**Advising Members:**

Terrence Adam  
Bruce Benson  
Michael Brown  
Angeline Carlson  
Brian Isetts  
Patrick Gleason  
Kristin Janke  
Scott Knoer  
Tom Larson  
Serguei Pakhomov  
Pamela Phelps  
Amy Pittenger  
Raquel Rodriguez  
Randall Seifert  
Don Uden  
Marcia Worley
S. Bruce Benson received the Lawrence C. & Delores M. Weaver Medal for Distinguished Contributions to Pharmacy Education, Research or Outreach on November 29, 2007. The Award Ceremony & Reception was held at The Radisson University Hotel. Dr. Benson was the 12th recipient of this distinguished award.

This annual award given by the College of Pharmacy recognizes individuals for providing sustained and distinguished support of the College or for an outstanding contribution to pharmacy education, research or outreach in Minnesota. Contributions can be in all or any single area recognized by the award.

Dr. Benson possesses a Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy (1963), Master of Science in Hospital Pharmacy (1965), and Doctor of Philosophy in Educational Psychology (1966) degrees from the University of Minnesota. He also has a Master of Theological Studies (1978) degree from Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C.

He has received both the Outstanding Pharmacist Award and the Hallie Bruce Lecture Award from the Minnesota Society of Health-System Pharmacists. In addition, he was the College’s Roche Institutional Preceptor of the Year in 2001, and the Regional Councilor of the Rho Chi Society from 1999 to 2001. He has also received the Pharmacy Alumni Society’s (Minnesota) Distinguished Pharmacist Award, and in 2004 he was awarded the University of Minnesota President’s Award for Outstanding Service.
Dr. Serguei Pakhomov, Dept. of Pharmaceutical Care & Health Systems, has announced the receipt of three grants. A subcontract from the Mayo Clinic CTSA was negotiated under the Quality Innovations Development Awards program for a grant totaling $37,914 for the period 09/15/07—09/14/2009. The title of this project is “Natural Language Processing in Predicting Health Utilities: A Novel Quality Metric in the Care of People with Chronic Disease”. Dr. Pakhomov’s role is co-PI. The PI is a Mayo Clinic physician, Dr. Steven Smith. Dr. Pakhomov is also a co-investigator on an AHRQ (Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality) grant through the University of Colorado with Kevin Peterson’s group to develop NLP technology to process physical examination sections of clinical reports. Kevin Peterson is an Associate Professor in Family Medicine/Community Health, U of MN—medical practice based network. In addition, a Grant-In-Aid in the amount of $25,536 was received for a proposal entitled “Automated Measures of Linguistic Ability of Patients with Cognitive Impairment.” Dr. Pakhomov will serve as PI on this grant; Dr. Glenn Smith, a neuropsychologist at the Mayo Clinic will serve as co-PI.

In addition, a Grant-In-Aid from the Graduate School for his proposal, “Automated Measures of Linguistic Ability of Patients with Cognitive Impairment,” has been awarded in the amount of $23,536. The grant period is effective January 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009.

Dr. Jon Schommer, Dept. of Pharmaceutical Care & Health Systems, has been selected as a Fellow of the American Pharmacists Association (FAPhA) by the APhA Academy of Pharmaceutical Research and Sciences. Congratulations, Jon!!

Dr. Timothy Stratton, Dept. of Pharmacy Practice and Pharmaceutical Sciences, has been invited to join an influential workgroup out of the Office of Rural Health and Primary Care whose efforts are aimed at impacting a new rural health care delivery model. The New Rural Health Care Delivery Model workgroup reviews activity under way to promote a medical home model and articulates unique rural aspects required for success statewide. The group first looks at intersecting dynamics of primary care shortages, technology, rural demographics, and existing rural models. It then reviews models of health service integration and care coordination toward developing a viable rural model for Minnesota’s future. Dr. Stratton was selected to join this group based on his work in education, commitment to rural health, and expertise in pharmacy issues. Congratulations Dr. Stratton!

Vernon Weckwerth, Ph.D. (School of Public Health), has received the 2007 Award for Global Engagement, a University-wide award given to faculty and staff members in recognition of outstanding contributions to global education and international programs. Dr. Weckwerth was recognized for his work to improve the delivery of health services throughout the world. Congratulations Dr. Weckwerth!
Henri Manasse visit on Monday, February 18, 2008
SAPh sponsored lunch in the Dean’s conference room at the College of Pharmacy.

An article based on Dr. Xin (Sam) Ye’s dissertation work is a finalist for the JMCP Award for Excellence. The title of his article is: “Initiation of Statins After Hospitalization for Coronary Heart Disease.” Co-authors: Drs. Gross, Schommer, Cline, Xuan, and St. Peter. Dr. Ye is a 2005 Ph.D. graduate of our program. Congratulations Sam!

Dr. Dongmu Zhang was awarded with a 2007 Honorable Mention for the JMCP Award for Excellence for her dissertation work. The title of her article: “Relationship of the Magnitude of Member Cost-Share and Medication Persistence with Newly Initiated Renin Angiotensin System Blockers.” Co-authors: Drs. Carlson, Gleason, Schondelmeyer, Schommer, Dowd and Heaton. Congratulations Dongmu!
Yingli Yuan, Ph.D. Graduate and co-advisor Jon Schommer
May 9, 2008

Congratulations to Jamie Sinclair on the completion of her MS in SAPh on May 12, 2008.

From left to right: Leslie Grant, Jamie Sinclair, Jon Schommer, Ronald Hadsall

Tents set up in front of Northrop Hall for Commencement Reception

Spring 2008 Commencement
Jon Schommer, Director of Graduate Studies
Presenting Yu Fang his Certificate of Completion for
the fulfillment of the requirements of the Social &
Administrative Pharmacy Visiting Scholars Program from
September 14, 2007—December 15, 2007

Faculty, Graduate Students, Pharm.D. students and Staff
at the SAPH 8100 Seminar series and the presentation
of Certificate of Completion to Yu Fang