With the start of the Fall semester, the School of Pharmacy faculty and students have been busy with celebrations!

**White Coat Ceremony**

Clockwise from top left: The Pharmacy Class of 2023, students receiving their white coats, keynote speaker Dr. Chris Fortier, and Dr. Peter Collins leading the Oath of the Pharmacy Intern.
Students

100 P1 Students

72 early assurance and 28 direct entry students enter the P1 class.

The Event

- The School of Pharmacy white coat ceremony took place in Blackman Auditorium on September 8, 2019 to celebrate our new P1 class receiving their white coats as part of admission into the professional phase of the pharmacy curriculum.
- Family and friends from all over the globe joined for the event and the reception in Curry Student Center.
- Keynote speaker, Chris Fortier, PharmD, FASHP, graduated from the University of Connecticut School of Pharmacy, and went on to complete a PGY1 and PGY2 Health System Pharmacy Administration residency at the Medical University of South Carolina. Dr. Fortier serves as the Chief Pharmacy Officer at Massachusetts General Hospital, and was kind enough to address the P1 students, sharing his journey from student to his current position and offered suggestions about moving forward as student pharmacists including finding a mentor, having a plan, assuming leadership, and persevering.
- Peter Collins, PharmD, CACP, is a 2015 graduate of Northeastern University who currently serves as an advanced practice clinical pharmacist at the Brigham and Women's Hospital Anticoagulation Management Service. As the IPPE preceptor of the year for 2019, Dr. Collins led the students in the Oath of the Pharmacy Intern.

Faculty and Staff

15 Faculty and Staff

Eleven faculty and four staff members attended the white coat ceremony with Andrew Orr-Skirvin reading student names and Mansoor Amiji, Alexa Carlson, and Mark Yorra assisting in coating along with Chris Fortier and Peter Collins. Other faculty in attendance included Carla Bouwmeester, Nishil Desai, Brandon Dionne, Jason Lancaster, Thomas Matta, Debra Reid, and Barbara Waszczak along with staff members Anitt Wilkinson, Elizabeth Machart, and Waldy Barrientos, and academic advisor Deanna Harding.

Faculty and Staff 2019

Your commitment in reciting the oath signifies your transition to student pharmacist and should inspire you, and will no doubt inspire us, to see the future of pharmacy in a very positive light. Let the words in the oath be a constant guide as you move forward. Wear your white coat proudly as you serve your patients and your profession.

- Dean Jack Reynolds
Rho Chi Induction

Student Inductees

24 Inductees

- Rho Chi membership is limited to those full-time students who have completed at least half of their didactic curriculum, who have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0 and are in the top 15% of the P3 class, or top 20% of the P4 class, or have demonstrated excellence in graduate studies or excelled as faculty members.
- Seventeen P3 and seven P4 students were inducted into Rho Chi this year.

Faculty Inductee

Macayla Landi, PharmD, BCPS, BCGP

Dr. Landi joined Northeastern University as an Assistant Clinical Professor in the Department of Pharmacy and Health Systems Sciences in 2018 with a practice focus in geriatrics. She teaches in Comprehensive Disease Management (CDM) and the geriatrics elective. Dr. Landi works as a geriatric clinical pharmacist at Harbor Health Elder Service Plan, a Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly. She precepts PGY1 pharmacy residents and Northeastern University APPE students at her practice site. Dr. Landi received her PharmD from the University of Rhode Island, completed PGY-1 and PGY-2 geriatric residency training at VA Connecticut Healthcare System, and is currently completing her Masters in Palliative Care through the University of Maryland.

The Event

- Rho Chi is the only academic pharmacy honor society in pharmacy, and it seeks to "advance pharmacy through sustained intellectual leadership."
- The ceremony took place on September 27, 2019 with inductees, family, friends and faculty in attendance.
- Keynote speaker, Dr. Anne Lin, shared her experience transitioning from student to her current role, and induction of the new members.
- Special thanks to Dean Jack Reynolds, Jenny Van Amburgh, and Sabrina Elkarmouty in assisting with the induction process.

Speaker

Anne Lin, PharmD, FNAP

Dr. Lin received her BS and PharmD degrees from St. John’s University in Queens, NY. She completed a clinical pharmacy residency at the Virginia Commonwealth University Health System in Richmond, VA. She then went on to serve as an Assistant and Associate Professor at the College of Pharmacy at St. John’s University, Department Chair and Professor at the Nesbitt School of Pharmacy & Nursing at Wilkes University in Wilkes-Barre, PA, and Dean of the College of Pharmacy at Midwestern University in Glendale, AZ. Currently, Dr. Lin serves as Dean for the School of Pharmacy at Notre Dame of Maryland University in Baltimore, MD.
Faculty Advisors

Michael Gonyeau and Alexa Carlson continue to serve as the faculty advisors for Rho Chi.

E-Board Members

Outgoing e-board members include Michelle Paulsen (president), Nick D’Apice (vice-president), Brittany Chlebek (treasurer), Kathryn Prout (secretary), and Yodit Teklu (historian). Incoming e-board includes Gregory Waldek (president), Ahmi Lim (vice president), Alexis Duncan (secretary), Sonia Kim (treasurer) and Sinyoung Yun (historian)
Each year students who demonstrate strength in leadership and professionalism in pharmacy are invited to be inducted into the society each year.

The students comprise 4 classes in the School of Pharmacy, with anticipated graduation years spanning from 2020-2023.

Phi Lambda Sigma is a professional pharmacy leadership society whose mission is to "support pharmacy leadership commitment by recognizing leaders and fostering leadership development."

PLS Induction occurred on September 24, 2019 and consisted of speakers sharing their leadership experience, induction of new members, and the presentation of PLS recognition awards including member of the year, new member of the year, and committee chair of the year.

Dr. Thakur received his M.S. in chemistry from IIT, Mumbai and Ph.D. in organic chemistry from Institute of Chemical Technology, Mumbai in 2000. After completing his post-doc training at the University of Connecticut in 2004, Dr. Thakur moved to Northeastern University's Center for Drug Discovery as a senior scientist. Dr. Thakur was appointed as a tenure-track assistant professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences at Northeastern University in 2010, received tenure in 2016 and was promoted to Associate Professor position. He served as the vice-chair of the department from 2017-2018, and is currently serving as interim chair of the department.

After graduating from Northeastern University, Dr. Farrell completed her PGY1 and PGY2 Emergency Medicine residencies at Boston Medical Center (BMC). She then went on to complete a clinical toxicology fellowship with the Georgia Poison Center. Currently, Dr. Farrell serves as the Clinical Specialist Lead in Emergency Medicine and Toxicology as well as the PGY2 Emergency Medicine Pharmacy Residency director at BMC, where she precepts APPE students from Northeastern University, Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Science, and University of Rhode Island, in addition to her normal duties.
Leadership 2019

2 Faculty Advisors
Michael Conley and Brandon Dionne continue to serve as the faculty advisors for PLS.

5 E-Board Members
Outgoing e-board members include Eric Zhang (president), Erika Young (vice president), Kevin Fan (treasurer), Gregory Waldek (secretary), and Cassandra Mark (historian). Incoming e-board members include Lucy Yu (president), Charlene Guo (vice president), Soo Han Yoon (treasurer), Ahmi Lim (secretary), and Neil Motwani.
Northeastern University School of Pharmacy
Class of 1979 Reunion

Boring! No Thanks! Not for me!

None of these words were spoken by the Pharmacy class of 1979 celebrating the 40th anniversary of their graduation on Saturday Sept 28 at the Alumni Center. Instead, just one word describes the experience of those in attendance - Joy! Just joy.

Many long quiescent relationships were resuscitated on Columbus Ave where one couple waiting for the event met another couple coming to the event. After hugs and handshakes, another person came then two more and then four. In just a few short minutes, the sidewalk was filling and the group entered and received picture name tags with their 40 year old graduation photos just above their names. Most remarkably, no one had changed at all! Certainly, hair may have receded, stents inserted, retirements either contemplated or in progress but acquaintances became old friends and classmates became brothers and sisters.

Dean Jack Reynolds welcomed the class of 79, their spouses and family members and related changes to pharmacy education, the profession itself and of course to the University now ensconced in the top echelon of schools with a focus on global experiential education. While Dr. Richard Deth offered a letter of heartfelt congratulations and Drs. Roger Giese and Jerry Schumacher extended best wishes, Dr. Geoffrey Blumberg and Dr. Robert Hanson were able to be in attendance to receive the warm gratitude offered.

After a rousing rendition of Happy Birthday offered to Steve Clark, the class of 79, led by Grammy nominated non-recording artist Steve Fiander, raised their voices in the immortal and timeless melody of "Tiny Bubbles" moving many of the assembled to tears.

This Northeastern University College of Pharmacy class became both something new and something old simultaneously. Through the rigorous challenges and coursework of our education, we have found ourselves supporting and encouraging each other in a unique way that we could not have appreciated four decades ago. Now, competition, achievement, successes and accolades are mainly images in the rear-view mirror. What was dominant at this reunion was great pleasure in seeing each other again - being with each other again, spending time with each other - talking about who we were, who we are and recognizing who we are still called to be!

Some lyrics from an old Harry Chapin song shared with the group summarized this jubilant gathering well: “All my life’s a circle; But I can't tell you why; Season’s spinning round again; The years keep rollin' by. It seems like I've been here before; I can't remember when; But I have this funny feeling; That we'll all be together again. No straight lines make up my life; And all my roads have bends; There's no clear-cut beginnings; And so far no dead-ends.” A good time was had by all!

- John Sudol
Capstone Projects

Students must complete a capstone project as a part of the PharmD curriculum. They can work independently or in groups in a variety of practice areas. Many students will be presenting the results of their projects at ASHP midyear in December 2019 or at RISE in April 2020.

New Teaching and Learning Seminar Cohort

"The Teaching & Learning Seminar (TLS) is designed for residents and fellows in post-graduate pharmacy education programs in the metro-Boston area who have teaching responsibilities as part of their training programs or who may have an interest in academia. This program offers a teaching certificate of achievement upon actively participating in the seminar sessions, successfully completing assigned teaching responsibilities, and providing evidence of self-reflection via a teaching portfolio. Participants will be expected to contribute in various seminar setting, such as pharmacy practice labs, therapeutics seminars, small and large didactic seminar rooms, as well as IPPE (co-op) and APPE precepting."

Office of Experiential Education (OEE)

In September, 69% (n=79) of the 2021 PharmD class decided to participate in the Special Arrangement APPE (SAA) discussion including the following opportunities...

- 5 International APPEs on 3 different continents
- 14 Nationally Competitive APPEs
- 95 Existing APPE options delivered in 29 different states

Residents

2019

40 Pharmacy Residents
Affiliated with 11 residency programs

Fellows

2019

15 Pharmacy Fellows
Affiliated with 6 fellowship programs
The current TLS post-graduates went to schools of pharmacy around the United States (red), and will be assisting in courses in the School of Pharmacy starting this fall.

Micheal Gonyeau and Jenny Van Amburgh continue to lead the TLS program with assistance from SOP faculty members. Residents and fellows who completed the program last year had the following to say:

“I liked how I was able to facilitate a course at the School of Pharmacy. This was great because I was able to gain experience with facilitating and also was able to apply topics that I learned in TLS or through feedback from my mentor. Another strength is that a lot of different residency and fellowship programs also took part in the program. I enjoyed this because I was able to meet new people.”

“I really liked the different activities. I felt like no session was the same and it helped keep everyone engaged. I thought the facilitators brought great energy and were open to sharing their experiences.”

“I enjoyed working with other residents/fellows from other sites, allowed a diverse perspective. The 8 minute presentation was effective and succinct. I liked that the creation of this presentation aligned with the sequence of monthly learning experiences.”
Special Acknowledgements

Four SOP faculty members, Alexa Carlson, Danielle Miller, Tayla Rose, and Stephanie Sibicky, received their Master of Education degrees, with a focus in eLearning and Instructional Design from Northeastern University this August. They join Margarita DiVall, Michael Gonyeau, Jason Lancaster, and Adam Woolley to increase the DPHSS total to 8 faculty with an MEd.

Brandon Dionne began his Master of Science in Health Informatics program this September.

Michael Gonyeau accepted a position as the Assistant Dean of Curriculum and Assessment for the School of Pharmacy. Danielle Miller has been appointed director of undergraduate and professional programs and Adam Woolley has been appointed director of assessment.

Judy Barr, Carla Bouwmeester, Michael Conley, Michelle Jacobs, Debra Reid, and Tayla Rose had an article entitled “Real-world impact on monthly glucose-lowering medication cost, HbA1c, weight, and polytherapy after initiating a GLP-1 receptor agonist” accepted for publication by the Journal of the American Pharmacists Association. This publication was highlighted on the front page of Pharmacy Today!

Jane Saczynski and Macayla Landi were accepted to the National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity Faculty Success Program.

Jeanne Madden presented “Concordance of Quantitative and Qualitative Findings in Research on People with Bipolar Disorder and Behavioral Health Care” at the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute Annual meeting in Arlington, VA. Dr. Madden is a co-investigator for an R58 grant awarded by the National Institute on Aging (NIA) for a multi-site collaboration led by her colleague at Kaiser Permanente Division of Research entitled, “Drug benefit design and adherence disparities in older adults.”

Matt Duprey, a population health PhD student being supervised by John Devlin, was recently awarded a F31 research grant for his work studying delirium in older adults by the NIA.

Brandon Dionne was elected secretary treasurer of the Infectious Diseases PRN for the American College of Clinical Pharmacy.

New School of Pharmacy faculty and staff were introduced at the September meeting of the Bouvé College of Health Sciences including:

- Leigh Daniel Plant (Assistant Professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences)
- Hideaki Yano (Assistant Professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences)
- Nishil Desai (Associate Teaching Professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences)
- Waldy Barrientos (Budget Administrative Coordinator, Department of Pharmacy and Health Systems Sciences)
- Elizabeth Machart (Administrative Coordinator)
- Anitt Wilkinson (Administrative Coordinator, Office of the Dean)

We all make the school better and stronger by responding to the imperatives of our strategic plan and our primary mission of educating students, conducting research, producing scholarly works, and serving the institution and practice sites.

- Dean Jack Reynolds