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e-SOPS Fables is a bi-monthly e-newsletter produced and distributed by the University of Colorado Denver School of Pharmacy (SOP). For inclusion, feedback, or the opportunity to opt out of receiving this newsletter, contact Dana Brandorff, Director of Communications & Alumni Affairs, at dana.brandorff@ucdenver.edu or 303.724.4618.

Commencement 2009
Four-plus years. 165 credit hours. Numerous sleepless nights and untold sacrifices. Earning a doctorate degree -- priceless! For the 121 PharmD students, 42 non-traditional PharmD students and five PhD’s from the School of Pharmacy, it’s been a long, but rewarding path to a doctorate.

Largest NTPD Class to Graduate Ever
With 42 degrees conferred, 19 in December 2008 and 23 in May 2009, this year’s class was the largest ever to graduate from the distance learning program. Sixteen students made the trek from all over the U.S. and Canada to participate in the May 21st and 22nd graduation activities.

Distinguished Coloradans
Paul Limberis, RPh ’79, SOP graduate and director of Inpatient Pharmacy with Denver Health Center, and Donna Lynne, DrPH, president of Kaiser Permanente Colorado were presented with Distinguished Coloradan Awards by Dean Altiere at the SOP’s annual commencement and awards banquet on May 21. The awards are given each year to alumni and friends of the school who have made outstanding contributions to the school, the profession of pharmacy, and the health and welfare of the citizens of Colorado and the nation.

Preceptors Recognized
From Colorado to Australia -- they came from near and far to be recognized for their work training and teaching students. Belinda Huddle, recipient of the Ambulatory Preceptor of the Year Award, traveled from Victoria, Australia to receive her award. Ozzie Ramirez, PharmD ’06, manager of the Stout Street Clinic in Denver, and Andrew Davis, MBA, PharmD ’98, Pharmacy Manager in Ambulatory Care for the University of Colorado Hospital in Aurora received the Roche Preceptor of the Year Award and Institutional Preceptor of the Year Award respectively. All three embody exceptional teachers and mentors.

SOP Class of ’79 Reunion
Remember when disco, bell bottoms, oversized glasses and mustaches were all the rage? The class of ’79 will be reliving the “good old days” at their 30-year class reunion, September 18 – 20. With a tour of the Anschutz Medical Campus, lunch at the Bull and Bush, CU Buff Football game and brunch at the Millennium Harvest House in Boulder there will be plenty of time to reminisce over pharmacy school and the fashion faux pas of yesteryear! For more information or to register, contact Judy McEvitt (formerly Bergstreser) at 303.424.8042 or mcgraywolf@aol.com.

Applause
For his seminal contributions to the field of cancer research, Dr. Rajesh Agarwal recently received an Outstanding Achievement Award from the Society of American Asian Scientists in Cancer Research during the 100th Annual meeting of the American Association for Cancer Research.

Lions, Tigers and Bears -- Oh, My!
Come on out to the Denver Zoo on Sunday, June 7th from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. $5 per person covers admission and lunch (children 2 and younger are free). Drop by the Anschutz Medical Campus Bookstore with your UC Denver ID and purchase tickets. For more information, call Joyce Cheatham at 303.315.2751 or Mary Mauck at 303.724.2129

Construction Progress
Ahhh, the sound of progress -- jackhammers, cranes and cement trucks! Construction is moving along on our new building -- the future home of the Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences. A photo library, courtesy of Glenda Tate, is available on-line.