Student Spotlight – P3 Student Receives Scholarship

Ethiopian native and American citizen, Hanna Gurara, recently received a 2-year scholarship ($30,000) to assist with completing her pharmacy degree. "I am so grateful. I still have trouble believing it," says Hanna. Open to graduate level students from a variety of health disciplines who plan on practicing in rural communities, the Colorado Trust Health Professions Scholarship Program is making it possible for two pharmacy students to pursue careers. Inspired by her uncle, a pharmacist back in her native country, Hanna wants to follow in his footsteps and provide care to those in need in rural Colorado. Growing up in a small town in Ethiopia has made Hanna fully aware of the challenges and opportunities rural providers face.

Will Pharmacists Fit in a Reformed Health Care System?

The March 6th convocation on the future of pharmacy drew upon the expertise of Drs. Lucinda Maine and Victor Yanchick. Bringing their unique perspectives as pharmacists, educators, advocates and Washington observers, Drs. Maine and Yanchick posed the question, "Will pharmacists fit in a reformed health care system?" The bottom line to the question was "yes." The qualifier was that pharmacists, faculty and students need to take an active role in how they will fit into a reformed system. Referring to students, Dr. Yanchick said, "Reform begins with you. You are going to be the survival of this profession." Both agreed that pharmacists have an opportunity to shape the changes, but need to become more actively involved in the dialogue and process.

Alumni Corner - Where are they now?

Excited to be completing her second year of residency, 2007 PharmD graduate Sarah Anderson is currently interviewing for jobs. "My dream is to combine two interests – working with the public and my love of teaching." So, in that vein, she’s interviewed with both Kaiser Permanente and the SOP for a faculty position. Reflecting back on her first year in post-graduate education, Sarah says, "When I first started in pharmacy school, I was not convinced that a residency was something I wanted to pursue. But now, I’m glad I made that choice. If I had to do it all over again, I would. It’s been a great experience." Her first residency was spent at Denver Health and her second was in family medicine, training under Dr. Saseen. Should you wish to connect with Sarah, e-mail her at sandersonrx@gmail.com.

Announcing NMR Spectroscopy Facility

Soon, the SOP will have its own NMR spectroscopy facility, thanks to a gift made recently by Carol Stehley, daughter of the late Pearl S. Stehley, ’25. The NMR will help build up the synthetic chemistry program by better enabling the identification and characterization of compounds before they go off for testing as potential new drugs, and by helping establish large screening programs for the development of new compounds as anti-cancer agents. Until our new building is complete, the machine will be placed in R2.

Construction Zone

Check out the progress that’s being made on our new building – the future home of the Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences – by clicking here. A photo library, courtesy of Glenda Tate, is now available on-line. The slideshow will be updated on an ongoing basis, so be sure to come back often.