



Season's Greetings

from the

UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON

College of PHARMACY

Dear UH College of Pharmacy alumni and friends,

As we prepare for an exciting year ahead, I would like to share with you some of the substantial accomplishments and successes that the University of Houston College of Pharmacy experienced over the last year—and there are many!

Perhaps the biggest news of the year was **the college received full accreditation** from the American Council of Pharmaceutical Education. After an 18-month extensive self-study, the council's report was significant, demonstrating the **strength of our educational curriculum** and outstanding faculty leadership. We are providing an excellent education to our pharmacy students by laying the foundation for academic and professional success.

For the second consecutive year, one of our students won first place at the APhA National Patient Counseling competition, making UH the first college of pharmacy to capture back-to-back titles. Dana Hausmann received first-place honors, sharing the national spotlight with fellow fourth-year student Alex Varkey, the outgoing APhA Academy of Student Pharmacists national president. It was a great moment to have not one, but **two of our students in the national spotlight**—again.

Not only is the college making progress on the educational front, our research potential is improving greatly as well. During the spring of 2005, we moved up in our national rank with a reported 63% increase in National Institute of Health funding. Over the last several years, the college has been exceptionally successful at **attracting strong faculty researchers** to join the ranks of our current faculty, who continue to pave the way for excellent research and scholarship. This year, the college had the opportunity to **host one of three national conferences** sponsored by the Office of Human Research Protections. The conference attracted over 150 scientists, researchers, patient advocates and legal counselors from all over the country and was a huge success—possibly opening doors for similar opportunities in the near future.

In addition to our faculty and student accomplishments, we thank you for a **great year of steadfast support**. This year, we were excited to invite alumni Paul and Angela Lott, as well as Associate Professor Julianna Szilagyi and David Caprette to join the Mading Society for making extraordinary gifts to the college. The society was created 10 years ago to recognize those who have given over \$10,000 in support to the college. Also this year, Professor Tom Lemke rode his bicycle across the country for the second time, this time raising money for student scholarships. The college is proud to report that faculty, staff, alumni and friends gave over \$6,000 towards an endowment to be established for student travel. In addition, alumni and friends generously contributed over \$668,000 for fiscal year 2004-2005 in support of the college. We cannot thank you enough for your generosity—for every gift, no matter how small, goes to **build a stronger foundation** for our college and our future.

Last but certainly not least, we celebrated the **silver anniversary of the college's Texas Medical Center campus** in November. Our presence in the medical center is very important, providing opportunities for faculty to initiate joint research endeavors and giving students the unique chance to network with medical center professionals while completing required experiential rotations.

As you can see, this year was a great year for the college. All of you share in our successes as part of our growing pharmacy family. Please stay in contact with us—we look forward to hearing from you. May you and your family have a wonderful holiday season.

Happy Holidays,

Sunny E. Ohia, Dean

2005 Year in Review

- * Received full accreditation from ACPE
- * For the second consecutive year, captured first place at both the APhA National Patient Counseling Competition and the TPA Innovative Pharmacy Project competition
- * Captured first place at the TSHP Clinical Skills competition
- * Hosted one of three national OHRP conferences
- * Moved from 41st to 35th place nationally in NIH research funding
- * Graduated eight Ph.D. students; six M.S. students; 10 TxPharm students; and 104 Pharm.D. students in May
- * One-fifth of 2005 pharmacy graduates pursuing residencies
- * Appointed two new department chairs: **Vincent Lau**, Ph.D., John and Rebecca Moores Professor, chair of pharmacological and pharmaceutical sciences (PPS); and **Russell Lewis**, Pharm.D., interim chair of clinical sciences and administration (CSA) and associate professor of pharmacy practice
- * Welcomed four new CSA faculty members to the college: **Hau Chen**, Ph.D., M.D.; **Steven Pass**, Pharm.D.; **Jessica White**, Pharm.D.; and **Rosa Fei-Wen Yeh**, Pharm.D.
- * Welcomed 10 new staff members to the college: **Deborah Brougher**, **Tom Cassidy**, **Veronica Ellison**, **Negin Fouladi**, **Christiane Kodra**, **Konstantinos Pothakos**, **Vanessa Ramirez**, **Brian Thomas**, **Shauna Owens** and **Yong Zhang**
- * Welcomed 126 first-year students to the College of Pharmacy as the Class of 2009
- * Associate Professor **Richard Bond** was appointed senior editor of *British Journal of Pharmacology*
- * Assistant Professor **Vincent Tam** was appointed to the editorial board of *Diagnostic Microbiology and Infectious Diseases*
- * Professors **Mustafa F. Lokhandwala** and **Xiang-Qun (Sean) Xie** each received a new multi-year research grant from NIH and Associate Professor **James Essien** was awarded another NIH grant for \$1 million
- * Celebrated 25 years at the Texas Medical Center campus (pictured are *The Honorable Leroy Hermes*, chair of the UH System Board of Regents; *Mrs. Shirley Buckley*, wife of former dean Joseph P. Buckley; *Dean Ohia*; *Lynden B. Rose*, UH Regent; and former dean *Mustafa Lokhandwala*)

