Welcome to your University of Sydney Pharmacy Alumni community.

You are one of more than 170,000 graduates who make up the University of Sydney worldwide alumni network, with an exciting and growing range of services, benefits and programs to enjoy.

NEW ALUMNI EMAIL!

The University of Sydney has partnered with Microsoft to bring all alumni a new free email service. Your Alumni Email gives you a 10GB mail quota, an attachment limit of 20MB and email forwarding. Simply activate your alumni account in AlumniOnline and log in. Read more about alumni activities and benefits inside the front cover....

DIARY DATES

WEDNESDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER 2010
1952 MATERIA MEDICA ALUMNI REUNION
Please contact Bob Dash on
E: bobdash@ozemail.com.au

FRIDAY 1ST OCTOBER 2010
1960 MATERIA MEDICA ALUMNI REUNION
Please contact Margot Machliss on
E: machbm@ozemail.com.au
**MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN**

Welcome to the second edition of the rejuvenated Fiat Mist magazine. 2009 was a busy and productive year for the Faculty of Pharmacy and the Pharmacy Alumni Association and we look forward to building on our achievements in 2010.

Successes at the Faculty have included four of our academic staff being promoted to Associate Professor. They are Dr Parisa Amini, Dr Jane Hanrahan, Dr Margaret Hughes and Dr Paul Young. I would also like to congratulate Associate Professor Ines Krasa on her promotion to Professor in January of this year. Professor Hak-Kim Chan was awarded a Doctor of Science degree in September 2009 as well as being appointed Visiting Research Professor with the Department of Pharmacology and Pharmacy at the University of Hong Kong.

Our students have also lived up to their reputation of being the most highly trained and successful pharmacy graduates in Australia with both postgraduate and undergraduate students achieving some outstanding awards in 2009. Successes included the Faculty’s team winning the Pharmacy Guild National Student Business Plan Competition for the second year running, and postgraduate student Claire O’Reilly being awarded the FIP Young Pharmacists Group Grant for Professional Innovation.

This year also sees the Faculty reach its ten-year anniversary and we hope to celebrate this milestone event in the next few months. I look forward to seeing many of you at our upcoming Alumni events and I hope you will continue to engage with the Pharmacy Alumni Association and support the Faculty in its many endeavours. As always I look forward to receiving any comments and feedback you may have about the Faculty’s activities and initiatives.

PROFESSOR IQBAL RAMZAN
(MSc 1977, PhD 1981)  
Dean, Faculty of Pharmacy

**MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Your Pharmacy Alumni Association has been active in developing and staging activities at which we can mix and enjoy the company of other members of our Association. We aim to promote a lifelong connection and partnership between Alumni, the Faculty and the University. We also aim to reach, engage and represent them in the life and work of the University.

Our reunion program is increasing in activities. Late last year we held a wonderful 60 year reunion which was a great success with many of our over 80 year olds attending. We started the reunion with a reception in our Pharmacy common room, then had a tour of the Faculty, followed by a group photograph and lunch in the Holme and Sutherland room of the old Union building which is directly opposite our Faculty. This year we will commence an awards program for Alumni, for which we will be inviting you to nominate potential recipients.

Please stay connected with us. If your address has changed, update your details at usyd.edu.au/stayconnected. Looking forward to seeing you at our next activity.

ROSS BROWN AM RFD ED
(Materia Medica 1952)  
President, Pharmacy Alumni Association

---

**ALUMNI ONLINE**

AlumniOnline is your exclusive online networking community where you can access a free hosting email service, find friends and colleagues, develop your career, join or initiate discussion groups and stay informed about a wide variety of alumni-related activities. Use the ID number on your alumni card for your first-time login.

**MENTORS NEEDED!**

Are you interested in becoming a mentor? We need alumni to sign up as online mentors to students. No previous experience is required, simply a desire to help a University of Sydney student with his or her career development. It’s easy, fun and immensely rewarding and your assistance will be greatly appreciated! So please sign up as soon as you can, simply by logging in to AlumniOnline and joining the Mentoring Community.

You can also contact the Alumni Relations Office at:

Phone: 1300 225 796 or +61 2 936 9222
Fax: +61 2 9351 8888
Email: alumni.office@sydney.edu.au

**YOUR ALUMNI EMAIL AWAITS**

The University of Sydney has partnered with Microsoft to bring all alumni a new free email service. To access your Alumni Email, simply:

- Activate your alumni account in AlumniOnline and log in.
- Read the announcement in the centre of your screen about Alumni Email and follow the simple on-screen instructions to opt in.
- You will receive your email address and your initial password.

If you graduated before 30 June 2009, your email address (also called your Windows LiveID) will typically be firstname.lastname@uni.sydney.edu.au. Details about how to use email forwarding can be found at usyd.edu.au/ict/switch/sydneymail/forwardemail.shtml.

Alumni Email replaces the old Alumni Web Community (AWC), which will be switched off on 30 June 2010. New alumni who graduated after 1 July 2009 and onwards will bring their student email addresses with them into the alumni community. Your email service is waiting for you now to opt in!

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

Did you know that there are numerous ways in which you can volunteer your time, skills and experience to benefit your alma mater and its students? Among them:

- Become an online mentor. Simply log in to AlumniOnline and follow the links to the Mentoring Community to register as an online mentor and discover the rewards of helping a student develop his or her career. No previous experience needed.
- Become a homestay host to an international student. Join the Sydney Alumni Homestay Program and help give a newly-arrived international student a warm and nurturing welcome to Sydney, while being paid as well.
- Join our Fun, Fare and Future Alumni program where you can host a lunch or dinner for a small group of new students, providing opportunities for these students to meet and engage with their fellow students and alumni families.

Visit sydney.edu.au/alumni/support for full details.

---

**MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Your Pharmacy Alumni Association has been active in developing and staging activities at which we can mix and enjoy the company of other members of our Association. We aim to promote a lifelong connection and partnership between Alumni, the Faculty and the University. We also aim to reach, engage and represent them in the life and work of the University.

Our reunion program is increasing in activities. Late last year we held a wonderful 60 year reunion which was a great success with many of our over 80 year olds attending. We started the reunion with a reception in our Pharmacy common room, then had a tour of the Faculty, followed by a group photograph and lunch in the Holme and Sutherland room of the old Union building which is directly opposite our Faculty. This year we will commence an awards program for Alumni, for which we will be inviting you to nominate potential recipients.

Please stay connected with us. If your address has changed, update your details at usyd.edu.au/stayconnected. Looking forward to seeing you at our next activity.

ROSS BROWN AM RFD ED  
(Materia Medica 1952)  
President, Pharmacy Alumni Association
ALUMNI PROFILE:

LAURICE JONES

Laurice Jones has recently been awarded the title of “Alumni Reunions Coordinator” by the Pharmacy Alumni Association in recognition of her generous assistance in gathering contact details for so many alumni.

Laurice began her pharmacy education in 1956 apprenticed to Ross Brown (current president of the Pharmacy Alumni Association at the University of Sydney) at his Pharmacy at Clonton Park, Earlwood. “We were indentured to a Master Pharmacist for 3 years in those days” she explains, “and first year was spent in the shop. I remember spending most of my days washing tablet and mixture bottles in the back room. That year was invaluable in learning about products, how to deal with customers and patients and to recognise different common ailments, like chicken pox for example.”

Second and third year were spent between the university and the pharmacy. “Subjects included pharmaceutical chemistry, pharmaceutics, dispensing practices, pharmacoogy, pharmacognosy and forensic dispensing which explored the legal responsibilities of a pharmacist,”

All students were expected to keep up hours at the shop once university classes were done for the day and Laurice remembers eating lunch on the bus on her way from the university to Earlwood every day. “It took an hour to get there and an hour to get home every day” she says, “we were busy students and it was the only chance I would get to eat or read over notes!”

Highlights of those years, she remembers were the four-day beauty school course at Yardley and the two-day course at Helena Rubenstein that held the perk of taking home product samples (luxuries under any student budget!), as well as the visits to the Burroughs Wellcome and Parke Davis factories.

Six girls from Laurice’s final year at Fort Street Girls High School went onto do pharmacy and still keep in touch today. Upon registration in 1960, Laurice held relevuing positions in retail and hospitals, spending 2 years at Sydney Hospital. Laurice moved to Victoria in 1964 upon marriage to a final year medical student from Melbourne University and worked for 7 months at the Royal Children’s Hospital. After 2 years at Geelong Hospital Pharmacy while her husband completed his two-year residency they went to England in 1967. She worked for 6 months at the Whittington Hospital, Archway, North London and spent 2 years at Nottingham General Hospital while her husband obtained his ophthalmology qualifications. They returned to Victoria in 1970 and lived in Warrnambool.

Laurice returned to Sydney in 1982 where she worked at Concord Hospital from 1985 – 1990 and then transferred to the NSW State Branch Office of the Department of Veterans Affairs until her retirement in 2001.

Her work ranged from giving talks to veteran communities, doing medical PR including a ‘Mediation’ educational program about how to manage their medicines for veterans. “It was a good job” she says, “You had to have a lot of compassion in the job, it really is a vocation. During the years I developed good relations with the Veteran Groups and on many occasions was able to help with the various Pharmacy problems they encountered” she says. “Laurice’s help has been invaluable in getting the Materia Medica Reunions at the Faculty off the ground”, says Ross Brown, PAA President and Laurice’s former ‘Master Pharmacist’. The Alumni Association is delighted to award her the title of Alumni Reunions Coordinator and we look forward to working together even more in the future.”

PHARMACY REUNIONS 2009

Following the success of the 1958 Materia Medica Reunion held in late 2008, the Faculty of Pharmacy hosted two more reunions in September and October 2009.

In September, over 25 graduates of the class of 1949 met up at the Faculty for the first time, in some cases, in nearly 60 years! The following week, on October 2nd, graduates of 1959 gathered to tour the Faculty, get an update on current Faculty activities and catch up on class gossip over a 50-year period.

Mr. Gerry Benjamin and Mrs. Laurice Jones were instrumental in organising and putting these two events together. Great feedback followed both events and planning for further reunions is underway for later this year.

To find as many alumni as possible from 1959, Laurice worked from the names on the year photo with help from the Alumni Relations Office and putting these two events together. Great feedback followed both events and planning for future reunions is underway for later this year.

Make sure you stay connected and update your details online at sydney.edu.au/alumni.

CLASS OF 1989
TWENTY YEAR REUNION!

Approximately 50 pharmacists and their guests packed into the salubrious halls of Forrester’s Hotel in Surry Hills, Sydney in November 2009, for the 20 year reunion for pharmacy graduates of 1989. It was an evening of catching up, much laughter and just a polite amount of alcohol and food.

The evening was a huge success with many old student colleagues reunited for the first time since graduation. The 20 years that had passed seemed to melt away as the night wore on. It was suggested on the evening that a 25 year reunion in 2014 would be popular. The organisers urge you to contact your fellow graduates now and let them know how to get in touch, so that you can look forward to an even bigger and better 25 year reunion!

You can contact the organisers Michael Kavanagh on kavanaghs.pharmacy@nunet.com.au or Joseph Keledjian narwee.pharmacy@nunet.com.au.

UPCOMING REUNIONS 2010:

Planning for this year’s reunions has already commenced.

1952 MATERIA MEDICA ALUMNI REUNION

Wednesday 29th September 2010. Please contact Bob Dash on E: bobdash@ozemail.com.au

1960 MATERIA MEDICA ALUMNI REUNION

Friday 1st October 2010. Please contact Margot Machliss on E: machbm@ozemail.com.au
A University of Sydney project has developed the first searchable database providing information on the potentially hazardous interactions of prescription and herbal medicines.

“UnityHealth has trialled the database with a number of practising GPs and the response has been overwhelmingly positive. In particular, it is easy to use, up to date and quick. The team at the University of Sydney has incorporated the rigour necessary to complete the first release of this database, with ongoing updates to come. It is a very exciting Australian initiative for our industry, a badly needed resource for health professionals and good news for patients safety” says Peter De Lorenzo, Director of UnityHealth.

“We are delighted to have Professor Chan join our staff” said Professor Isqbal Ramzan, Dean of Pharmacy at the University of Sydney. “Professor Chan’s work aims to illustrate the evidence-based aspects of TCM as complementary to modern medicine in health care requires parallel training and education of practitioners and health care professionals in this field.

Professor Chan has extensive experience in the pharmaceutical and pharmacological sciences with significant national and international academic and research credentials in Chinese Medicine. Initially trained as an Industrial Pharmacist in Dosage Form Development, he has over 20 years of working experience and expertise in research on the safety and activity of Chinese medicinal materials (CMM). He has published over 500 articles in peer-reviewed papers, drug monographs, conference presentations, book chapters and three co-edited specialist books on Chinese medicine.

The area of herbal and complementary medicines is a major industry in Australia, and is being increasingly recognised in the health policies of the federal and state governments. The Herbal Medicines Research and Education Centre (HMREC) was established at the Faculty of Pharmacy at the University of Sydney in July 1997 to carry out high quality research and education on herbal and complementary medicines. Successful implementation of evidence-based use of herbal medicines in health care requires parallel training and education of practitioners and health care professionals in this field.

The HMREC at the Faculty of Pharmacy offers a Master of Herbal Medicines as well as a Diploma or Certificate level qualification, as postgraduate courses of study for those health professionals wanting to upgrade and widen their knowledge base for use in practice or for professional interest.

Professor Kelvin Chan has recently been appointed to the position of Joint Chair in Traditional Chinese Medicine at the Faculty of Pharmacy.
The survey found that in ‘usual care’ nearly two thirds of lower back pain care not meeting international guidelines.

Researchers from the Faculties of Pharmacy, Medicine and Health Sciences at the University of Sydney have collaborated with three University affiliated research institutes on a survey of the management of acute lower back pain (LBP) in general practice in Australia. Led by researchers at the George Institute for International Health, the study has found that the key aspects of ‘usual care’, provided to patients presenting with new episodes of LBP does not align with international evidence based guidelines.

The research group used data taken from the Bettering of Evaluation and Care of Health (BEACH) study, which is a continuous national study of general practice activities in Australia that began in 1998.

To date, the BEACH study has involved about half of all practising GPs in the country and provided the research group with a large and representative data set. Analysis of records of 3,533 encounters in which patients sought care for lower back pain revealed a pattern contrary to loweR bacK pain caRe not follow key treatment recommendations of guidelines, which is an important prerequisite to improving this situation.

“Ultimately the research highlights that improved communication strategies may be needed so that general practitioners feel more confident in advising patients to accept guideline care” says Professor Andrew McLachlan of the Faculty of Pharmacy, based at Concord Hospital.

“The study takes into account that guidelines are for general practice treatments, but also recognises that clinicians will still need to diverge from these for some individual patients as required.”

The full paper has been published in the February 8th issue of Archives of Internal Medicine, one of the journals of the American Medical Association.

Pharmacy and Health Sciences collaborate on lower back pain study.

PHARMACY – THE PERFECT QUALIFICATION FOR EMPLOYMENT IN THE THERAPEUTICS INDUSTRY

Pharmacy graduates are ideally positioned to take roles in the biopharmaceutical industry in Australia. There is a huge variety of positions available, but those in Medical Departments are particularly aligned with the pharmacist’s knowledge. ARCS Australia Ltd is the professional development association for people working in the development of therapeutic goods, providing education, information and networking opportunities for its members. Each year the Association is proud to host the ARCS Scientific Congress, which is the premium event for those involved in the therapeutics industry. In 2010 ARCS will host two Congresses, one focusing on Clinical Research and Development and the other on Regulatory Affairs and Reimbursement of therapeutic goods.

Founded in 1984 as a Not for Profit, member based and member driven organisation, ARCS currently has approximately 2,500 members. It is still directed by its members, who now have the support of administration, education and marketing staff in the Business Office.

ARCS SCIENTIFIC CONGRESS

Run for over 18 years the ARCS Scientific Congress (ASC) provides a full program of educational plenary, concurrent and workshop sessions, the Congress attracts a large contingent of exhibitors – suppliers to the industry such as laboratories, software providers, consultants and recruiting companies. The Congress provides an ideal opportunity to get to know the industry and the opportunities it provides for suitably qualified personnel.

All ARCS’ educational events are open to both members and non-members but members receive significant discounts (25% - 50%) on the registration fees. Members become part of a professional network and have the opportunity to seek information and exchange ideas with fellow members via attendance at events and also online via discussion forums on the ARCS Members Only website. If you are interested in roles in therapeutic goods development please visit the ARCS Australia website – www.arcs.com.au.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Marisa Petersen BPharm(HONS), PhD

Marisa graduated from the Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Sydney and has worked in both community pharmacy and in the pharmaceutical industry where roles included clinical research, regulatory affairs and project management across the Asia Pacific region. Marisa has been an active member of ARCS for 20 years and for the past 4 years has been the CEO of the association. Marisa is also a member of the Pharmacy Alumni Association Executive Committee, and the Dean’s Industry Reference Group.

SCIENTIFIC CONGRESSES 2010: AUTUMN ASC 27-28 MAY 2010 AJC RANDWICK, NSW

Focus will be the development of therapeutic goods in Australia and the Asia Pacific region. It will feature an opening plenary and 25 concurrent session over two days which will be of relevance to scientists in industry, research institutions, government and academia involved in R&D; clinical research, audit and compliance, data management and statistics and related disciplines.

SPRING ASC 13-14 SEPTEMBER 2010 NATIONAL CONVENTION CENTRE, CANBERRA, ACT

Focus will be partnerships with regulators and reimbursement agencies. Two plenaries and 24 concurrent sessions will be of relevance to those involved in peri-and post-marketing activities for therapeutic goods (prescription and OTC medicines, devices and biologics).
Women for Pharmacy networks in Sydney and Penrith, aims to support career opportunities.

Regular meetings are held throughout the year and the network coordinators are a superb contact for networking. For more information and to join in these events please contact Lillian Chen at lillian@chenrx.com.au.

The focus of the event was to create mentoring relationships. For some, this was their first networking experience but for many, this dinner was a catch up with colleagues and exchange experiences, views and information.

INTERNSATIONAL PHARMACEUTICAL FEDERATION (FIP) COMMUNITY PHARMACY SECTION

Patti Payne OAM MPS, is the Australian representative on the Executive Committee of the CPS (and the only one from the Southern Hemisphere).

FIP is the only worldwide network of pharmacists and pharmaceutical scientists that combines the broad scope of pharmacy with focused and dedicated interests of specific professional fields. FIP provides leadership by issuing policy statements, guidelines and international standards. The Community Pharmacy Section (CPS) is the largest of 9 sections of FIP. It comprises approximately 2,400 individual members. More than 80 national pharmaceutical associations are members of the Steering Committee of CPS.

The CPS mission is to assist pharmacists, wherever they live and practice, with the delivery of medicines and services that will improve medicine use and advance patient care. CPS contributes to the planning of the professional program of the annual congresses and organises activities of particular interest for community pharmacists.

Members of the FIP have access to FIP World Congresses at a significantly reduced rate, access to the Community Pharmacy Section with focused programs and communications and opportunities to network with international colleagues and exchange experiences, views and information.

CPS organises a full program at the annual congress, often in collaboration with other Sections of FIP, the Young Pharmacists Group and IPSF.

For more information on the CPS contact Patti Payne at fwpayne@ozemail.com.au or visit the FIP website at www.fip.org.

‘IMPERIAL SCIENCE UNDER THE SOUTHERN CROSS’

Book Launch at the Faculty of Pharmacy

On Wednesday 16 December 2009, the Faculty of Pharmacy hosted the launch of Professor Roy McLeod’s new publication, entitled Archibald Liversidge, FRS: Imperial Science under the Southern Cross (Sydney University Press and Royal Society of New South Wales, 2009).

Professor Iqbal Ramzan welcomed attendees to the Pharmacy Building, the building (with laboratories) that Liversidge designed and worked in for many years. Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO, Chancellor of the University of Sydney and Governor General of Australia, was in attendance and spoke of the significance of Liversidge’s contribution to the scientific community in Sydney and NSW.

Liversidge, born in London, was in many ways the ‘architect’ of science in Sydney and colonial NSW. He is remembered for first proposing a School of Science, and later founding the Faculty of Science, of which he was the first Dean; investing in the curriculum a strong sense of the value of languages and liberal education, as well as space for specialised instruction.

He is also known for inspiring the Royal Society of NSW, and giving it a sound scientific basis and for conceiving and convening the Australasian Association for the Advancement of Science (later ANZASS), an important step towards intercolonial cooperation and political Federation.

He was a major force behind the establishment of the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences – the Powerhouse Museum of today – in a vision of ‘South Kensington’ that transformed Sydney’s Pyrmont.

Liversidge was keenly interested in the theory of chemical crystallography and mineralogy, and in theories of ore formation and chemical change – foreshadowing work on trace elements – (from Sydney sea water to London soot), and pioneering deeper understanding of the origin and structure of gold deposits.

His achievements, largely neglected for decades, were rediscovered as recently as October 2009, by the CSIRO Mineral Resources Division in Perth, who have devoted a special issue to gold, borrowing the image of the ‘Liversidge nugget’ that features on the famous portrait of Liversidge by Collier that hangs in the University’s Great Hall. Professor Roy McLeod is Emeritus Professor of History at the School of Philosophical and Historical Inquiry at the University of Sydney. Professor MacLeod has illuminated Liversidge’s legacy in this new book. Copies are available for purchase from the Royal Society of NSW. For more information, contact (02) 9356 5282 or email info@nsw.royalsoc.org.au.
The Pharmacy Alumni Association has this year instigated two Alumni Awards for achievement for pharmacy graduates. The two awards are the

- Pharmacy Alumni Award for Achievement, and the
- Pharmacy Young Alumni Award for Achievement.

Both awards cover community, international, voluntary and professional achievements by the nominee within or outside of the professional area.

Only pharmacy alumni (i.e. graduates of the University) may be nominated for these Awards. All nominations and supporting statements are confidential. The information provided will not be communicated to the nominee, unless the nominator so chooses.

Closing date for nominations is Friday 9th April 2010. Nomination forms are available to download from the Pharmacy Alumni website sydney.edu.au/pharmacy/alumni.

Information sought for each nominee includes a description of the qualities which you think make your nominee worthy of an Alumni Award, any activities in or beyond the profession your nominee is engaged in, a curriculum vitae, a list of achievements by the nominee within or outside of the professional area where relevant and, if available, documentary evidence such as newspaper clippings or copies of certificates of your nominee’s achievements and activities.