Greetings from the Dean

Most of us associate Spring with the botanical changes that are so evident all around us. We anticipate the change and enjoy watching it unfold. The diversity of shapes, colors, and sizes adds to the pleasure that Spring brings. At the College, Spring is also associated with two major changes among our student body. We get to enjoy the full blossom of the graduating class as we celebrate their completion of the program and launch them into the exciting world before them. Some are pharmacists, while others are pharmaceutical scientists, but all have a world of opportunity in which to continue to grow. At the same time, we announce to a group of incredibly talented students that they have been admitted to one of our programs and invite them to join us this Fall. They will germinate in our programs for years before embarking on their own exciting careers. Tending to their growth is the passionate calling of our faculty and staff. Just as the cycle of the seasons brings delightful variety to our lives, the cycle of students in and out of our program brings us new challenges and opportunities with each passing year. It is both energizing and rewarding to watch new lives grow to their potential and make a difference in their world. That is what makes being a part of your College of Pharmacy such a privilege.

In this issue of Mortar and Pestle, you will read about some of our amazing students and faculty, a recent and not so recent graduate, and important events of the College. We also hope you will consider joining us for the 18th Annual BoileRx Golf Classic.

May you heartily bid winter farewell and fully enjoy the warmth of Spring and Summer before us!

Hail Purdue!
Craig K. Svensson, Dean
Spotlight on Dr. Keith Chadwick
Assistant Professor of Industrial and Physical Pharmacy

The College of Pharmacy is pleased to highlight the research of Dr. Keith Chadwick, which focuses on crystallization, crystal/particle engineering, and solid state chemistry. He is a huge soccer enthusiast and a diehard Manchester City (United Kingdom) fan, claiming only his family and work are more important. He lives with his wife, Jie, and their baby boy, Jayden — “one of Purdue’s smallest but most vocal Boilermakers!”

**What first interested you in your chosen research field?** I took a class on crystallography and crystallization in the 2nd year of my undergraduate degree. I liked it so much that in my senior year I completed my undergraduate dissertation project in crystallography and have not looked back since.

**What are you currently working on in your lab?** We currently have three major research projects running in my lab. (1) The design of polymer thin films for controlling drug crystallization. (2) The design and synthesis of composite drug/excipient materials for the manufacture of novel drug formulations. (3) The creation of novel preventative treatments for arthritis caused by bio-mineralization.

**What do you hope to discover/accomplish through your research?** The aims of my group are to use our expertise in crystallization to: (1) manufacture innovative drug products in the most cost effective and efficient manner, and (2) develop preventative treatments for crystallization based diseases. Ultimately, my group and I want to contribute to improving healthcare and the quality of life for patients across the world.

**What do you enjoy most about working with the students?** The most enjoyable part of working with our students is assisting them to become better pharmacists and scientists and to help them towards meeting their career goals. Whether it be in the classroom or in my research lab, it is extremely satisfying to see them succeed.
Alumni Profile: Rick Rondinelli (BS 1980)

Rick Rondinelli (BS 1980) is the founder and owner of In Touch Pharmaceuticals, a Long Term Care Pharmacy servicing skilled nursing, assisted living, hospice, and correctional facilities. The company is fully automated, dispensing medication in seven day or less short cycles, which are resident specific, according to date and time of administration. They also provide infusion therapy in a USP 797 certified clean room. The company has what many consider to be the most innovative IT department in the industry. This team develops systems to enhance accounting, billing, dispensing, and workflow processes, all for the benefit of In Touch customers.

Rick was the first in his family to have the opportunity to attend college. “I realized the importance of a college education for my family and me, and I took it very seriously,” he says. “It was a great honor to attend Purdue, especially in the College of Pharmacy.”

After graduation, he began his work in Long Term Care Pharmacy in the early ’80s. By the end of the decade, he managed and was part owner of another LTC pharmacy that was eventually sold to a large public company. “I began to miss the personal service we used to provide,” says Rick. “I enjoyed making a difference and providing great customer service. I began to realize that LTC pharmacy and geriatrics is my purpose in life and what I really love.” In 2004, he formed In Touch Pharmaceuticals with the motivation to bring back superior customer service and to make a difference in the industry, and ultimately to the residents.

Rick is the Purdue College of Pharmacy 2011 recipient of the Eaton Entrepreneurial of the Year Award and a 2012 recipient of the Pharmacy Distinguished Alumnus Award. He and his wife, DeAnna, have three children: Brittni, Anthony, and Rhett. In his free time, Rick enjoys golf, boating, fishing, and bleeds “Black and Gold.”

What is the most rewarding aspect of your business? I find it very rewarding to give our internal and external customers what they want. Even more, I enjoy providing innovative and old-fashioned customer service that allows us to give positive pharmaceutical outcomes and make an impact on geriatric care. I also enjoy helping students and employees develop into strong professionals.
Any particularly fond memories of your days at Purdue and in the College of Pharmacy? I think the neatest memory is from my first day of class in pharmacy school. We were seated in alphabetical order, and I met a gentleman to my right named Marvin Richardson (BS 1980). Marv and I became best of friends and have remained close almost 40 years later. We consider ourselves to be brothers. So, I tell my daughter Brittni, who is a freshman at Purdue, to be careful who you sit next to because they could be your friend for life!

In what ways do you stay connected with the College of Pharmacy? Since I live in Northern Indiana, I’m only 90 minutes from campus. I have continued to return to Purdue since graduation for football and basketball games and other events. I’m fortunate to be involved with the Dean’s Advisory Board. I am also very excited to be working with Drs. Kyle Hultgren and John Hertig from the Center for Medication Safety Advancement (CMSA) on how our systems at In Touch Pharmaceuticals may reduce the opportunity for medication error. We anticipate important findings from this opportunity and the impact it may have to payer systems and future CMS regulations.

Why is it important for you to give back through sharing your expertise, as well as financially, to the College of Pharmacy? I owe everything I am today to what I learned at Purdue. I am very grateful. DeAnna and I have been very blessed in so many ways, and we want to be able to give back in any way we can to help others and this great institution. It’s a blessing to be involved in the College of Pharmacy that I respect so very much. DeAnna and I are motivated to be good stewards and to do the best job we can, while at the same time enjoying the journey.

You established a scholarship with the College of Pharmacy. What has your experience been like getting to know your most recent scholarship recipient, Stephanie Jaward? Honestly, Deanna and I were very surprised when our scholarship recipient asked to meet us and personally thank us before one of the football games. It didn’t take much time after meeting Stephanie to realize what a remarkable young woman she is. We got to know Stephanie and found her to be a breath of fresh air. She has become a part of our extended family. I believe giving comes back tenfold - and in this case, more than twentyfold - because we certainly have received more than we have given. I encourage all alumni to pay it forward, get to know these magnificent students, and begin to watch the blessings rain in.

Young Alumni Profile - Kimberly Sanders (PharmD 2013)
Kimberly Sanders (PharmD 2013), a native of Fort Wayne, Indiana, is currently a PGY-1 Pharmacy Resident at the University of Cincinnati Medical Center (part of UC Health) in Ohio. Each month, Kim experiences a new rotation in a different setting such as medical ICU, surgery, transplant, pharmacotherapy and anticoagulation clinic, drug policy development, emergency department, oncology, and trauma. She also works as a staff pharmacist in the inpatient pharmacy.

“What I enjoy about my position is the variety of opportunities that I never would have experienced if not for this residency, such as being a vital part of the rounding team in the Medical ICU to responding to code blue pages and operating a crash cart,” comments Kim. “However, with my primary interest in ambulatory care, I ultimately enjoy the patient interaction and relationships I’ve formed with staff and patients in the anticoagulation clinic.”

Kim was recently offered a two year fellowship appointment at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She will begin as Postgraduate Research Fellow in Practice Model Advancement in the Division of Practice Advancement and Clinical Education (PACE) at the UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy in July upon completing her PGY1 residency in Cincinnati.

Kim says she was “born and raised a Boilermaker and will always bleed Black and Gold.” She says that as a second generation College of Pharmacy student, she definitely heard stories about her parents’ college years. “My parents [Charles (BS 1978) and Sarah (BS 1978, PharmD 1980) Sanders] are some of the hardest working individuals I know who have positively impacted many during their respective careers, and they also began in RPH 172.” In her lifetime, she says she never actually saw them solely practice pharmacy since both had advanced their careers to other areas by the time she was born. “However, as I grew up, I did get to travel to Purdue often through their involvement with the College of Pharmacy and love for Purdue football and basketball.”
“I was first introduced to the career of pharmacy in middle school by one of my mom’s pharmacist friends who worked in retail,” Kim recalls. “From there, I pursued further opportunities to learn about pharmacy and ultimately knew it was a career that fit both my personality and what I hoped to achieve in my career.” The fact that pharmacy is an ever-changing field with numerous opportunities appealed to her. “My parents, of course, gladly supported my interest, so maybe it’s in my genes.”

She is a member of the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (New Practitioners Forum), Greater Cincinnati Society of Health-System Pharmacists, Indiana Pharmacists Alliance, and Rho Chi Academic Honor Society of Pharmacy. When she manages to carve out some free time, Kim enjoys Zumba and creating wall art décor. She also plans to stay connected with the College. “Even though this year has kept me very busy, I know it is a stepping stone to being in a position to give back to the College,” she says. “I have stayed in contact with many of the faculty, but I also plan to pursue further involvement through the pharmacy alumni network, Women for Purdue, and MAPS as I become established in my career.”

As a recent graduate, what has your experience “out in the real world” been like so far? My experience has been a bit of an awakening and definitely a different environment than the pharmacy classroom. Everything you do has a direct impact on patient care, which cannot get more real than that. Life at a large academic medical center keeps you on your toes as you learn right along with medical residents how to best take care of patients, especially when you are one of four pharmacists verifying medication orders for a whole hospital on a Saturday night. Residency can be a steep learning curve, but my education provided me with the foundation I needed.

Any advice you’d like to share with current students in the program? Be an open book where everything you learn can fill the pages, from improving communication skills while working in the Purdue Pharmacy to reading up on the most current medication guidelines. By building the skills now, you will be a much-needed member of the medical team that can provide the unique set of skills only a pharmacist has. As an open book, it’s important to remember that the story continues just as your education continues beyond the classroom and graduation. Also, keep the relationships you form in pharmacy school, because now that my former classmates are scattered across the country, it’s harder to stay in touch. Yet, it makes attending national meetings more like reunions and it’s nice to catch up with faraway friends.

What was your experience participating in Multicultural Programs (now MAPS) as a student? My experience provided me with mentors who have gone on to very successful careers and ultimately allowed me to become one to my peers in the classes after me. Ms. Jackie Jimerson will always be the example of someone who put students first and encouraged them to be the best they could be. I can only hope to have a small part of that impact on future students I encounter. I will always have fond memories of the Multicultural Program luncheons and study group sessions.

What was your overall experience at Purdue as a student? Beyond pharmacy school, I got to travel to South Africa, take a theater class, join a dance crew, and attend home football games. I have formed friendships that I know will last a lifetime, but also, I know I will always be able to call Purdue home.

Bridging Academia and Community Pharmacies in Indiana

The Medication Safety Research Network of Indiana is a practice-based research network, known as Rx-SafeNet, which brings together College of Pharmacy faculty and community pharmacies from across the state to answer questions that directly impact patient care. Rx-SafeNet’s mission is to “improve
medication safety and advance community pharmacy practice in Indiana through the conduct and dissemination of collaborative, patient-centered, practice-based research.” Approximately 130 Indiana pharmacies are members of Rx-SafeNet, comprising a diversity of pharmacy types including retail chain, independent, and health-system outpatient pharmacies in numerous urban, suburban, and rural regions of the state. Rx-SafeNet is led by an Executive Committee including Dr. Margie Snyder, Network Director and Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice, Dr. Mary Ann Kozak, Network Manager, Dr. Stephanie Kleyman, Hook Drug Foundation Fellow in Community Practice Research, and Tammy Fox, RPh, Community Pharmacy Initiatives Project Manager. Other faculty are involved by proposing and leading studies conducted within the Network. Studies involve a range of topics with participation from four to approximately 12 pharmacies for each.

Currently, Rx-SafeNet is collecting data for five studies. One is a student-initiated study, with mentoring by Dr. Snyder. The study involves one-on-one interviews with pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, and patients to obtain information about pharmacist referrals to community-based resources. In another study, Dr. Matt Murawski has devised an iPad app, ADDRESS, which the patient uses to answer five questions about their current medication’s side effects; the pharmacist may use the results during patient counseling. The goal of another study is to optimize medication therapy management (MTM) for chronically ill Medicare Part D beneficiaries by interviewing pharmacists and practice staff, patients, and prescribers, and observing MTM sessions to identify barriers and facilitators to MTM delivery. Yet another project is being implemented to determine whether pharmacist review of patient medical records promotes the identification of more health-related problems during a comprehensive medication review than not reviewing the medical records. Finally, the Network is launching a needs assessment study that involves surveying patients who visit the pharmacy to assess their behavior concerning unused or expired medication disposal.

Rx-SafeNet is continuing to grow and the goal is to initiate studies of greater complexity, including federally funded studies. Of note, we recently received a grant from the Purdue Office of the Vice President for Research that allowed the purchase of 23 iPads and 20 iPad minis to promote electronic data collection; the Network looks forward to using these devices. For further information about Rx-SafeNet, please email rx-safenet@purdue.edu.

PharmD Student Spotlight on Stephanie Jaward
Anticipated Graduation Date: May 2015

Hometown: Dearborn, MI

Honors & Awards: The Rondinelli Scholarship. I encourage all scholarship recipients to get to know their donors. I have a truly amazing relationship with mine, making Purdue quite the experience. My relationship with the Rondinelli family has shown me how important it is to give back and be involved. They have made me part of their family, and I honestly couldn’t be more blessed. Rick Rondinelli has taught me to “enjoy the ride” here at Purdue and in life in general.

Participation in Organizations: UNICEF, Alumni Relations, PSSHP

Hobbies/Pastimes: I have a huge passion for people in general, but more so for kids. I love that I have had the opportunity to be involved with the faculty and their families. The HGTV Channel will glue me to my couch, watching “Property Brothers” for hours. Anything to do with sports, cooking, and the love of life has my attention!

What first interested you in the study of pharmacy? Growing up I always wanted to be a doctor, but wasn’t sure what kind of doctor would suit me best. I knew I wanted to be involved with patients, working to get them to happier and healthier lives, and that’s where pharmacy came in. I have the best of both worlds – graduating as a PharmD and getting to be involved with patients.

Why did you choose to attend Purdue University? For one, I was not turning down the best school in the nation, and secondly, upon interviewing I fell in love with the campus. I remember interviewing with Mr. George and Mr. Dubes and feeling like family. There’s something about this campus, the name...
Purdue holds, and the proud feeling you get when you hear “PURDUE”.

**Post-graduation plans:** After graduation, I plan to be in community pharmacy or long term care. I would love to go back to school for an MBA or attend law school at some point. I just want to be happy and love what I do. I’ve always been told that if I love what I do I will never work a day in my life, and that is my plan!

**Experience as a Pharmacy student:** My experience has been unique and more than I could have ever imagined. There is a feeling about being here that is difficult to describe, but every time I step foot back on campus, I fall right back in love with Purdue all over again.

“Purdue has not only been my place to learn, but also to grow. It has given me hope, strength, faith, and the opportunity to learn so much I probably would have never known about myself. Not only do I attend the best College of Pharmacy in the nation, I have the best mentor, Mr. George. I have also had the blessing of Dana Neary [Manager of Alumni Relations] guiding me as my ‘mom’ in Indiana, and without her I would be lost! The relationships built here with my ‘families’ – the Elsners, Nearys, Rondinellis, and Weathermans - will stay with me for the rest of my life. I will have to graduate at some point and move on, but I plan to always be involved here!”

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**Students Participate in Pharmacy Day at the State House**

On February 12, 2014, the Indiana Pharmacists Alliance (IPA) hosted its annual legislative day event, Pharmacy Day at the State House. Purdue pharmacy students provided legislators with health screenings for blood pressure, blood glucose, and cholesterol. The students, in turn, were able to learn about the latest legislation that will affect the field of pharmacy.

Indiana Governor Mike Pence met with the students and thanked them for spending the day at the State House. IPA has a strong relationship with Indiana Senator Ron Grooms and Indiana Representative Steve Davisson (BS 1981), who are both pharmacists. Both of these legislators work along with IPA to promote the interests of pharmacists. Senator Grooms and Representative Davisson gave speeches during a luncheon at the Westin Hotel, which was also part of the day’s events. Following the screenings, our students were offered a tour of the state house.

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**2013 Class Gift Historical Timeline Completed**

In honor of the 125th Class of the College of Pharmacy, graduates of the Class of 2013 decided to use the funds raised by the class gift project and matched by the generosity of JeanAnne “Jeannie” (BS 1961) and James Chaney to celebrate the robust and prestigious history that surrounds our fine College. The class chose to design and manufacture a graphic timeline outlining the major events that have shaped the College. This gift allows us to share the deep traditions that run in our spectacular College.

It is our privilege to announce the completion of the project. The timeline, displayed in the main floor hallway outside the Dean's Office, now serves as a centerpiece inside the historic Heine Pharmacy Building and allows past, present, and future students the opportunity to reflect on the events that have shaped the Purdue University College of Pharmacy into one of the premiere programs in the country.