

The Daily Dose



Harding College of Pharmacy

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Inaugural Class — Class of 2012

At 8 a.m., August 18, 2008, the inaugural class of the Harding University College of Pharmacy arrived. Being the “Inaugural Class” places this group of students into a unique place. This is a special time in the life of each student. Their four year journey began with a week of Orientation that ended with the College’s first White Coat Ceremony.

Students arrived and were greeted by faculty and staff. Dr. Julie Hixson-Wallace, Dean of the College of Pharmacy, offered the official greeting and spoke to students regarding the journey on which they were about to embark. The first challenge of Orientation came when students started setting up their laptops for wireless use within the Center for Health Sciences building. Oh, the many trials associated with a new building, equipment and technology! Students were divided into groups, each of whom selected a skit idea to develop and perform. The remainder of the day was filled with activities to take care of the basics such as: photo IDs, class registration, car registration, and books.

Tuesday began with a formal introduction of the entire faculty and staff. During this introductory time, students and faculty/staff identified their home states with a total of 21 states being represented. Initial introduction and meeting of the faculty-student mentor-mentee groups followed. Throughout the week, there were assessments administered. The purpose of the assessments was to determine student baseline data that will aid in more accurately measuring academic and professional progression. To further promote student success, staff from the Harding campus provided an introduction to library use, on-line course management software (Blackboard) and university computing access (Pipeline). Thursday was dedicated to specific ways pharmacy students can identify and seek relief from “student stress” with practical learning strategies provided by Harding faculty.

Round table discussions were held several times throughout the week and focused on: Experiential Education, Pharmaceutical Sciences, Pharmacy Practice, Professional Affairs, Assessment, and “Ask the Dean”. Simmons First Bank, Wal-Mart and Kroger, each provided a lunch for students, faculty and staff on one day of Orientation.

The White Coat Ceremony (WCC) and reception that followed was the culmination of the week’s activities. There were four hundred plus attendees to the WCC which was sponsored by Wal-Mart. The ceremony was presided over by Dr. Julie Hixson-Wallace. Dr. David Burks, President of Harding University, provided the University welcome and Senator Percy Malone provided the keynote address. Dr. Bill Yates and Dr. Julie Kissack, the two Department Chairs within the College, cloaked each student with their white coat and name tag as their name was called by Ms. Susan Grace, Director of Student Affairs. Dr. Don Porter, Assistant Dean for Professional Affairs, led the students in the Pledge of Professionalism. Dr. Mark Riley, Executive Vice President of the Arkansas Pharmacists Association, welcomed the students to the pharmacy community. Following the WCC, a reception was held in Cone Chapel. Faculty, staff, students, family and friends gathered to commemorate this new beginning.



Class of 2012

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Get to Know the Faculty... Dr. Yeboah



Dr. Kwame Yeboah

“If opportunity does not knock, create a door.”

1) Where were you born?

I was born in a small town near Akim Oda in the Eastern Region of Ghana. I was the 8th of my mother’s children and the only survivor of the 7 sons.

2) Where did you attend college?

In 1977, I gained admission into the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology. I later graduated with a Bachelor of Science (Honors) Degree in Biological Sciences. I held many leadership positions in college including being President of the Independence Hall of Residence, a member of University Students Representative Council, and Chair of the Political Education Committee of the National Union of Ghana Students.

In 1992, I went to Denmark for postgraduate training at the Danish Bilharziasis Laboratory in Epidemiology and Control of Water-borne diseases. In 1993, I joined the University of Ghana to gain a Master of Philosophy (M.Sc.) degree in Parasitology.

I relocated to the United States after graduation in 1996. I began the Master of Public Health program at Mercer University College of Medicine in 2000 and in 2004 started work on my Ph.D. in pharmaceutical sciences at Mercer University College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences.

3) How long have you been employed at Harding?

I joined the Harding College of Pharmacy from Altea Therapeutics Corporation immediately after completing my Ph. D program in November 2007.

4) Tell us about your children:

I have three children. Kwesi Aninkorah-Yeboah – 24 years, Esi Fosuah Yeboah – 22 years and Abeoku Yeboah – 18 years.

Kwesi is now in the Pre-med program while Esi is in the College of Business, both at Harding University.

5) Tell us about your spouse:

My wife’s name is Tina Sam-Yeboah. We met in 1978 when I was in college and have been together ever since.

6) When you were a child, what did you want to be when you grew up?

I really wanted to be a medical doctor and a politician because I thought those positions could help me address some issues I encountered in my community. I was particularly interested in finding out what killed my brothers. My mother wanted me to get some education so I could be a teacher and pastor of her local church. Somehow, I have been able to touch all these areas except being a pastor at her church.

7) Where would you like to visit & why?

Texas, to confirm my childhood suspicion that every man there is a cowboy toting a gun in his belt.

8) Who has had the biggest impact on your life & why?

My mother. She is singularly responsible for getting me this far in life.

9) What is your proudest moment or accomplishment?

The first week of August, 2008, when two of my children joined my wife and me here. I had lived away from my children for more than 12 years and from my

wife for 8 years.

10) Favorite color: Blue

11) Favorite movie(s):

- 1. Ice Age (a cartoon)
- 2. Titanic

12) Favorite sport and/or team:

Sport: Soccer

Team: The Black Stars of Ghana (Ghana’s national soccer team)

13) Favorite thing about Searcy:

The lack of traffic is what I admire most about Searcy.

14) Favorite scripture:

Psalms 23.

As somebody who has struggled, with only the help of my illiterate parents and later on from my wife, to make it from the underdeveloped countryside of Ghana through all levels of education, through political positions (including a period in jail as a result of political persecution), through being an anti-Christian radio talk show host at one time, through being the Vice President of the Mens’ Fellowship of a Christian church later, to being an Assistant Professor in the largest Christian university in the United States, this scripture has been my source of encouragement and praises to God.

15) Words of wisdom for the inaugural class:

If opportunity does not knock, create a door.

Akim Oda, Ghana



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What's happening in research?

Dr. Catherine Willmore joined the College of Pharmacy faculty as an Associate Professor of Pharmacology in February 2008. She accepted this position after teaching within PharmD professional programs at the University of Maryland and at Ohio Northern University. Dr Willmore's scientific research training began at Virginia Commonwealth University's Medical School, where she earned a Ph.D. in the combined disciplines of Pharmacology and Toxicology. Her research continued through two postdoctoral fellowships.

Dr Willmore's first fellowship, Walter Reed Army Research Institute, exposed her to rodent

neurosurgical techniques. During her second fellowship, at the University of Maryland, Dr. Willmore performed operant conditioning (Skinnerian) experiments.

Through a collaborative agreement, Dr. Willmore intends to set up a Behavioral Neuroscience laboratory on the Arkansas State University campus in Jonesboro, AR. She will use rodent subjects and Skinnerian experiment designs to explore research questions related to human cognition and emotion. Much of this work will be done collaboratively with Dr. K. Biondolillo, an esteemed ASU professor in psychology.

Dr Willmore also has active collaborative research with investigators at Wayne State University in Detroit, MI, with the University of Maryland in Baltimore, MD, and with laboratories at the National Center for Toxicology Research in Jefferson, AR.



Dr. Catherine Willmore

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What's happening in practice?

Christian Health Ministries (CHM), a free health clinic in Searcy, has partnered with the Harding University College of Pharmacy (HUCOP). Starting this month, HUCOP will be responsible for staffing the pharmacy at CHM on the second and fourth Sundays of the month. The clinic is open Sunday afternoons from 1-5pm. It is closed on weekends of major holidays like Labor Day and the Fourth of July. Dr. Jeanie Smith will be the primary faculty member at the clinic. Fourteen students are already signed up to work with her this semester.

CHM accepts patients based on income. Their focus is to provide healthcare to the

working poor. Physicians, pharmacists, nurse practitioners, physician assistants and nurses staff the clinic on a volunteer basis.

The pharmacy has a limited formulary and fills 150-200 prescriptions in the four hour block on Sundays. High blood pressure and anti-diabetic medications are the most commonly prescribed and dispensed agents. A handwritten prescription can be given for medications not on the CHM formulary. Care is taken to prescribe medications on the CHM formulary. If a handwritten prescription is needed, providers make an effort to prescribe off the popular and affordable four

dollar list.

Christian Health Ministries serves a great need in White County and keep a lengthy waiting list of patients. If you are interested in serving at CHM in any capacity, please contact Dr. Jeanie Smith at jsmith17@harding.edu or Nancy Myers at myers95@sbcglobal.net



Dr. Jeanie Smith

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HU Box 12230
Searcy, AR 72149-2230

Phone: 501-279-5528
E-mail: pharmacy@harding.edu

We're on the Web!

www.harding.edu/pharmacy



The Center for Health Sciences houses the College of Pharmacy and the Physician Assistant Program.

Harding University Homecoming Activities

Friday, October 24

8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Registration. Heritage lobby

9:45 - 2 p.m. Registration for Bison Stampede 5 K Run, Hammon Student Center, contact J.D. Yingling, 501.279.4756 (\$15)

9 a.m. **Chapel** - Make plans to attend chapel in the Benson Auditorium followed by Heritage Circle Coffee in Room 236 in the Student Center.

1 - 4 p.m. - Harding History House, 205 N. Lott Tucker Drive

3:30 - 4:30 p.m. - **Center for Health Sciences building dedication.**

4:15 p.m. Good News Singers, C. L. Kay Plaza in front of the Benson Auditorium

8 p.m. Homecoming Musical - *Oklahoma!* - Benson Auditorium. (\$10, \$12 and \$15) Join the cast following the play for complimentary coffee in the student center.

10:45 p.m. Bison Bash, Live Band, Bonfire and fun following the musical on the soccer practice field. Sponsored by Admissions, Alumni and the S.A.

Saturday, October 25

7:30 - 8:50 a.m. Alumni Continental Breakfast (Student Center)

8 a.m. Bison Stampede 5K Run, registration in front of the Thornton Education Center. Race starts at 9 a.m. (\$15) Each participant receives a T-shirt. Contact jdyingling@harding.edu for more info.

9 a.m. - Alumni Chapel will feature Dr. Clifton Ganus, Jr. as the speaker and inspirational singing led by descendants of Andy T. Ritchie III. (Heritage Auditorium). Remember the songs and share the memories of chapel.

9:30 - 11:30 a.m. **College of Sciences Reunion and Reception: A Symposium of Faith and Science** (Pryor-England 123) Dr. Bob Walker of Decatur, Ala., will be the speaker.

10 a.m. Third Annual Strolling for the Cure **TM** (Market St. parking lot) \$20 includes T-shirt while supplies last. Join our first ladies and breast cancer survivors, Leah Burks and Louise Ganus, as they lead the stroll across campus to raise money and awareness.

10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Art Reception - Stevens Art Gallery

10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Harding History House

10 - 10:45 a.m. Belles and Beaux (Admin Aud.)

10 a.m. - 1:45 p.m. Inflatable Games and Petting Zoo (Ganus Athletic Center) Fun for the Harding family. A petting zoo featuring farm animals, pony rides and

inflatable games will entertain children of all ages as well as the young at heart.

10 a.m. - 6 p.m. **College of Pharmacy** students present their posters at the Ganus Athletic Center.

11 - 11:45 a.m. Pied Pipers Children's Theatre 21st Anniversary (Reynolds Center Recital Hall)

11:30 a.m. Knights Alumni Joust - Join the 40th anniversary celebration as Knights' alumni compete for bragging rights! (Ganus Athletic Center)

11 a.m. - 1:45 p.m. Harding Family Picnic and Tailgate on the lawn in front of the GAC.

Choose your spot at First Security Stadium under the beautiful pecan trees on the west side of the GAC. Bring your grill. Don't want to cook? ARAMARK will be grilling burgers and hot dogs.

2 p.m. Bison Football (Reserved seats, \$10 and general admission, \$7)

8 p.m. Homecoming Musical - *Oklahoma!* - Benson Auditorium. (\$10, \$12 and \$15) center.

Check out www.harding.edu/homecoming for an up-to-date Homecoming schedule.

Our History

In October 2004, a former Harding University administrator suggested that pharmacy be investigated as an addition to the offerings of the University. Over the next several months, research was conducted and consultants were secured to study the question of whether pharmacy would be consistent with the mission and goals of the University. Constituents outside the University including local pharmacists, the Arkansas State Board of Pharmacy, and the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education were also involved in initial discussions regarding the establishment of a College of Pharmacy. Following the endorsement of two formal consultant reports in May 2005, the Board of Trustees of Harding University approved the creation of a College of Pharmacy at its campus in Searcy, Arkansas. Thus was born the first College of Pharmacy at a church of Christ-affiliated institution, and the second Doctor of Pharmacy program in the state of Arkansas. The College of Pharmacy's inaugural class of students matriculated in the fall of 2008.