The week culminated with the White Coat Ceremony (WCC) on August 21, which was presided over by Dean Hixson-Wallace. This year’s ceremony was nearly standing room only with more than 300 excited family, friends, university faculty and staff, and community visitors in attendance. The ceremony represents the educational transition from the general studies of the undergraduate level to professional pharmacy education. Cloaking a student in the white coat symbolizes the student’s active participation in providing health care.

Dr. McLarty provided the University welcome and Dr. Diana Park (’12), Emergency Medicine Clinical Pharmacist at Huntington Hospital in Pasadena, California, gave the keynote address. As Susan Grace, Director of Student Affairs, called each student’s name, Dr. Julie Kissack, chair of pharmacy practice, and Dr. Forrest Smith, associate dean for academic affairs, gave them a white coat and name tag. Dr. Jeff Mercer, associate dean for experiential education, led the students in the Pledge of Professionalism and Dr. Mark Riley, Executive Vice President of the Arkansas Pharmacists Association (APA), welcomed the students to the pharmacy community. Following the WCC, a reception was held in the Founders Room of the David B. Burks American Heritage Center. We express our deepest thanks to the APA for generously sponsoring the ceremony and reception.

On August 17, 2015, forty-eight students from 14 states and four countries arrived in Searcy, Arkansas to begin their academic training to become doctors of pharmacy. This unique group of individuals comprises the Class of 2019. For the next four years, this diverse group of individuals will spend countless hours working together as they traverse the terrain of their pharmacy education.

The week of orientation began with Dean Julie Hixson-Wallace greeting the Class of 2019. Simmons First Bank graciously hosted a “Welcome to Searcy” luncheon for everyone. Later in the week, Dr. Bruce McLarty, the president of Harding University met with the class and spoke with them regarding what it means to be a member of Harding community of mission. This year incoming pharmacy students were jointly oriented alongside communication sciences and disorders students as well as physician assistant students as an introduction to the interprofessional education (IPE) achieved within the health sciences programs.

Throughout the week, students learned what it is to be a “professional” and how to develop professionalism. During this time, upper level students led discussions and assisted in orientation sessions to provide the new students with tools that promote success in their school, professional, and spiritual lives. Dr. John Kirtley of the Arkansas State Board of Pharmacy met with the class and explained the rules that govern pharmacy interns and guided the students through the Arkansas Pharmacist Intern licensing process.

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1) Where were you born? McGehee, AR
2) When you were a child, what did you want to be when you grew up? When I was really young, I wanted to be a country singer.
3) Siblings: One brother, John Sanders, age 33, who is in the US Army and works in intelligence.
4) Where did you attend college? University of Arkansas, Fayetteville (BS) and University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy (PharmD)
5) Spouse: Judd — 2 1/2 years
6) Children: Lincoln and Emory, born December 2014
7) Somewhere you would like to visit and why? One day I’d like to go to the Hotel de Glace in Quebec City. It’s a hotel made completely of ice. I don’t think I’d actually want to sleep there. I’d just tour the hotel then stay someplace warm.
8) If you could have dinner with anyone, who would it be and why? I don’t know. I am not really into celebrities or politics. There isn’t anyone I’d rather have dinner with than my family.
9) Something not many people know about you: I have a wide variety of interests. I love karaoke, zombie movies, and romance novels.
10) Favorite color: Yellow
11) Favorite movie: Australia
12) Favorite sport and/or team: Arkansas Razorbacks
13) Favorite thing about Searcy: Searcy is a safe place with really friendly, welcoming people.
14) Favorite book (other than the Bible): For the Roses by Julie Garwood
15) How long have you been employed with Harding? 3 years
16) Biggest challenge or obstacle: I went back and did a residency after I’d been out of pharmacy school and practicing for five years. That was really challenging because I’d forgotten a lot and had to spend a great deal of time studying to get back where I wanted to be knowledge-wise.
17) Proudest moment or accomplishment: Before my twins were born, my proudest accomplishment was graduating from pharmacy school. Now my proudest moment is when I met my babies for the first time.
18) Person who had the biggest impact on your life and why? My mom has had a huge impact on my life. She is full of wisdom and raised me to be strong, independent, and to always do my best. She has always been there for me even when I made the wrong choices. She reminds me that God forgives us, so we have to forgive ourselves.
19) Favorite scripture: “So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.” I Corinthians 10:31
20) Words of wisdom for our students: Remember, this is a four-year investment in your future for yourself and your family. It’s only four years, so stay focused. It will fly by!
Harding University College of Pharmacy recently awarded scholarships totaling $88,000 to 40 students within the College. The number of scholarships is remarkable, but they represent so much more than dollars and cents. Scholarships provide access and opportunity for student pharmacists to achieve their goals. The annual Honors, Awards, and Scholarship Luncheon was held on September 11, 2015, to recognize student recipients and the donors who made these scholarships available.

The scholarship luncheon provided an opportunity to thank donors for their generous support and to remind students that their work ethic and scholastic achievements are valued by the college.

Dr. Kenneth Yates, chair of the department of pharmaceutical sciences, addressed the scholarship recipients and donors. He stressed to the students the importance of gaining knowledge as lifelong learners, but also the importance of seeking wisdom as they grow as leaders. He said that discernment of what is right and just is critical to becoming great leaders.

The Dean’s Scholarship was awarded to the academic top 10% of each class. Recipients of the Dean’s Scholarship were: Kipp Allen, Samantha Bailey, Colin Carroll, Brady Clark, Schrell Crockett, Aulora Fay, David Gerick, Kyle Hively, Chinnyere Iordoni, Rebekah Knudson, Khuong Ly, Brette McDonald, Michelle Ngo-Wenang, Shivam Patel, Karen Rorex, Daniel White, and Hannah Wright.

Academic scholarships were awarded to P1 students: William Beggs, Barrett Carter, Dominique Deveaux, Cameron Harrington, Kolton Kelly, Mary Ann McAllen, Kady Pace, Paola Quijano, Nefatli Samaniego, Christy Skinner, Caleb Uebelein, and Rob Welch.

Other organizations and individuals offering scholarships and their recipients included:
- Agatha Culpepper Wallace Memorial Scholarship – Aulora Fay
- Arkansas Pharmacy Foundation – Nora Martin
- Joey Baker/Emerson, Arkansas Scholarship – Kelsey Maloch
- National Association of Chain Drug Stores – Kaitlyn Smith
- National Community Pharmacist Association Scholarship – Nora Martin
- Richie’s Specialty Pharmacy – Taryn Eubank, Meghan Hedden, Nathan Strange, Charlie Wright
- Walgreens Diversity Scholarship – Jojo Entsuah
- Walgreens Diversity and Inclusion Excellence Award – Imi Mvere
- Faculty-Staff Scholarship – Meredith Mitchell

The College of Pharmacy would like to increase the number of scholarships and awards to be disbursed in the coming years. For more information about making an annual scholarship available or establishing an endowed scholarship for the College of Pharmacy, please contact the Dean’s office at 501-279-5205, or email jahixson@harding.edu.
HUCOP Officers for 2015—2016

**Council of Students (COS)**
Advisor: Ms. Susan Grace
President: Jennifer Grimes
Vice President: Phu Pham
Secretary: Shelbie Stickels
Treasurer: Ana Tran
Parliamentarian: Aaron Ritchie

**Class of 2016**
Advisor: Dr. Kaci Bohn
President: Anina Rasaphangthong
Vice President: Jenner Chang
Secretary/Treasurer: Britney Cothren

**Class of 2017**
Advisor: Dr. Melissa Max
President: Jared Richardson
Vice President: Aaron Ritchie
Secretary/Treasurer: Kaitlyn Smith

**Class of 2018**
Advisor: Dr. Todd Brackins
President: Brady Clark
Vice President: Natividad Sandoval III
Secretary/Treasurer: Heidi Falconer

**Class of 2019— to be determined**

**APhA-ASP**
Advisor: Dr. Jeanie Smith
President: Meredith Mitchell (fall ’15) and Alyssa Stormes (spring ’16)
President-Elect: Alyssa Stormes (fall ’15)
VP Membership: Hannah Wright
VP Finance: Queenie Wan
VP Patient Projects: Shelbie Stickels
VP Communications: Melissa Dinh
VP Student Activities: Journey McCarty
VP Policy: Jarrod Baum
VP Int’l Affairs: Imi Mvere
Secretary: Khuong Ly

**ASHP-SSHP**
Advisor: Dr. Rayanne Story
President: Lindsey McGary
President-Elect: Brady Clark
Vice President: Clare Carter
Secretary: Jamie Currier
Treasurer: Amanda Reeder
Membership Chair: Megan McCorkle
Historian: Aulora Fay
ASHP Liaison: Jared Richardson

**Mark S. Riley Chapter**
Advisors: Dr. Tim Howard and Dr. Ashley Earley
President: Samantha Gauthier
Vice President: Heidi Falconer
VP Finance: Michael Ferguson
VP Membership: Shea Ninemire
VP Student Activities: Bailey Halford
VP Legislative Affairs: All Officers
VP Public Relations: Jessica Gall
VP Community Service: Prashant Lukhi

**ACCP**
Advisor: Dr. Sarah Griffin
Liaison: Missy Tate

**Delta Omicron Chapter**
Advisors: Mr. Rodney Richmond and Dr. Debbie Waggoner
President: Missy Tate
Vice President: Khuong Ly
Secretary: Alexandria Duffield
Treasurer: Quynh-Nhu Huynh
Historian: Queenie Wan
My name is Steve Sparks and I am a 2013 alumnus of HUCOP. I had the privilege of going on a medical mission trip to Belize with the group, International Servants, in May of this year. My first trip with International Servants was during my P2 year, and I knew I would eventually go back as a pharmacist but had no idea it would be this soon or that my education would have such an impact.

As a P4 student, during my Health and Wellness APPE with Dr. Jeanie Smith, I was able to build a medication formulary and discuss operations with the team that would aid in efficiency on the mission trip and allow for more effective use of medications. I worked with professors at other pharmacy schools, HUCOP professors, Belizean diplomats, and our medical team in Belize. Going on a mission trip truly touches you and changes your life by allowing you to utilize your God-given talents and abilities, and save others not only physically but spiritually. That is why I went again, although the call to return was quicker than I had planned.

I, along with my wife, Cassie, and 57 team members, went to the jungle of Belize to share the gospel and heal the sick. Our team included two physicians from the states, one physician from Honduras, nurses, nursing students, nurse practitioners, and a physical therapist. Over the five days in the clinic, we saw patients totaling about 458, roughly translating to 1,900 prescriptions filled. I was involved in wound treatments, filling prescriptions, and helping counsel patients in Spanish.

I witnessed people living in grass huts with children malnourished from intestinal worms, mental disabilities due to an extremely high fever with no Tylenol available to treat it, and many other things we take for granted. Some highlights from the trip included making tortillas in a grass hut with local women from the church, eating a gibnut (a 35-pound rodent), being part of a new church dedication, and eating with the children of the Feed-a-Child Center.

Lastly, I saw the difference my formulary made for the providers and the cost of medications. I experienced the process flow by which we developed procedures to improve efficiency. We were so proud no one was turned away from the clinic which is a huge accomplishment. The formulary reduced costs allowing us to provide more medications while the improved flow process produced a quicker trip for our patients as most walked for hours to come to the clinic.

My time at Harding not only amplified my calling to go on missions but gave me the opportunity to utilize the knowledge and expertise of HU professors which directly impacted our success. I know I will go back to Belize and hope others have the chance to experience a mission trip. For more information on this group, visit www.iservants.com and learn about the great things happening in Belize.

“How beautiful are the feet of those who bring the good news.” –Romans 10:15
What does Patient Caring look like for HUCOP?

‘See one, do one, teach one’ has long been a standard teaching method in medicine, particularly in the field of surgery. With all of the advances in technology some would suggest this method may be outdated. However, it remains a viable tool for teaching the intricate details of direct patient care to student pharmacists.

At HUCOP, first year (P1) pharmacy students are immediately integrated into the world of experiential education through the many arms of introductory pharmacy practice experiences (IPPEs). One of the most challenging for many students is Patient Caring. Student pharmacists are teamed with patient volunteers who have real medical issues requiring multiple medications.

When I first became director of IPPE at HUCOP, a student was expected to recruit his or her own Patient Caring volunteer during the first semester of pharmacy school and add an additional patient each subsequent year. Utilizing this format required each student to be following three different patients by the third year of pharmacy school. Although this model provided abundant patient interaction, it was lacking in faculty-guided patient care.

The current model is for an incoming P1 student to be paired with a student from the P3 (third year) class for the Patient Caring portion of IPPE. The P3 student will have already had a Patient Caring volunteer and two years of training in patient-centered care. Many times they have been caring for the same patient the previous two years. This pairing alleviates the stress of the incoming P1 to recruit his or her own patient since many of our students are from out of state or are recent US residents. This pairing allows the P3 student to ‘teach one’ and the P1 student to ‘see one.’ They learn how to interview the patient volunteer to obtain a health history, current health status, and record a complete medication list, including over the counter and herbal/natural medicines. This satisfies at least four out of seven of the commonly acknowledged learning styles; visual, verbal, kinesthetic or physical, and interpersonal.

As HUCOP student pharmacists begin their P2 year, they typically inherit the patient volunteer introduced to them by their P3 partner the previous year. This means the student and the volunteer already have a relationship and there is some level of familiarity established. During this year of Patient Caring, students continue to build on the skills they observed during the previous year, and ‘do one’ as they practice the patient assessment skills they are learning in class and lab while applying knowledge from other didactic coursework while continuing to nurture verbal communication, empathy, and trust with their patient volunteer.

Of course the ultimate goal of Patient Caring IPPE is to fulfill HUCOP’s mission to, “…graduate pharmacists who accept the responsibility of improving the spiritual and physical wellness of the world by providing patient-centered care that ensures optimal medication therapy outcomes delivered through the highest standards of Christian service.” The following quotes indicate the Patient Caring program is on track. One patient volunteer shared, “For people who take a lot of medicines and have trouble keeping them straight, this is a wonderful service the students are offering the community. My students go above and beyond what they are required to do and they have helped me a great deal. They learn and it helps me, too.”

A current student reflected, “The most exciting thing I have experienced in pharmacy school was to tell my patient his hemoglobin A1c level went from over 10 to 7.6 through his diet, exercise, and use of the medications he takes for his diabetes. The look on his face when I told him was priceless. You could see the satisfaction he had from all his hard work, and he seemed encouraged to keep going. It is important for pharmacists to encourage their patients with these disease states to keep up the hard work so one day they will see results.” He continues, “The relationship I developed with my patient this year is the kind of relationship I hope to have with my patients as a pharmacist. I want to be able to encourage them and pray for their families when they are going through difficult situations. In my opinion, the whole point of the Patient Caring portion of the curriculum is to learn how to develop relationships with people and communicate with them.”
Student Spotlight...Kristen Powers (P4)

I was born and raised in Springfield, Missouri. I have a younger sister who is currently attending Harding working towards a degree in Exercise Science. My dad works at The Arc of the Ozarks in Springfield and my mom works for Cox Health Systems in Springfield. I attended Harding for my undergraduate degree and prerequisites, where I graduated with a bachelors degree in health sciences.

My hobbies and interests include reading, doing crafts, and building things. I also enjoy being active outside and watching movies and spending time with friends. One of my proudest moments was when I was accepted into pharmacy school at Harding.

I decided I wanted to be a pharmacist when I job shadowed a pharmacist as a junior in high school and I loved it. I always wanted to attend Harding for college from a very young age and being able to stay at Harding for pharmacy school has been one of the biggest blessings in my life. My experience at HUCOP has been wonderful so far. It has been challenging, but I have learned a lot. I am thankful for the knowledge I have gained and the people that I have been able to meet.

Student Spotlight...Jared Richardson (P3)

I was born and raised in West Monroe, Louisiana and lived there until I started pharmacy school at Harding. I have the most amazing wife named Brittany. We have two dogs that we love like our children, Oakley (Yorkie) and Kipper (Airedale Terrier). I have one younger brother, Cole, who is in 6th grade. My parents still live in West Monroe and own a jewelry store there.

In my free time, I have always been an outdoorsman. I enjoy hunting and fishing and sports in general. My wife has been the greatest influence on my life since meeting her. She has always encouraged and supported everything I do, and I wouldn’t be where I am today without her support. My proudest moment was getting accepted to pharmacy school. I started working at a pharmacy after high school, and since then I knew I wanted to be a pharmacist. My biggest obstacle since being in pharmacy school was the loss of both my grandfather and my wife’s Mimie last year. Both were very special to us and strong influences. Being away from our families while they were ill was difficult.

My time at HUCOP has been a blessing to me. I know that God truly had a purpose bringing me here, and I have been able to grow so much as a person. Being involved in different organizations at HUCOP has been a great experience. I have met many great people and professors while living here, and I am very thankful for that.
Class of 2019 White Coat Ceremony Photos
Help a student afford a Harding education. **Make a gift to HUCOP scholarships** at the Center for Health Sciences College of Pharmacy - Donate Online link on: [http://www.harding.edu/Advancement/giving.html](http://www.harding.edu/Advancement/giving.html).

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**HUCOP Kudos Korner**

Congratulations to HUCOP faculty **Dr. Kaci Bohn** (pharmaceutical sciences) and **Mr. Rodney Richmond** (pharmacy practice) on their recent achievements. Dr. Bohn has been appointed to the Arkansas State Board of Nursing by Governor Asa Hutchinson. The Board of Commissioners of the Commission for Certification in Geriatric Pharmacy has elected Mr. Richmond as their Chair-Elect and he will assume this position at their Las Vegas annual board meeting next month.

Accolades to the winners of the 2015 SSHP Clinical Skills Competition, P4s **Samantha and Daniel Bailey**. This husband-wife team will represent HUCOP at the national competition during the ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting in New Orleans, LA in December.

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**Keep In Touch—Please email pharmacy@harding.edu if you...**

**Married * Moved * Added to your family * **

**Received an award * Have a story idea**

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**Calendar of Events—Fall/Winter 2015-2016**

**APhA-ASP Midyear Regional Meeting**..........................................................Oct 30—Nov 1

**Registration for Spring 2016**..........................................................November 10-11

**Thanksgiving Break**..........................................................November 23-27

**ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting**..........................................................December 6-10

**Harding Reception at ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting**..........................December 7

**Final Exams**..........................................................December 14-18

**Spring Classes Begin**..........................................................January 11

**IHCF Medical Missions Seminar**..........................................................January 15-16

**MLK Day (no classes)**..........................................................January 18

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