

# **NEW COMPANY SPRINGS FROM NDSU INNOVATION CHALLENGE**

Erin Nyren-Erickson clearly loves a challenge. Even before she was handed her new NDSU doctorate in pharmaceutical sciences during December commencement ceremonies, she was busy putting her research to the test in private industry.

Nyren-Erickson has launched a new company, HQC Biosciences Inc., with her office located in the NDSU Research and Technology Park. The company creates easy-to-use identification tools for biological compounds or targets. Much of the early research is based on Nyren-Erickson's work with tests for finding contaminants in the drug Heparin. Her efforts won the grand prize at NDSU's Innovation Challenge '13, and that success proved to be a springboard.

"I had provisionally patented this research before I considered being part of the Innovation Challenge," she explained. "At that time, the general impression we got was that it was a great idea, but companies wanted an end product. If I wanted it to be successful, I'd probably have to start a company. That was the push I needed."

As she works to get her company on firm footing, she is quick to praise faculty and colleagues in the NDSU College of Pharmacy, Nursing, and Allied Sciences. "They've been extremely good to me," Nyren-Erickson said. "They've been helpful and supportive, and I'm very grateful." She's found people in the college willing to help where they can, and there is building

excitement about her new venture. "Providing equipment on a user-fee basis in our college only makes sense to us," said Charles Peterson, dean of pharmacy, nursing, and allied sciences. "It keeps initial startup costs down, which will hopefully increase her chances of succeeding. The faculty are very proud of Erin and want to show their support for her."

As with any fledgling enterprise, getting established is key. "Everything is going quite well. This technology is very useful for other applications in addition to Heparin," said Nyren-Erickson, who also earned her bachelor's degree in biotechnology and Master of Business Administration degree from NDSU. "I'm collaborating with companies, trying to get products that they or their clientele would find useful."

Nyren-Erickson said she feels comfortable in both the scientific and entrepreneurial arenas, in part, because her parents, Paul and Anne Nyren, helped establish the Central Grasslands Research Center in Streeter, N.D. "My parents studied the science of agriculture, so I grew up in the scientific world," she said. "I watched them build something using every possible resource. If you know how to do that in a business, that's important."

As her background, education and personal determination merge, the elements of a success story are in place. "I'm really trying to make this technology stretch as far as it possibly can," said Nyren-Erickson. "I'm excited, hopeful and optimistic."



## 'DEADLY BENEFITS' RECEIVES HIGH PRAISE

A chilling murder mystery is unfolding at a Fargo medical facility, with a local pharmacist accused of a fatal medication error. That is the storyline of an intriguing new novel, "Deadly Benefits," by NDSU alumna Ryn Pitts.

The 337-page thriller, which is set in 2002, explores hospital safety, referral practices and the motives of people entrusted with the lives of patients.

The writing project took nine years to complete, and the interplay between characters is certainly a familiar subject to Pitts. She used experiences from her career in pharmacy, health administration and insurance as the basis for her fictional work.

"I was privy in my work life to observe, listen to conversations, witness emotions and understand the complexity of how we give and receive health care. I kept all of that in my head," explained Pitts, BS '71, MS '82, pharmacy. "A good story starts with a question. My big question that drives this book is, 'If health care is indeed a mess, who is benefitting from the status quo and who is suffering by it?' At the end of the book, the reader will be able to answer that in his or her own way."

As the 120,000-word plot unfolds and the evidence builds, Pitts provides detail only available from a first-person experience. She also conducted in-depth research to make everything as accurate and real as possible.

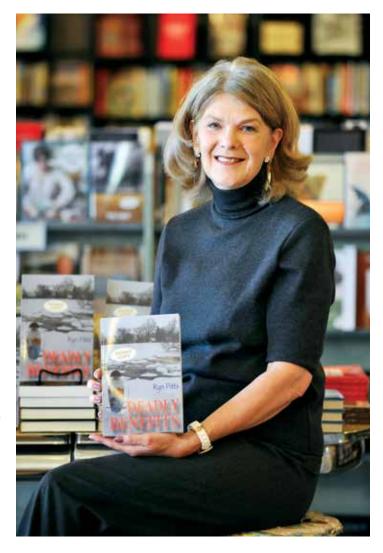
"For me, it was essential that I be credible in the details," Pitts said. "I hadn't practiced pharmacy in a while, so I shadowed a night pharmacist at the hospital and worked retail. I had to get back in the zone, so to speak, because health care is changing so fast. I wanted to get it right."

She clearly was successful, even though there was some early trepidation.

"When you put yourself out there, it's frightening," Pitts said of initially posting her book on an Internet site. "But, rather immediately I started getting positive comments."

NDSU alumni were among the first to give praise on Smashwords.com. Larry Ellingson, BS '69, pharmacy, wrote, "If you are a patient, payer or provider in our health care system, this is a must-read for you. This murder mystery is about real life experiences that can and have happened in the real world." Ellingson is the former executive director for Endocrine Professional Relations and Advocacy at Eli Lilly and was 2005 board chair of the American Diabetes Association.

John S. Wold, BS '66, pharmacy, and owner of Lucky Dog Charters and Custom Fishing Rods in Marco Island, Fla. "A remarkably detailed tale of intrigue," he wrote in his review. "It explores the depths of hospital practices, the insurance industry, pharmacy, Finnish-American culture and, of course, Fargo. A great read."



"I thought it was time there was a pharmacy protagonist in the mystery genre. I think I'm the first in the Midwest, and certainly in Fargo, to do that," said Pitts, who is already working on a second novel, titled "Placebo." "I would like to thank my pharmacy colleagues for giving me such good material, because I believe every one of them is an everyday hero."

The ebook version of "Deadly Benefits" is available at www.smash-words.com/books/view/313586, while the print copy can be purchased at www.amazon.com/Deadly-Benefits-Ryn-Pitts/dp/1490301356 or at local outlets, including Zandbroz, Stabo, Hjemkomst Gift Center, Sanford Gift Shop, NDSU Bookstore and fargostuff.com.

Pitts, who lives in Fargo, is chair of the NDSU Development Foundation board of trustees.

# COLLEGE'S 2013 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS: TAKE AN ACTIVE ROLE IN PATIENT CARE

If there's an expert on the pharmacy profession in North Dakota, it's Howard C. Anderson Jr. As the 2013 Distinguished Alumnus of the College of Pharmacy, Nursing, and Allied Sciences, Anderson came to campus Oct. 16 to share his passion and knowledge with students.

Anderson, BS '68, pharmacy, is the executive director of the North Dakota Board of Pharmacy, a position he has held since 1997. From nearly any perspective, it's hard to top his understanding of the profession, its issues and the future of pharmaceutical care in the state. He's owned and operated Turtle Lake Drug in Turtle Lake, N.D., for 38 years and was pharmacist-in-charge at Turtle Lake Community Memorial Hospital. He also served as executive vice president for the North Dakota Pharmacists Association and the North Dakota Pharmacy

Service Corp.

A respected leader in many aspects of pharmacy, Anderson is considered a pioneer in telepharmacy, an emerging practice that brings pharmacy services to rural areas through computer, video and audio hookups. Using technology, a pharmacist can counsel a patient on a prescription prepared by a technician at the remote site. It's a system that has gained attention around the world. North Dakota has a robust Telepharmacy in Hospitals

program, which prompted the board to promulgate a rule requiring Pharmacist First Dose Review in all hospitals in the state by June 30, 2015.

"My message to students is they should take an active role with their patients. Counsel every patient, whether it is a new or refill prescription, and try to get the patient to participate in their own care," Anderson said. "They can make a positive impact on the patient's care by what they contribute to that conversation."

Clearly a proud alumnus, Anderson praises the experience he had at his alma mater. "In pharmacy school at NDSU, we get a very good education. We get good preparation and students leave with the confidence to participate with other health care professionals in the patient's care," he said. "When you talk to people from around the country or talk to recruiters from national chains, they'd rather

have an NDSU graduate than almost any other. If they can hire an NDSU grad, they'll hire them first."

According to Anderson, it's important for NDSU to continue, and build on, its tradition of excellence. He describes North Dakota as a place of opportunity for new pharmacists because of the many job openings and the chance to make a difference in people's lives.

"During this past year, we probably licensed 25 to 30 percent more graduates than in previous years because of the opportunities here. In both hospital and retail pharmacies, there are a lot of opportunities for pharmacists to participate in patient care," Anderson said. "We might be short of family practice physicians or nurse practitioners,

and that's a unique opportunity for pharmacists to step up and deliver care."

If NDSU pharmacy students need a role model to emulate, Anderson would be near the top of many lists. He is a member of the American Pharmacists Association, American Society of Health-System Pharmacists and past member of the National Community Pharmacists Association. He was president of the North Dakota Pharmacists Association in 1977 and was honored in 1981 with the

Bowl of Hygeia Award. The North Dakota Society of Health-System Pharmacists honored him as Pharmacist of the Year in 1988. In 2010, he served as honorary president of the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy.

In addition, Anderson served as Turtle Lake mayor and is a senator in the North Dakota Legislature.

"NDSU students, go out there and grab what you think is in the best interest of your patient," Anderson urged. "You have the rare opportunity to assert yourself in patient care. And you'll make a very good living."

Anderson and his wife, Joan, have four sons, six grandsons and one granddaughter. They live in Turtle Lake.



## STUDY: STATE TELEPHARMACIES SAFE AND EFFECTIVE

New research by NDSU faculty has reassuring results for rural North Dakota residents who are served by the state's telepharmacy system.

The research, conducted primarily by David Scott and Daniel Friesner, both professors of pharmacy practice, was recently published in two articles in the Journal of the American Pharmacists Association.

In North Dakota's telepharmacy project, a licensed pharmacist at a central pharmacy site supervises a pharmacy technician at a remote telepharmacy site through the use of video technology. The technician prepares the prescription drug for dispensing and is supervised by the use of video technology by the pharmacist.

Researchers examined 24 rural pharmacies, including 14 remote sites and 10 central sites, for a period of 45 months. Their objective was to examine differences in dispensing errors between the two types of pharmacies.

During the course of the study period, there were 631 quality-related events reported in the remote telepharmacy group out of more than 47,000 prescriptions and 1,002 quality-related events in the control

group in more than 123,000 prescriptions. The research showed an overall error rate of 1 percent, which is lower than the national average of 1.7 percent for 50 pharmacies.

"Rural patients are receiving quality services, and the level of performance at the telepharmacy sites is at the same level provided at other community pharmacies throughout North Dakota," Scott said of the findings, noting the results should be considered both unsurprising and comforting.

Scott described North Dakota's telepharmacy project as effective and well presented nationally. "We have received a lot of calls from other states, as well as other countries, regarding our telepharmacy model in North Dakota," Scott said. "This study confirms the safety and quality of medication services to the public, so I think this is very good news."

Co-writers of the research articles included Ann Rathke, former telepharmacy coordinator; Charles Peterson, dean of pharmacy, nursing, and allied sciences; and Howard C. Anderson, executive director of the North Dakota Board of Pharmacy.



# PUBLIC HEALTH CERTIFICATE OFFERED FOR PHARMACISTS

NDSU is offering a new public health certificate for pharmacists. NDSU faculty developed the 20-hour online program opportunity in collaboration with Capt. James Bresette of the U.S. Public Health Service, Lynette Bradley-Baker of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy and faculty with public health credentials from Concordia University Wisconsin and University of Maryland Eastern Shore.

According to program organizers, there is a demand for more practitioners in the public workforce with the enactment of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

"Public health is about population health. Pharmacists are really good at taking care of one patient at a time, but the public health approach to things really helps us take care of our whole community better and more efficiently," explained Donald Miller, professor and chair of pharmacy practice. "Public health has really come to consciousness with accreditation requirements, and pharmacists are seeing more opportunities to get involved in their communities, as well."

Miller said the NDSU program is being advertised nationally, and he is hopeful it attracts a minimum of 100 to 200 students. For an overview of the program and descriptions of the various educational modules, visit www.ndsu.edu/dce/news/post/9660 or call 1-800-726-1724.

# NDSU HEALTH FAIR ASSISTS NEW AMERICANS



- New Americans meet with 2013 graduate Kristen Richter during the NDSU health fair at the Family HealthCare clinic in Fargo.
- >> Breanna Schmidt, a 2013 NDSU graduate, consults with a New American during the NDSU health fair at the Family HealthCare clinic in Fargo.



It was an admirable example of NDSU reaching out to provide needed education and health services to a vulnerable population.

In March, NDSU students and faculty from pharmacy and the Master in Public Health program organized a one-day health fair at the Family HealthCare clinic in Fargo. The event's goal was to offer information and assistance to the more than 3,500 foreign-born individuals served by the center.

"New Americans arrive in the U.S. in need of assistance with many aspects of life. Health care is one of those dire needs," explained Brody Maack, assistant professor of pharmacy practice. "Amongst the many health care-related activities and visits New Americans receive, often times simple health education and screenings become delayed. As a result, the health fair was organized to provide health education and screenings focused on cardiovascular health."

The 82 people who attended were born in such countries as Somalia, Sudan, Bosnia, Bhutan, Iraq and Mexico. Included among the services they received were a health history, blood pressure screening, referrals for cholesterol screening, a heart-healthy snack and tobacco cessation assistance.

"The people who attended were so happy to be given attention and benefit from this screening in their own language. Many referrals were made for needed cholesterol screening," said Mark Strand, associate professor of pharmacy practice and Master of Public Health program. "They also were allowed to try out the exercise equipment in the Family HealthCare clinic's fitness room, and enjoyed that very much. They couldn't believe it is a free service."

An added benefit of the event was the experience gained by 12 fourth-year pharmacy students who helped by taking blood pressure readings, providing health education through interpreters and evaluating cardio-vascular risk in the patients. "The students left that day feeling very enlightened and excited to have provided the service," Maack said.

"The students practiced communicating disease risk to real patients," Strand said. "They were able to feel the cultural gap between themselves and the patients, and are now much more aware of the need to increase their own cultural competence."

With the success of the health fair, Strand and Maack suggest more collaborations are likely between the College of Pharmacy, Nursing, and Allied Sciences and Family HealthCare, and they'd like the fair to become an annual event.

# PHARMACY PRACTICE FACULTY MEMBER FEATURED AT HEALTH PITCH EVENT



Maack was among 15 area speakers

Maack was among 15 area speakers who gave concise, three-minute presentations on health care solutions during the region's first Health Pitch event Aug. 15 at the Stage at Island Park, Fargo.

It was a great opportunity to promote innovative

ideas for health care, and Brody Maack, assistant pro-

fessor of pharmacy practice, did not miss his chance.

Brody Maack

Maack's proposal mirrors a pilot program called Lifestyle Medicine at the Family HealthCare clinic, Fargo, where he is the clinical pharmacist. In Lifestyle Medicine, when a patient visits their primary medical doctor, they also meet with a clinical pharmacist and clinical dietitian.

"Instead of patients seeing the doctor and then maybe getting a referral to the pharmacist or dietitian, the patient sees them all in the same visit, at the same time," Maack explained. "Instead of the silo approach to medical care, it creates a more comprehensive, focused visit. We're hoping it results in good clinical outcomes and greater patient satisfaction."

The approach won resounding support from the more than 200 vendors, students, health care professionals and potential investors who came to the Health Pitch event.

"Right in the middle of my little three-minute pitch I asked people in the audience to stand up if they liked the idea, and I had everybody standing up. It seemed everyone approved of the concept," Maack said.

Maack received training from professional speakers before he pitched his idea, but trying to cram a thorough presentation into such a short timeframe was still stressful. "It's a huge challenge to give a pitch in three minutes. It was a little nerve-wracking," he said. "Three minutes may sound like a long time for a speaker, but once you get up there, it flies by."

All told, Maack enjoyed the experience and event participants overwhelmingly favored the Lifestyle Medicine approach. "It all went as well as we could have possibly imagined," he said, noting organizers are already making plans for a similar event next year.

A team of NDSU students under the direction of David Wells, professor of industrial and manufacturing engineering, also appeared at Health Pitch. In their pitch, team members addressed student-led development of health care innovations.



The College of Pharmacy, Nursing, and Allied Sciences Ambassadors won the third annual "Battle of the Cents-es" with the College of Engineering and Architecture Ambassadors in spring 2013. Here, NDSU President Dean L. Bresciani makes a contribution. The proceeds went to Hoops for Hannah; a fund started to help medical costs for senior nursing student and former Bison women's basketball player Hannah Linz. Linz was diagnosed with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma in December 2012. The competition raised more than \$2,200 for the fund. Linz is currently free of cancer and finishing her nursing degree at NDSU.



The student society of the North Dakota Society of Health-System Pharmacists participated in "Pharmacy Yesterday and Today: The Provider Status of a Pharmacist" during Pioneer Days Aug. 17 at Bonanzaville Pioneer Village in West Fargo.

**ABOVE** Jamie Rue, fourth-year professional student, and Maari Loy, PharmD '10, in the Bonanzaville drugstore.

**LEFT** Kit Wong, third-year professional student and Loy.

# NDSU STUDENT RECEIVES RESPY AWARD

NDSU pharmacy student Mckaya Schmit received the RESPy Award in March 2013. The honor, presented by Pharmacy Times and Walmart, recognizes extraordinary pharmacy students who have made a difference in their communities by demonstrating excellence in pharmaceutical care and advancing the profession of pharmacy. "I couldn't wait for the day that I would be a pharmacist and have the opportunity to share my knowledge with patients, peers and students," Schmit said.



Brad Meichsner, Sarah Frye, Mckaya Schmit, Travis Bevan

# **FUTURE PHARMACISTS**

- 1 Noah Brummer is exuding Bison Pride. Proud parents are Aaron, Pharm.D. '10, and Jillian, BS '11, radiologic sciences.
- **2 Nicole (Sommers) Fries, Pharm.D. '09**, and her husband, Landon, are proud parents of future pharmacist Claire Nora.
- **3** Nathan and Jolena (Volk) Hagen, both Pharm.D. '03, are proud parents of future pharmacists Addison (left) and Anna (right).
- **4 LeAnne (Rathjen) Hulm, Pharm.D.'07**, and her husband, Rick, share a photo of their future pharmacist Elijah John.
- **5 Jim Landmark, BS '80**, and his wife, Martha, are proud grandparents to two future pharmacists James (left) and Alexander (right).
- 6 Future pharmacists Lucas John (right) and Owen Steven (left), children of Adam and Mandi Mattson are welcomed by a long line of pharmacists: Great Grandpa Montee McAtee, BS '56; Grandpa Steve McAtee, BS '77; and Aunt Mollie (McAtee) Jeannette, Pharm.D. '07.
- **7 Sarah (Heitkamp) Peterson, Pharm.D.** '11, and her husband, Kelly, share a photo of their future pharmacist Ava.
- **8** Proud parents, **Monte Roemmich**, **Pharm.D.** '**06**, and Kathryn capture a smile from their future pharmacist Olivia.
- **9 Nathan Schwab, Pharm.D. '05**, and his wife, Christy, captured Kekoa showing off her Bison Pride.
- 10 Julie Seidlinger-Hsiung, Pharm.D. '05, with her husband, Roger, are proud parents of Bison fans, Julien (left) and Bjorn (right) They are third generation Bison along with mom and proud grandfather, Ray Seidlinger, BS '71.
- **11 Chelsey (Nehring) Zeltinger, Pharm.D. '07**, and her husband, Ty, are the proud parents of future pharmacist Cade.

#### Have a new baby in your family?

We want to hear from you. New parents and grandparents, we are starting a new section in the Pharmacy Alumni News featuring your newest addition. Please send an email with news of about your baby or grandchild to Sara Wald at sara.wald@ndsu.edu to receive an "NDSU Future Pharmacist" baby shirt. Shirts are only available in size 12 months. In exchange, we ask that you send a photo of your new "Future Pharmacist" to include in the next issue of the Pharmacy Alumni Newsletter.























# NDSU EXPERT SERVES ON FDA ADVISORY PANEL



Donald Miller

Donald Miller, professor and chair of pharmacy practice, recently served on a Food and Drug Administration Arthritis Advisory panel.

The panel of independent experts reviewed and evaluated data on the safety and effectiveness of the prescription drugs Cimzia and Humira as treatment for spondyloarthritides disorders, or inflammatory back arthritis. The panel made a recommendation to the FDA on whether

it should approve the drugs to be labeled and advertised as treatment for the disorders.

Miller, an expert on arthritis medications, was nominated to serve on the advisory panel by the American College of Rheumatology. He served with doctors, pharmacists and public health experts from Tufts University School of Medicine, Yale School of Public Health, Newark Beth Israel Hospital, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and Bloomberg School of Public Health, Harvard Medical School and the National Institutes of Health.

"It was great intellectual exercise to debate with other experts in the field and see the FDA process up close," Miller said. "It was amazing to see how transparent and public the advisory committee process is, and to realize the FDA takes advice from advisory committees very seriously."

Cimzia and Humira already are approved to treat rheumatoid arthritis and other conditions. The panel recommended the FDA approve Cimzia as a treatment for spondyloarthritides disorders as well, but it recommended against approval of Humira for the additional use.

Miller notes, in November, the FDA approved Cimzia for ankylosing spondylitis, but not for the related condition of non-radiographic axial spondyloarthritis.

# PROGRAM DIRECTOR NOMINATED FOR SURGEON GENERAL, PARTICIPATES IN CANCER PANEL



Donald Warne

Donald Warne, director of NDSU's Master of Public Health program, was nominated by two Native American organizations to become the next U.S. surgeon general.

Warne, associate professor and Mary J. Berg Distinguished Professor in Women's Health, was one of four nominees the National Indian Health Board and the National Congress of American Indians presented to President

Barack Obama on July 3.

"It's a tremendous honor to even be mentioned as a potential nominee," said Warne, who is a member of Oglala Lakota Tribe, based on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota. "I'm thankful national organizations have confidence in me and my abilities."

Warne, who is a member of the national board of the American Cancer Society, also was a panel member for the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network's event, "American Indian Health Equity and the Affordable Care Act," Jan. 29, 2013, in St. Paul, Minn. Other speakers included U.S. Sen. Al Franken and Rep. Betty McCollum from Minnesota and Dick Woodruff, vice president of the Cancer Action Network Federal Relations and Strategic Alliances.

"My priorities always will be to ensure everyone has access to the public health and medical services necessary to keep our population healthy," Warne said. "Unfortunately, many segments of the American population simply do not have access to services, and as a result suffer from significant disparities and preventable illness."

Warne earned a Master of Public Health from Harvard School of Public Health and Doctor of Medicine at Stanford University School of Medicine.

# ALUMNA ELECTED TO NATIONAL LEADERSHIP POST

An NDSU alumna will soon be in a powerful leadership position where she can help shape the pharmacy profession.

Wendy (Friedig) Weber will be installed as president-elect for the American Pharmacists Association's Academy of Pharmacy Practice and Management, known as APhA-APPM, during the organization's 161st annual meeting in Orlando, Fla., March 28-31.

Weber, PharmD '99, pharmacy, is the clinical pharmacist at Creighton University Medical Center in Omaha, Neb. She will serve as president-elect for one year, followed by a two-year term as president and one year as immediate past president. During her presidential term, she will be a member of the APhA board of trustees.

"I like to think that I will be the voice of reason. Throughout my career I have always been a practicing pharmacist," said Weber, whose career history includes clinical experience in emergency medicine, pediatric/neonatology and women's health. A board-certified pharmacotherapy specialist, she also has practiced in community pharmacy.

"The board is made up of a very diverse group of pharmacists. Many of them were working in the trenches before I was ever accepted into pharmacy school, so they have advanced into management roles or started their own business. Others have spent their career in academia or industry," Weber explained. "I am one of the few not only working in an acute care environment, but also providing direct patient care. My hope is that I can bring that perspective to the table to help direct resources to issues that impact the acute care arena."

Weber knows she'll be on the front lines as issues or concerns arise in her profession. It's a responsibility she takes very seriously.

"Advancing the profession is always the ultimate goal," she said, urging fellow pharmacists to take active roles with the association and in their communities. "Ultimately, we all want to do the same thing – improve patient care and empower patients to take control of their health."

Taking on important leadership duties is not new to Weber. During her third year as a professional student at NDSU, she was elected to the APhA-ASP National Executive Committee. She has high praise for the support and guidance she received at that time and the lasting impact of her experience at NDSU.

"NDSU is where it all started. I received a top-notch education and graduated with a sense of pride in where I came from," Weber said. "Every time I hear about the great things



going on at the university, whether it's academics, athletics or research, I get excited and am proud to say, 'I'm a Bison.' "

Weber, who also has served as vice president of the APhA Foundation, is receiving national recognition for her efforts. She was named the 2013 Phi Lambda Sigma National Alumni of the Year, an honor that acknowledges outstanding leadership qualities in support of the pharmacy profession. She was recognized at the society's annual meeting in Los Angeles.

"Everything I have done in my career has been with an attitude of giving back to my profession," Weber said. "I have always tried to embrace the attitude of 'pay it forward' so other students may have the same experiences I did. To be recognized is truly an honor because I don't think that anything I have done is worthy of recognition."

Weber is a member of the NDSU Pharmacy National Advisory Board. She and her husband, Jason, live in Bellevue, Neb.

"NDSU is where it all started. I received a top-notch education and graduated with a sense of pride in where I came from."

- Wendy (Friedig) Weber

## NDSU STUDENTS BRING HEALTHY MESSAGES TO LEGISLATURE

About 50 NDSU pharmacy and nursing students traveled to the North Dakota State Capitol Feb. 14 to learn about the legislative process, offer blood pressure screenings to legislators and talk with lawmakers about public health topics.

They joined North Dakota pharmacists and pharmacist technicians for Pharmacy Legislative Day sponsored by the North Dakota Pharmacists Association.

"As future health care providers, students need to understand the legislative process and be able to communicate effectively with lawmakers on bills that affect patients and health care in the state," said Wanda Roden, director of Advanced Experiential Education Program, noting discussed topics included mail-order medications, drug shortages and health issues in the North Dakota oil patch.



## **CLASS NOTES**

Donald Brophy, PharmD '94, was named the Ronald and Nancy McFarlane Endowed Chair in the School of Pharmacy's Department of Pharmacotherapy and Outcomes Science at Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond. In April, he was named a distinguished scholar and fellow by the National Academies of Practice and the Pharmacy Academy. In addition, Brophy received the Adult Medicine Practice and Research Network Distinguished Investigator

Award from the American College of Clinical Pharmacy at its annual meeting Oct. 13-16 in Albuquerque, N.M. He lives in Glen Allen, Va.

Larry Ellingson, BS '69, pharmacy, received the American Diabetes Association's prestigious Wendell Mayes Jr. Medal for Lifetime Service. The honor, which recognizes outstanding lifetime achievement in the cause of diabetes, was presented at the organization's Community Volunteer Leadership Conference in Nashville, Tenn. Ellingson, who retired from Eli Lilly and Company in 2001, is a former association board chair and served on numerous national and international task forces and committees. He lives in Fountain Hills, Ariz.

### IN MEMORY

David Alme - BS '66 (9-16-13)

**Richard Bliss** - BS '64 (8-3-13)

Merlen Clemenson - BS '52 (4-10-13)

**David DeLano** - BS '74 (7-3-13)

Ada Ruth (Emde) Dogger - MS '65 (9-22-13)

Claire (Ward) Engelhardt - BS '45 (8-3-13)

**Jerome Herman** - BS '57 (1-24-13)

**John C. Jackson Jr.** - BS '74 (10-5-13)

Donald K. Pederson - BS '50 (2-9-13)

Michael Rempfer - BS '73 (2-5-13)

Kenneth Ryan - BS '58 (5-31-13)

Harlan Scheibe - MS '77 (10-17-13)

Mark Simek - BS '77 (8-9-13)

**John Stevens** - BS '68 (6-25-13)

Marvin Wall - BS '54 (10-21-13)

Frank Yetter - BS '62 (7-11-13)

**Dennis Ziemba** - BS '71 (5-14-13)

#### **Muriel C. Vincent - Professor Emeritus**

Vincent died April 22, 2013, at age 90. Born in Spokane, Wash., she earned her pharmacy degree at Oregon State University, Corvallis, and her master's degree and doctorate in pharmaceutical chemistry from the University of Washington, Seattle. Vincent taught at NDSU for 31 years, retiring in 1987. She lived in Fargo.

A charter member of Altrusa International of Fargo, she served as the organization's District Seven Governor. Vincent held pharmacy licenses for 50 years in Oregon, Washington and North Dakota.



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