TRANSFORMATIVE EDUCATION AND PRACTICE
On the cover: Phase 1 of the Center for Compounding Practice and Research is officially underway! Virginia Dels. S. Chris Jones, Kirk Cox and M. Keith Hodges joined VCU President Michael Rao, vice president for health sciences Sheldon Retchin, former Dean Victor Yanchick and Dean Joe DiPiro to celebrate the start of construction by taking a gold-plated sledgehammer to an interior wall on the fifth floor of the R. Blackwell Smith Building. The center will provide essential training to students and practitioners to ensure that prescribed extemporaneously compounded medications are safely prepared and available to the patients who need them.
VISION

The Virginia Commonwealth University School of Pharmacy will be a transformational leader in pharmacy education, clinical practice, and clinical and pharmaceutical research.

MISSION

The mission of the Virginia Commonwealth University School of Pharmacy is to achieve excellence in our professional and graduate programs through innovative education and leading-edge research. We will graduate outstanding future pharmacists and scientists who will improve human health, foster exemplary research and provide sustaining contributions to interprofessional patient care.

QUEST

The VCU School of Pharmacy aligns its work with the four themes of the university’s strategic plan: Innovation, Discovery, Human Health and Community Engagement.
INNOVATION
Provide all students with high-quality learning/living experiences focused on inquiry, discovery and innovation in a global environment.

VCU faculty were recognized nationally with the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy’s Innovations in Teaching Competition.

The innovation uses audiovisual recording technology to record student pharmacists performing the clinical interview component of a patient care visit. The preceptor and student review the video together, allowing the student the opportunity to self-assess and identify areas for improvement with guidance from the preceptor.

Private philanthropy supports teaching innovation through endowed professorships that generate income to be used at the faculty member’s discretion for startup and gap research projects, innovative pilot programs and teaching enhancements.

AACP award winners Veronica Shuford, David Dixon and Evan Sisson
DISCOVERY

Attain pre-eminence as an urban, public research university by making contributions in research, scholarship, creative expression and clinical practice to advance knowledge and enhance the quality of life.

Under the leadership of Edwin van den Oord and Karolina Aberg, the Center for Biomarker Research and Personalized Medicine has been awarded more than $20 million in 22 competitive federal grants since 2006. Most recently, the CBRPM collaborated with Duke University School of Medicine to secure a $3 million grant from the National Institute of Mental Health to study how adverse childhood experiences leave molecular marks in DNA that can predict health risks later in life. Pharmacy faculty secured $5,755,090 in external research funding in 2013-14.

Private philanthropy supports research and discovery through the funding of endowed chairs, which give department chairs flexibility to grow and enhance important, strategic research initiatives that have received federal funding.
RECOGNITION
Achieve national recognition as a fully-integrated research university with a commitment to human health.

K.C. Ogbonna has joined forces with faculty from the Schools of Nursing, Medicine, Social Work and the Department of Psychology to offer integrated care coordination services to the residents at Dominion Place while training students across disciplines.

Dominion Place is a section 8 apartment building for older adults.

Private philanthropy supports programs such as the Richmond Health & Wellness Program at Dominion Place by providing undesignated funding that can be used to purchase medical supplies to keep a community-based project in operation.
VCU School of Pharmacy students have helped provide much-needed health care to medically underserved patients in southwestern Virginia’s Wise County, since Evan Sisson led his first pharmacy student team in 2007 to Remote Area Medical. The RAM Volunteer Corps is a nonprofit relief organization dedicated to providing free health services to people in remote areas across the globe. This year, Sisson led a group of 14 pharmacy students, along with residents and faculty, to provide services including medication history reviews and smoking cessation counseling, as well as blood pressure and blood glucose screenings. They were among 1,218 volunteers serving more than 2,200 patients.

Private philanthropy supports students with scholarships so that they can minimize the hours they spend working outside of school and maximize their participation in the varied community-based clinical services available through the VCU School of Pharmacy. In 2013, $700,000 in scholarships were awarded to pharmacy students.

VCU School of Pharmacy’s ongoing participation in Remote Area Medical earned it a 2013-14 AACP Student Community Engaged Service Award.

COMMUNITY

Become a national model for community engagement and regional impact.
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The VCU School of Pharmacy continues to provide the highest quality education, research and service thanks to the generous philanthropic support of our donors. Donors to the school have invested in our vision and mission. They make our successes possible. Thank you to our donors for their generous support of our students, faculty and programs.

— Dean Joseph T. DiPiro, Pharm.D., Dean and Archie O. McCalley Chair

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Victor Yanchick, Ph.D.  

*Deceased

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On May 29, 2014, we said goodbye to our dean of 18 years, Victor A. Yanchick. Over 350 pharmacy family and friends joined us at the Jefferson Hotel for a Gala in honor of Dean Yanchick and to welcome our new dean, Joseph T. DiPiro. Proceeds from the Gala exceeded $100,000 and will be directed toward the creation of an endowed professorship in geriatric pharmacy.
WAYS TO GIVE

The VCU School of Pharmacy needs and welcomes gifts of all types and sizes. The school’s development office is ready and willing to work with you and your financial advisor to maximize the impact of your contribution: your investment in the future of pharmacy.

STOCKS OR BONDS
Making a gift of appreciated securities can save money in capital gains and other taxes.

BEQUESTS
By including the school in your will, you can create a meaningful legacy while reducing inheritance taxes. Your will can designate specific gifts of cash, property or a percentage of your estate. If you choose to support the school as part of a bequest or life-income gift, we will welcome you as a member of the MCV Society.

LIFE INCOME
Charitable gift annuities and charitable remainder trusts are examples of gifts that produce benefits for you in the form of tax savings and income for life.

LEAD TRUSTS
Your property or assets can remain in your family, while the income from them helps support the school for a period of time. A lead trust also will reduce your taxes.

ANNUAL FUND
While endowment funds help ensure long-term financial stability, the annual fund is the school’s only renewable source of unrestricted dollars — dollars that are dedicated to scholarship support. The annual fund contributes to excellence in pharmacy education at VCU School of Pharmacy by making scholarship dollars available to current students.

THE GALEN SOCIETY
The Galen Society is composed of alumni and friends who support the School of Pharmacy at the leadership level of $500 and more. Galen Society members are invited to an annual reception and dinner in their honor. Membership is based on annual outright contributions to the School of Pharmacy, regardless of designation, between July 1 and June 30.

Galen Society Levels of Giving
Dean’s Fellow .......... $10,000 and above
Distinguished Fellow... $5,000 to $9,999
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MATCHING GIFTS
If you and/or your spouse are employed by a company that matches charitable gifts to institutions of higher learning, you may want to obtain a matching gift form from your human resources office to maximize your contribution to the School of Pharmacy. The Galen Society recognizes company matches.

To find out more about ways to make a gift to the School of Pharmacy — or if you have questions — please contact our development office at (804) 828-3016. Or you may make a gift online by visiting www.support.vcu.edu/give/sopdonorreport
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