



ASHP Foundation News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
REF 2008-06

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Ten Pharmacists Selected for ASHP Foundation's Research Boot Camp

BETHESDA, Md. (April 15, 2008) — The American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) Research and Education Foundation has selected 10 pharmacists to participate in its Research Boot Camp, a research skills development program composed of distance education, experiential and research conduct components. The program is sponsored by the ASHP Foundation, TAP Pharmaceuticals, Inc., and Amgen, Inc.

The program fosters the development of pharmacists with practice-based research skills; drives the advancement of translational research by providing clinicians with the expertise, tools and support to start a practice-based research program; and enhances safe and effective medication use by promoting evidence-based decision making for individual patients and populations of patients. "This program is an important component of the ASHP Foundation's strategic focus on new investigator development," says Stephen J. Allen, Foundation Executive Vice President and CEO.

During the Boot Camp, participants will develop a research idea into a well-structured research plan to be executed following completion of robust distance and experiential education components. The ASHP Foundation will provide a \$5,000 research grant to individuals who successfully complete the Boot Camp. Participants' sponsoring institutions also commit to providing an additional \$5,000 grant in funds or other resources to match the grant provided by the ASHP Foundation.

"The Research Boot Camp is exactly the kind of program we need to equip clinicians with the skills they require to become practice-based researchers," says Mary Anne Koda-Kimble, Pharm.D., dean of the School of Pharmacy, University of California, San Francisco, and a leader in academic pharmacy. Recognizing the value of the Boot Camp, Koda-Kimble has agreed to sponsor one of her faculty members who was accepted to the program. "The evidence they generate as a result of their training, in turn, is essential to not only advancing the profession but to improving patient care and medication outcomes. The investment we make today benefits our profession and patients tomorrow. I applaud this farsighted program."

"I have always been interested in teaching and mentoring as evidenced by my career choices," says Boot

Camp participant Catherine Cone. "These include precepting students on experiential rotations, precepting residents in primary care, becoming the residency program director 7 years ago, and recently assuming an academic position at the University of New Mexico's College of Pharmacy. I would like to continue in this process and to be able to pass research skills on to the students, residents and fellow pharmacists. The opportunity for me to participate in the Research Boot Camp will be invaluable to me both personally and professionally. I believe that the learning process that the ASHP Foundation has set forth will foster my ability to attain my goals and hopefully to contribute to the incredible group dynamics in the Department of Epidemiology at the New Mexico VA Health Care System."

"The participants and their mentors are dedicating themselves to a timely undertaking for bettering patient care by using their ideas to test new opportunities for pharmacists to be involved in the health care system," says Boot Camp faculty member Kathleen Bungay, Pharm.D., M.S., assistant professor of medicine and psychiatry at Tufts Medical Center in Boston. "The process and outcomes of this program are and will continue to be a remarkable contribution to the profession of pharmacy and the future of pharmacy practitioners."

The participants selected for the 2008 Research Boot Camp are as follows:

Marcia L. Brackbill, Pharm.D.
Shenandoah University
Winchester, VA

Christine M. Cheng, Pharm.D.
University of California, San Francisco
San Francisco, CA

Catherine J. Cone, Pharm.D.
New Mexico VA Health Care System
Albuquerque, NM

Megan J. Ehret, Pharm.D.
Institute of Living
Hartford, CT

Jasmine D. Gonzalvo, Pharm.D.
Wishard Health Services
Indianapolis, IN

Brooke L. Griffin, Pharm.D.
Midwestern University
Downers Grove, IL

Aimee Lewis, Pharm.D.
University of Wyoming
Cheyenne, WY

Nancy N. Nguyen, Pharm.D.
VA Palo Alto Health Care System
San Bruno, CA

Stuart D. Rockafellow, Pharm.D.
University of Michigan Canton Health Center
Canton, MI

Kristin Watson, Pharm.D., BCPS
University of Maryland, Baltimore
Baltimore, MD

The ASHP Research and Education Foundation was established in 1968 by the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists as a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization. The mission of the Foundation is to improve the health and well-being of patients in hospitals and health systems through appropriate, safe and effective medication use. The Foundation provides leadership and conducts education and research activities that foster the coordination of interdisciplinary medication management leading to optimal patient outcomes. Emphasis is given to programs that will have a major impact on advancing pharmacy practice in hospitals and health systems, thereby improving public health.

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