

MPA 2007 September Dean's Article for Newsletter

As always, I appreciate the opportunity to share my thoughts with the MPA membership.

As I recently reported, the Skaggs Building Addition construction was moving along well and the Dedication Ceremony took place right on schedule on Wednesday, May 9.

In this newsletter, I will share information with members on three important issues—two looking forward and one celebrating our past as a pharmacy program.

The Skaggs School of Pharmacy once again accepted 65 students into the first professional year of the curriculum. Here is a bit of information on our class of (hard to believe!) 2011. Fifty-two students are Montana residents, thirty-four are male (a class of more than half male is a bit unusual when compared to past classes), the average age is 25, and the average cumulative grade point average is 3.53 on a 4.00 scale.

The University welcomed a new Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs to campus this summer. Royce Engstrom, Ph.D., held the same position at the University of South Dakota and we are extremely excited to have the opportunity to work with Dr. Engstrom. His background is analytical chemistry (he is a Badger as I am) and he also previously held the position of Vice President for Research at USD so he fully understands science and research.

The Skaggs School of Pharmacy is celebrating its 100th anniversary this fall on the weekend of October 19. We have mailed registration brochures to all alumni for whom we have current addresses, and the brochure also is on our

website <http://www.health.umt.edu/>. The highlights of the Centennial Celebration include the Centennial Dinner the evening of October 19 and the first Frank Pettinato Memorial Lecture the morning of October 20. For additional information, please contact Mark Schleicher at mark.schleicher@mso.umt.edu.

Please stop by the College and visit with us and take a look at some of our activities, especially our Skaggs Building addition and the outstanding space located therein.

David Forbes