

# CAROLINA PHARMACY

*Advancing Medicine for Life*

60 YEARS AGO,  
work began on Beard  
Hall. Peek inside to  
learn how the School  
continues to evolve.



# Where's Your Pin Been?

We are excited to showcase our alumni around the state, nation and world. Show us where your pin has been by sending a photo of you wearing your Carolina Pharmacy pin or gear to [paa@unc.edu](mailto:paa@unc.edu).



✕ Amanda Wooten, '04, Therapeutic Solutions Home Infusion, Greenville, N.C.



✕ Ping '90 and Allen Rogers '90 and '03, with their daughter, Lydia, in Rome, Italy.

## Class Notes

Stay up-to-date with your UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy classmates and share your own personal and professional updates by visiting the Class Notes section of our website: [pharmacy.unc.edu/alumni/stay-informed/class-notes](http://pharmacy.unc.edu/alumni/stay-informed/class-notes)

## Dean's Message

# Going *Beyond* Excellence



Dear friends,

It is such an honor and a privilege to be part of the No.1 school of pharmacy in the nation. Thanks to the tireless efforts of our faculty, staff, students and alumni, incredible things are happening.

For example, applications to all our academic programs continue to increase, while the trend across the country shows decreasing applications. We continue to innovate in our professional and graduate curricula. Our research enterprise continues to grow and address major worldwide health issues. Our practice advancement initiatives are influencing the role pharmacists play in delivering quality care to patients, and we are well on our way to meeting our fundraising goals for [the Campaign for Carolina](#).

As the new dean of the UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy, I am thrilled to have the opportunity to build upon the School's success and culture of excellence. And while we are the No.1-ranked school of pharmacy in the nation, I can assure you that no one is willing to rest.

We have significant momentum and we have the unique opportunity to go beyond excellence.

In doing so, there are three key areas of focus for me: Our people, our service to the state and impactful innovation. It is of utmost importance to me that everyone who walks through our halls, or has walked through our halls, feels valued and connected.

I truly look forward to working with our brilliant students, outstanding faculty and staff, dedicated alumni, and our colleagues on and off campus, as we continue our efforts in [Advancing Medicine for Life](#).

Sincerely,



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Angela Kashuba".

Angela DM Kashuba, BScPhm, PharmD, DABCP, FCP  
Dean, UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy | John A. and Margaret P. McNeill, Sr. Distinguished Professor | Director, Clinical Pharmacology and Analytical Chemistry Core, UNC Center for AIDS Research | Adjunct Professor of Medicine, UNC School of Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases





## Alum celebrates 99th birthday, thinks back on time at UNC

On her 99th birthday in late September, Blanche Clark answered 17 phone calls from friends and family, enjoyed visits from her daughters and had pizza, beer and her favorite yellow cake with caramel icing.

“It was exhausting,” she said, with a big smile.

Near the bouquets of birthday flowers that dotted her home in Chapel Hill, N.C., sat a 1941 Yackety Yak – the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill’s yearbook. And beside the yearbook, Blanche had placed a print edition of the UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy’s alumni magazine that featured, on its cover, a picture of the 17 women enrolled in the School in 1937 – Blanche’s first year.

“I remember the names of most of them,” she said, looking at the photo.

Blanche graduated from the UNC School of Pharmacy in 1941. At the time, Howell Hall housed the School of Pharmacy, named for the first dean of the school, Vernon Howell. Classes were held in the auditorium which featured wooden bench seats. There were four fulltime faculty members, including the dean, John Grover Beard. In Blanche’s third year, a fifth faculty member was added. And she said many of the courses given were offered through other departments at the University.

For Blanche and her family, pharmacy runs deep. Her father, Samuel Brainard Burrus, and her brother, Brainard, were pharmacists, as were Brainard’s three children (two boys, one girl), and several cousins. All were graduates of UNC except for Samuel.

Growing up, Blanche’s family lived in an apartment above their pharmacy in Canton, a papermill town just west of Asheville. Blanche says she spent nearly as much time in the store as she did in the apartment, and she loved helping her father.

She recalled the kindness of her father, who would respond to anyone who needed medications, even after the pharmacy had closed for the day. During the Great Depression, her father often allowed people to charge their medications, even when he knew the chance of getting repaid was small.

“I don’t think he ever refused anyone the medication they needed,” Blanche said.

Following pharmacy school, Blanche went on to work at the Duke Hospital pharmacy. During her time there, penicillin became available to the general public, which she said was a game changer for health care. There, she also met her husband-to-be, Dr. Henry Clark, Jr., who later became the chief administrative officer of the Division of Health Affairs at UNC.

In 1990, Henry and Blanche created the Samuel B. Burrus Award for Community Service to honor her late father. When other family members learned of it, they wanted to be a part of it, too, so the award was changed to be the Samuel B. Burrus Family Award for Community Service. The award is given to an alumnus/alumna of the School in recognition of outstanding and unselfish civic, community or church volunteer service outside the scope of regular pharmacy practice. Occasionally the award may be given to a pharmacist functioning in the public interest at the state or national level. Recipients receive one monetary award for themselves and one monetary award for a charity of their choice.

Blanche added, “I’ve been so impressed by the young people who have won this award, and by all the students in the School. For the research they have done, the experiences they have had, the amount of information they are expected to know, and the outside activities they participate in.”

Today, Blanche continues to be an advocate for the pharmacy profession and students advancing medicine for life.

“I think it’s a wonderful profession,” she said.



## Pharm.D. students launch medication safety comic series, ‘Enox the Bear Pharmacist’



Last year, a group of Pharm.D. students received a \$10,000 PharmAlliance grant — the first of its kind to be awarded to Pharm.D. students — to support a project promoting medication safety through the creation of an educational comic series.

The project is a collaboration with students from the University of College London (United Kingdom) and Monash University (Australia). UNC Pharm.D. students Lauren Mazingo (PY3), Vraj Patel (PY3) and Clara Kim (PY4) led the international effort to launch the project.

The comic series, titled “Enox the Bear Pharmacist,” features a bear pharmacist counseling animal patients on various patient education topics related to “the big three” medication classes — opioids, insulin and anticoagulants. After a year of working with students and faculty members internationally to create the comics, the project launched via Facebook, Instagram and Twitter on August 15, 2019.

“We are glad to see that the first two comics are well-received. We are collecting feedback surveys and we have been receiving positive responses from students, healthcare providers and the general public in PharmAlliance countries, as well as around the globe,” Patel said.



## UNC chapters of Kappa Epsilon recognized at national convention



Both UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy chapters of the Kappa Epsilon fraternity received awards at the 52nd National Convention of Kappa Epsilon in Charleston, S.C. in late July.

Kappa Epsilon is a professional fraternity for pharmacy students and alumni, with UNC locations in Asheville (Beta Mu Chapter) and Chapel Hill (Lambda Chapter), N.C. During the convention, the Lambda Chapter won the Continued Excellence award for its long-standing commitment to leadership and service. The chapter was acknowledged for their work to develop a scholarship endowment fund for pharmacy students.

The Beta Mu Chapter received the Community Service award for their work with the Well-Being and Resiliency Endowment. The endowment honors Mikey Nam, a Pharm.D. student at the Asheville campus who passed away in October 2017. It also supports an annual award to a student who demonstrates strong leadership, well-being and resiliency.

Beta Mu Chapter President Peter Thao said having this endowment in Nam’s memory shows how the fraternity sees each other as a family.





## Alumnus is a Tar Heel for life

Get to know *Benyam Muluneh, Pharm.D.*, a UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy alumnus and new faculty member in the School's Division of Pharmacotherapy and Experimental Therapeutics:

### Q: What is your hometown?

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

### Q: What are you looking forward to about your new role?

I am looking forward to contributing to the teaching and scholarship missions at the School with the ultimate goal of improving the lives of patients. I am excited about collaborators and mentors within the UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy in order to further the innovative vision of this preeminent institution.

### Q: What do you feel is your greatest career accomplishment?

A: I am most proud of the recognition our pharmacy-led oral chemotherapy program received with the ASHP's Best Practice designation.

### Q: What do you love most about UNC?

I love the spirit of innovation and collaboration. I love the diversity in backgrounds and expertise. I love our basketball team!

### Q: What's one thing you want us to know about you?

I am a Tar Heel lifer. I went to undergrad and pharmacy school at UNC. I have worked over the past 7 years at UNC Medical Center and now will be faculty at the UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy. Along the years I met my wife (also a UNC alum) and have two wonderful children, ages 5 and 1.

*Benyam Muluneh, Pharm.D., BCOP, CPP, will be an integral member of the Pharm.D. curriculum by progressing the teaching mission of the school. His scholarship interests include adherence to oral oncolytics and precision dosing in hematology/oncology patients in an effort to improve outcomes. He also has a passion for international health and serves as a preceptor for one of the Global Pharmacy Scholar (GPS) experiences to Ethiopia. Additionally, he remains involved clinically as clinical pharmacist practitioner in the UNC Medical Center's Leukemia Clinic. Benyam graduated from the UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy and completed both his PGY1 and PGY2 residencies at UNC Medical Center.*

## Campaign for Carolina: Building Excellence



We know that learning environments improve learning outcomes. That is why we are not only rethinking how we prepare our future leaders, we are rethinking the walls around them—starting with the cornerstone of our school: Beard Hall.

Through the Campaign for Carolina, alumni and friends are helping us transform Beard Hall to meet the needs of today's and tomorrow's students with interactive classrooms, patient simulation suites and business incubators. Our goal is to raise \$15 million for the Beard Hall renovation by the end of the campaign in December 2022. Learn more at [campaign.unc.edu/pharmacy](http://campaign.unc.edu/pharmacy).

## Pharmacy Flashback: *The place we call home*

In 1959, the School of Pharmacy moved into its current location, Beard Hall, named for John Grover Beard, dean of the School from 1930 to 1946. In 2007, it underwent a \$6 million renovation. Today, the 1960s-era labs on the second and third floors of Beard Hall are being transformed into collaborative spaces, small interactive classrooms, business incubators and modern research facilities. Students will be able to develop and sharpen their analytical and communication skills in new patient simulation rooms.



## Giving Back: *Advancing Medicine for Life*

Longtime UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy supporters Chris and Debra Woody with the School's former Dean William "Bill" Campbell (left) during an October seminar Campbell delivered to faculty and staff. Debra is the daughter of Banks and Dorothy Kerr, benefactors of Kerr Hall.



About supporting and donating to the School, Debra said, "The first thing potential students and faculty see when they visit is the building. We can't recruit great students and great faculty if we don't have great facilities in which to learn and work. Updated buildings, to address modern science and education, are important to all our efforts."

At the UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy, everything we do begins and ends with a patient in mind. Support from our alumni and friends makes our mission possible. To learn more about ways to give, contact [pharmacycampaign@unc.edu](mailto:pharmacycampaign@unc.edu) or (919) 966-1963.

# SAVE THE DATE

**ASHP MIDYEAR CLINICAL  
MEETING AND EXHIBITION  
IN LAS VEGAS | DEC. 8-12**

**DEADLINE FOR  
TAX-DEDUCTIBLE GIFTS | DEC. 31**

We are so grateful for your donations throughout the year to help strengthen the profession of pharmacy, pharmaceutical education, and research. There's still time to make your tax-deductible gift by Dec. 31 and help us continue *Advancing Medicine for Life*. Visit [pharmacy.unc.edu/give](http://pharmacy.unc.edu/give) to donate.

**ASHEVILLE SUMMIT | FEB. 29**

**50+ REUNION | APRIL 18**

Save the date for the next Pharmacy 50+ Reunion!



**ESHELMAN SCHOOL  
OF PHARMACY**

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