

## AAPS PharmSciTech Volume 6, Issue 4 – Editorial

Patrick P. DeLuca

---

As *AAPS PharmSciTech* embarks on the final issue of volume 6, I am delighted to report two major accomplishments. The first is the journal has weathered its most serious storm the past year in overcoming production problems, due to outsourcing, which led to a 9 month back log in publishing accepted manuscripts. This back log occurred while the journal was experiencing a substantial increase in submitted manuscripts. The second accomplishment is the doubling of manuscripts submitted since the end of 2003. As of mid-October, the journal has received 140 manuscript submissions.

Sixty-eight papers have been published in issues 1, 2, and 3, including a review article, several international meeting notices and summaries. Many papers on "*Process Analytical Technologies*" will also appear as a separate themed issue on "*Process Analytical Technologies*" before the end of the year. Ajaz Hussain, formerly at the FDA, and now at Sandoz, Inc, is Guest Editor for this themed issue.

Issue 4 was launched before the 2005 AAPS Annual Meeting and Exposition in Nashville, TN. The first three papers were those selected for the 2005 AAPS Graduate Student Awards in Pharmaceutical Technology, sponsored by Solvay Industries. PhD graduates who completed their programs during the July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005 academic year, and who submitted both an abstract for presentation at the annual meeting and a research manuscript for publication in an AAPS online journal, were eligible for the competition. Each award consists of a \$500 honorarium, a plaque, and travel expenses to attend the annual meeting. The mentors receive plaques and \$500 toward their research programs. This year's recipients are:

Susan S. D'Souza, University of Kentucky College of Pharmacy

*"A Model Dependent Approach to Correlate Accelerated with Real-Time Release from Biodegradable Microspheres"*

Mentor – Patrick P. DeLuca

This research applies to sustained drug delivery systems, which provide treatment over several months duration. Since real-time release requires one to several months, an accelerated method would shorten the time to assess in vitro release for batch release purposes. Additionally, modeling of the short term drug release allows for prediction of release behavior during the formulation research and development phases.

Loice Kikwai-Matua, Florida A&M University College of Pharmacy

*"In Vitro and In Vivo Evaluation of Topical Formulations of Spantide II"*

Mentor – Mandip Singh

This research emphasizes the role of the neurocutaneous sensory system and neuropeptides in the treatment of inflammatory skin disorders, such as contact and atopic dermatitis. This work highlights the role of Spantide II formulations, which inhibit substance P release by blocking NK-1 receptor, making this a novel treatment for skin diseases.

Pankaj Dayal, Florida A&M University College of Pharmacy

*"Box-Behnken Experimental Design in the Development of a Nasal Drug Delivery System of Model Drug Hydroxyurea: Characterization of Viscosity, In Vitro Release, Droplet Size, and Dynamic Surface Tension"*

Mentor – Mandip Singh

The research demonstrates that polymer-electrolyte interactions influence the droplet formulation droplet size from nasal sprays by changing the solvent properties of water. These studies provide a better understanding of the physico-chemical properties (rheology, surface tension, formulation factors) of a novel nasal spray using a statistical design of experiments approach.

For more information on the Graduate Student Manuscript Competition for 2006 please contact Carole Aikman at E-mail: [aikmanc@aaps.org](mailto:aikmanc@aaps.org) (703) 248-4781 or myself at E-mail: [ppdelu@email.uky.edu](mailto:ppdelu@email.uky.edu) (859) 257-1831.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patrick P. DeLuca, Ph.D.  
Editor-in-Chief