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Auburn University Professor to Receive Distinguished Pharmacy Educator Award

AACP to present award at annual meeting in July

Alexandria, Va. – The American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) will honor Bruce A. Berger, Ph.D., professor and head of the Department of Pharmacy Care Systems at the Auburn University Harrison School of Pharmacy, for his excellence as an instructor, his outstanding achievements as a researcher and scholar, and his overall impact on pharmacy education and the profession.

Berger will receive the Robert K. Chalmers Distinguished Pharmacy Educator Award during the 2009 AACP Annual Meeting and Seminars in Boston, Mass., July 18-22. The award, named for the late Robert K. Chalmers, former AACP president and distinguished educator, consists of a Steuben glass owl sculpture and a monetary prize.

"It gives AACP great pleasure to recognize an educator of Dr. Berger's caliber with this top honor," said Lucinda L. Maine, Ph.D., R.Ph., AACP executive vice president and CEO. "As one of his thousands of students, I know personally that he is an extraordinary example for all faculty who strive for excellence in teaching, research and service."

Berger's background in pharmacy and psychology have helped him craft innovative instruction for student pharmacists, pharmacists and other health professionals during his 25-year career at Auburn University's Harrison School of Pharmacy. Berger's focus on helping professionals develop enhanced communication skills has led to improved patient care and moved the practitioner and patient into a more collaborative partnership. At Auburn, he conducts research and workshops on health behavior change, patients' treatment adherence and new service roles for the pharmacist. His humanistic approaches to instruction have allowed his students to make a difference with improved interpersonal communication and patient adherence with health behaviors.

"This is a tribute to pharmacy educators who have mentored me throughout my career," said Berger. "I am very humbled to receive the Chalmers Award from the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy."

Berger, who has been a consultant to companies such as Pfizer and Proctor & Gamble, has presented more than 800 papers and seminars and has attracted more than \$4 million in research funding. In 2006, he developed the Auburn University Motivational Interviewing Training Institute.

His many accolades include the *Journal of the American Pharmacists Association's* 2007 Wiederholt Prize for the best research publication in social, behavioral and administrative sciences in pharmacy and AACP's Lyman Award honoring the best paper published in the *American Journal of Pharmaceutical Education*. *American Druggist* magazine in 1997 called Berger one of the 50 most influential people in U.S. pharmacy.

Berger has a bachelor's degree in pharmacy and master's and doctorate degrees in social and behavioral pharmacy, all from The Ohio State University.

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The 2009 AACP Annual Meeting and Seminars, *Leading the Revolution*, will be held July 18-22, 2009 at the Westin Boston Waterfront in Boston, Mass. The conference offers educational programming, exhibits, networking events and award presentations. *Registration fees are waived for credentialed journalists. Visit the [AACP Web site](#) or contact our media relations representative for more information.*

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About AACP

Founded in 1900, the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) is a national organization representing the interests of pharmacy education and educators. Comprising 111 accredited colleges and schools of pharmacy including more than 5,500 faculty, 50,000 students enrolled in professional programs and 3,900 individuals pursuing graduate study, AACP is committed to excellence in pharmacy education.