2015 TPA Award winners: (from left to right): Distinguished Pharmacy Technician winner Daniel Cruz, UTSW Medical Center Pharmacy (Mesquite); Bowl of Hygeia winner Jim Cousineau, Brookshire Grocery Company (Tyler); Distinguished Young Pharmacist winner Lauren Clark, HEB Pharmacy (Austin); Distinguished Student Pharmacist winner Kalyn Acker, UT College of Pharmacy (San Antonio); Distinguished Service winner Anjanette Wyatt, Clinical Care Pharmacy (Houston); Pharmacist of the Year winner Chris Alvarado, Oakdell Pharmacy (San Antonio)
As the end of 2015 approaches, it is time to share with you the Association’s accomplishments during the past year. This report includes brief updates on a number of issues of importance. Though successes abound, there is much more to be done in 2016—most especially attaining membership consistency and financial stability. And for that, we need your involvement and support!

Strategic Plan
Earlier this year, the Association’s strategic plan went through an extensive review and re-write in preparation for the revised 2016 membership drive and the 2016 budget development. After much discussion, the mission and goals were modified in light of pharmacy’s continually changing environment.

Mission
Advancing the Practice of Pharmacy to Enhance the Delivery of Quality Health Care to All Texans.

Goals
- Enhance the Environment for Pharmacy Professionals to Deliver Patient Care
- Expand Collaborative Efforts to Address Pharmacy and Patient Care Issues
- Maintain an Effective and Viable Association

Finances
TPA’s financial condition has veered into a little rougher road in the past six months. The chart (right) shows the results since 1997. Note that expenses have dropped by $1 million since 2010 and have been held below $2 million during each of the last four years—something that hadn’t happened since 2002.

Unfortunately, our revenues have not fared as well. They have been inconsistent and dropping for several years. Both membership attrition and lower participation in continuing education programs are undermining the potential of your professional organization.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Revenues</th>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th>Surplus</th>
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<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>$1,853,796</td>
<td>$1,634,723</td>
<td>$219,073</td>
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<td>$1,389,243</td>
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<td>$1,871,703</td>
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<td>2001</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>$1,650,000</td>
<td>$1,800,000</td>
<td>$(150,000)</td>
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</table>

1 Includes proceeds from the sale of the headquarters building.
2 Includes $229,349 in expenses from the 2013 office relocation.
3 Estimated Non-Audited figures. Impacted by office headquarters purchase.
Membership
As pharmacy continues to change and evolve, TPA must be there with you, paving the way to better support you and your profession. To do so, the TPA Board made difficult and monumental changes to address our membership challenges. The Board’s outreach decision has made becoming a member much easier and more affordable for Texas pharmacy professionals.

Dues for pharmacists were reduced by 1/3, and a “virtual” membership option was added at no cost! By the end of 2016, all 30,000 pharmacists and 60,000 pharmacy technicians in Texas will have been contacted and provided an opportunity to support and protect their profession.

The Association’s newly updated website also promotes this new membership concept.

Office Location
On October 29, 2015, your Association finalized the purchase of an office condominium to be used as the organization’s headquarters.

You and thousands of your Texas colleagues are now proud owners of a new and permanent location as TPA continues a journey that began more than 136 years ago—a journey to protect and advance the profession of pharmacy. This truly is an exciting time!

Our new address will be 3200 Steck Avenue, Suite 370, in northwest Austin. It is about 5,000 square feet and will provide meeting space, offices and monthly savings for the Association. Plans include a small museum to honor the practice of pharmacy. Your staff will move from its current location to the new offices in mid-December. Congratulations!

Public Affairs
Following the 140-day session of the Texas Legislature—which began January 13—an analysis of the new laws passed or defeated impacting pharmacy indicated success for the profession.

BIG WINS FOR PHARMACY AND A FEW SMALL LOSSES

The 84th Session of the Texas Legislature was highlighted by significant leadership changes resulting from Texas Governor Rick Perry’s decision not to seek re-elect-

## PHARMACY WINS – BILLS THAT PASSED

**• Pharmacists Authorized to Administer Epinephrine Auto-injectors**
House Bill 1550 by Rep. John Zerwas (R-Richmond) requires the Texas State Board of Pharmacy to adopt rules that authorize a pharmacist to administer an epinephrine auto-injector to a patient in an emergency situation. The bill also establishes liability protections. TPA is proud to have filed and worked on this legislation. It will save lives by removing legal hurdles that prevented a pharmacist from acting when seconds can truly matter.

**• Transaction Fee Prohibition Law Strengthened**
Senate Bill 94 by Sen. Juan “Chuy” Hinojosa (D-McAllen) prohibits certain fees charged for the adjudication of pharmacy benefit claims. Under the new law, pharmacy benefit managers are prohibited from charging fees for network management services, inclusion in a network, services related to the adjudication of a claim, services for processing a claim, services related to transmitting a claim, or for developing a claims processing and adjudication network.

**• Discount Cards Prohibited Without Direct Pharmacist Consent**
House Bill 3028 by Rep. John Frullo (R-Lubbock) addresses the regulation of certain conduct by discount health care program operators or concerning discount health care programs that relates to either prescription drugs or prescription drug benefits. The legislation prohibits the acceptance of a discount card program as a condition for participation in a network. In addition, the bill prohibits a pharmacy benefit manager from requiring that a pharmacist or pharmacy accept or process a claim under a discount health care program unless the pharmacist agrees in writing. Another important component of the bill is the prohibition for a discount card operator to pay a health care provider or an employee of the provider to encourage the use of the discount cards.

**• Pharmacy Clean-up Legislation**
Senate Bill 460 by Sen. Charles Schwertner (R-Georgetown, below right) addresses a number of issues identified by the Texas State Board of Pharmacy needing to be cleaned-up or clarified.

**• Maximum Allowable Cost Transparency Extended to Commercial Plans**
Senate Bill 332 by Sen. Charles Schwertner (R-Georgetown), with the House companion carried by Rep. Todd Hunter (R-Corpus Christi), provides additional safeguards for pharmacists who are facing issues with MAC paid by commercial plans. SB 332 builds upon SB1106, passed in the 83rd Texas legislative session, which addressed transparency and consistency in how maximum allowable costs are determined and charged under Medicaid. It now has been expanded to include the private health plans.

**• TSBP Set to Take Over Prescription Drug Monitoring Program**
Senate Bill 195 by Sen. Charles Schwertner (R-Georgetown) provides for the

Continued on next page
PHARMACY LOSSES – BILLS THAT DID NOT PASS

• Immunization Bill Dies After Failing to Be Heard
  Senate Bill 480 by Sen. Charles Perry (R-Lubbock) would have allowed pharmacists to administer immunizations and vaccinations to patients age seven and older without a physician referral.

• Medication Synchronization Fails Despite Tremendous Support
  House Bill 3025 by Rep. Marsha Farney (R-Georgetown) would have encouraged the use of prescription drug synchronization between health care insurers and pharmacists. The bill would have required health benefit plans to provide benefits for prescription drugs and to prorate any cost-sharing amount charged for the prescription drug dispensed in a quantity of less than 30 days, if it was validated for the purpose of synchronizing a patient’s medication. In addition, the legislation would have prohibited the health benefit plan from prorating the fee paid to the pharmacy for dispensing the synchronized medication.

• Provider Recognition Meets Early Demise
  House Bill 3146 by Rep. J.M. Lozano (R-Robstown) sought to clearly recognize pharmacists as health care providers and able to provide services within the pharmacy section of the Occupation Code. The bill failed to receive a hearing in the House Public Health committee.

• Though Current Law, ‘Any Willing Provider’ Again Fails to be Recodified
  Senate Bill 322 by Sen. Charles Schwertner (R-Georgetown) and House Bill 778 by Cecil Bell (R-Magnolia) were aimed at requiring health plans to include any pharmacy that was willing to accept the terms of a contract as accepted by other pharmacy providers. In addition, the bill would have provided a severability clause for any part found to be in conflict of any federal law. The bill also sought to provide an enforcement ability for the Texas Department of Insurance. The bill failed to pass in both Senate and House committees.

PHARMACY WINS – BILLS THAT WERE STOPPED

• Pharmacists Again Stopped Bill Allowing Physicians to Dispense
  Senate Bill 588 by Sen. Joan Huffman (R-Houston) and House Bill 1483 by Rep. John Zerwas (R-Richmond) would have allowed physicians and optometrists to prescribe, sell and dispense certain aesthetic drugs. As filed in the House, the bill would have allowed for the prescribing and dispensing of eleven aesthetic drugs. TPA, other pharmacy advocates and thousands of pharmacists remained steadfastly opposed to the bill and were successful in preventing the bill from passing.

• Forcing Pharmacists to Honor Any Valid Prescription
  House Bill 628 by Rep. Stuart Spitzer (R-Kaufman) would have required a pharmacist to honor all valid prescriptions written by a licensed practitioner in the state, including for controlled substances or dangerous drugs. As filed, the bill did protect a pharmacist’s right to conscientiously object, but did not protect other reasons a pharmacist may choose to not fill a prescription, either at that time or at all. Due in large part to pharmacists’ opposition, the bill was never heard in committee.

SPECIAL TPA STATEWIDE BRIEFING

Association members were provided a live TPA Legislative End-of-Session Briefing video conference (right) with TPA’s Kim Roberson, Senior Director, Pharmacy Practice, Joe A. DaSilva, Chief Executive Officer and Justin Hudman, Senior Director, Public Policy. The presentation was archived in TPA’s website.

PharmPAC

The Texas Pharmacy Association Political Action Committee (PharmPAC) was very effective in laying the proper groundwork for the Association’s legislative successes in 2015.

Education: TPA Key Meetings are Changing

2015 is the last year of TPA’s lengthy tradition of holding its annual meeting during the summer in conjunction with the TPA conference and expo. Next year, our spring Leadership Symposium will become the Association’s official annual meeting. The House of Delegates will meet at that time and the new election cycle for Board and Council terms will start following the annual meeting.

• The 2016 TPA Annual Meeting and Leadership Symposium will be held in Austin March 20-21, 2016.
• The 2016 TPA Conference & Expo will be held in Austin July 15-17, 2016 and the 2017 TPA Conference & Expo is set for the San Antonio Marriott Rivercenter July 6-9, 2017.

Communications & Marketing

Communications & Marketing has been very active this past year. We’ve introduced our quarterly magazine—Texas Pharmacy, which all members receive in both printed and digital form. And we launched a TPA app, which allows folks to check on upcoming events, view conference sessions, connect to TPA’s Facebook, Twitter & YouTube, and receive notifications. Plus, we redesigned the TPA website!

TPA Board and Staff

A special thanks to the TPA Board and staff for their dedication, commitment and contributions to your Association’s successes during the past year.