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University of Arizona Pharmacy Educator to Receive Prestigious Dawson Biotechnology Award
AACP to present award at annual meeting in July

Alexandria, Va. — The American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) will recognize a pharmacy educator from The University of Arizona (UA) for his contributions to contemporary teaching and scholarship in biotechnology. Laurence H. Hurley, Ph.D., will receive the prestigious Paul R. Dawson Biotechnology Award during the 2008 AACP and Association of Faculties of Pharmacy of Canada (AFPC) Annual Meeting and Seminars in Chicago, Ill., July 19-23.

"It gives AACP great pleasure to recognize Dr. Hurley with this illustrious award," explained Lucinda L. Maine, Ph.D., AACP executive vice president and CEO. "Laurence represents the very best of academic pharmacy. His incredible career spans decades and has brought numerous accomplishments and innovations to modern medicine and health care."

Hurley is the Howard J. Schaeffer Chair in pharmaceutical sciences at the UA College of Pharmacy. His distinguished career includes professorships at the University of Kentucky and at The University of Texas at Austin where he was appointed the George Hitchings Regents Chair in Drug Design in 1989. He is the scientific founder of Cylene Pharmaceuticals, a clinical-stage biotech company in San Diego, and in 2005, he was appointed associate director of the BIO5 Institute for Collaborative Bioresearch at UA.

Hurley is recognized world-wide as an accomplished and innovative medical chemist and leader in molecular cancer therapeutics and biotechnology. Throughout his career he has published more than 200 articles in peer-reviewed journals, received more than \$50 million in extramural funding and is ranked in the top 1 percent of biomedical scientists as measured by citation index.

"Professor Hurley's leadership in biotechnology programs has been highly impactful for our students, the university and the state," said Terrence J. Monks, Ph.D., professor and chair of the department of pharmacology and toxicology at the college. "Throughout his career he has sought to modernize the curriculum and guide students to respond to the needs of a rapidly changing biotech world."

The design and development of anti-tumor agents has been a focal point of Hurley's research. Over the past 20 years, work from his laboratory has led to elucidation of the structures of the drug-receptor complexes for seven different groups of compounds that are potentially useful in the treatment of cancer. Most recently, his research has centered on secondary DNA structures, particularly G-quadruplexes as gene targets for drug design.

The award is named in honor of Amgen former vice president of marketing and sales, Paul R. Dawson, a staunch supporter of education in biotechnology. Hurley will receive a double helix glass sculpture and monetary prize during the Examining Excellence Award Plenary at the 2008 AACP/AFPC Annual Meeting and Seminars.

The 2008 AACP/AFPC Annual Meeting and Seminars, *A Bold New World*, will be held July 19-23, 2008 at the Sheraton Chicago Hotel and Towers in Chicago, Ill. 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 all 105 U.S. colleges and schools of pharmacy including more than 4,300 faculty, 48,500 students enrolled in professional programs and 3,600 individuals pursuing graduate study, AACP is committed to excellence in pharmacy education. To learn more about AACP, visit its Web site at www.aacp.org.