

NEWS RELEASE

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Note to Journalists: A publication-quality photograph of Craig Svensson is available at <http://news.uns.purdue.edu/images/+2006/svensson-c06.jpg>

University of Iowa pharmacy division head named Purdue dean

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. — Craig Svensson, University of Iowa faculty member and administrator, has been named dean of the Purdue University College of Pharmacy, Nursing and Health Sciences.

The appointment, effective Oct. 1, was announced today (Monday, Aug. 7) by Provost Sally Mason. Svensson's appointment is subject to approval by Purdue's board of trustees.

"Craig Svensson is an outstanding educator, researcher and administrator," Mason said. "He understands the challenges and opportunities facing the college. As the new dean, he will continue to build upon the excellent reputation of these programs and expand Purdue's role in the future of health care."

Dennis Depew, chair of the search committee and dean of the College of Technology, said Svensson's experience and broad leadership skills would benefit the university.

"Professor Svensson has won awards as an educator and as a scientist," Depew said. "He is well-recognized in his field, and he has substantial experience in development, management and the research enterprise."

Svensson has been a pharmacy faculty member for more than 20 years at the University of Iowa and at Wayne State University. He has been a member of the University of Iowa's executive committee for three years and has served as head of the division of pharmaceuticals and as the Lyle and Sharon Bighley Professor in Pharmaceutical Sciences for the past three years.

Svensson said he is honored to have the opportunity to serve the College of Pharmacy, Nursing and Health Sciences.

"Purdue's School of Pharmacy is one of the top-ranked programs in the nation," Svensson said. "The school's alumni and former faculty members make up about one-quarter of the nation's deans of pharmacy. The School of Nursing and the School of Health Sciences are also well-recognized for their innovative programs. For example, Purdue's nursing school recently became one of only 10 schools to initiate a doctor of nursing practice degree and has established a landmark partnership with the Regenstrief Center for Healthcare Engineering. The School of Health Sciences

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has the largest radiological health program in the nation, and researchers are exploring future treatments for cancer, Alzheimer's, Parkinson's and heart disease. I am excited about the opportunity to work with faculty and staff to bring the programs of the college to the next level of preeminence."

Svensson received his professional pharmacy degree, known as a doctor of pharmacy or Pharm. D., in clinical pharmacy from the University of Maryland at Baltimore. He received his doctorate in pharmaceuticals and served as a postdoctoral fellow in pharmacokinetics from the State University of New York at Buffalo. Prior to joining the University of Iowa, Svensson was a professor and associate chairman of the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences for Wayne State University.

His research, which is funded by the National Institutes of Health, has focused on understanding the mechanism of adverse drug reactions, with an emphasis on reactions in the skin. He has examined the role of altered metabolism, particularly in AIDS patients, as a factor for these reactions.

The National Institutes of Health awarded Svensson the James A. Shannon Director's Award, and he also has received the American Federation for Clinical Research Meritorious Research Award. He received the Teacher of the Year Award from the University of Iowa College of Pharmacy and from the 2006 doctor of pharmacy class at Wayne State University, where he also was awarded the Career Development Chair Award and recently gave the convocation address for the class of 2006.

Svensson has served as a consultant for several pharmaceutical company research divisions, including Pfizer Global Research and Development. His professional affiliations include the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists, in which he was recently elected a fellow; the American Association for the Advancement of Science; and the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics.

Holly L. Mason, a professor of pharmacy who served as interim dean, will return to his position as associate dean of academic programs.

The College of Pharmacy, Nursing and Health Sciences has 1,960 undergraduates, 171 graduate students and 639 professional pharmacy students.

The pharmacy program has 754 undergraduates and 117 graduate students. U.S. News & World Report last ranked Purdue's doctoral program in pharmacy fourth in the nation. The school has educated more than 7,000 pharmacists and 1,000 pharmaceutical scientists and educators since its establishment in 1884.

Purdue pharmacy alumni are well-represented throughout many departments and divisions of companies in the pharmaceutical industry.

The School of Nursing has 555 undergraduates and 17 graduate students. The school has graduated thousands of students since it was founded in 1962 and routinely achieves 100 percent job placement for its graduates.

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The School of Health Sciences has 651 undergraduates and 37 graduate students. It emphasizes radiological, occupational and environmental health. The first applications of radioactive isotopes in pharmaceuticals were pioneered at the school in the 1940s, and it has since expanded to develop specialists in ergonomics, health physics and industrial hygiene.

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