

December 2, 2011

Dr. J. Paul West, Chair, Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee and  
Dr. Peter Murray, Director for Education, Mayo Clinic in Florida  
4500 San Pablo Blvd  
Jacksonville, Florida 32246  
[paul.west@mayo.edu](mailto:paul.west@mayo.edu)  
[murray.peter@mayo.edu](mailto:murray.peter@mayo.edu)

Dr West & Dr Murray:

I am writing to propose that Matthew J. Geraci, PharmD, EOD, be appointed as an Associate Professor of Pharmacy Practice in the Mayo Clinic College of Medicine. Dr. Geraci is a graduate of the University of Utah College of Pharmacy and Mayo Clinic School of Health Sciences Pharmacy Residency Program. He currently practices clinical pharmacy in the Emergency Department at Baptist Medical Center Downtown.

Dr Geraci is a 1994 graduate of West Point where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Physics and Nuclear Engineering. He was commissioned as an active duty Army Officer upon graduation and served our country with distinction in a variety of leadership roles. Aside from leading and training soldiers, he was technically trained and served as an explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) technician where he was responsible for rendering safe improvised explosive devices (IEDs), landmines and other dangerous hazards. He received his PharmD from The University of Utah's College of Pharmacy in 2006 and completed his residency training at Mayo Clinic, Jacksonville, in 2007.

### Education

Dr. Geraci has demonstrated an interest and skill in teaching. Prior to his medical career he was an officer and senior trainer in the military where he spoke publicly on a regular basis. Currently, he presents lectures and tutorials to undergraduate students, clinical residents and licensed practitioners. He has been invited to speak and lecture on a variety of topics at the national, state, and local levels. His reviews and evaluations reflect a contagious enthusiasm and knowledge of the subjects he discusses. He is an effective orator who is able to maintain his audience's attention while communicating complex concepts.

Dr Geraci participates as a preceptor for our post-graduate pharmacy residency program, the residency program at Mayo Clinic Jacksonville, and the University of Florida. He has precepted students from South University, Florida A&M, and Mercer University. Aside from precepting, he assisted in the building of core curriculum lectures and served as a visiting professor with Nova Southeastern University, teaching pharmacology to physician assistant students from 2008-2011.

Unique to our teaching program here at Baptist, is an overview of emergency preparedness, which is directly attributable to Dr Geraci. His military background and experience assists the hospital system as well as residents and students to learn and be prepared for various emergency situations. He has served as an advisor and preceptor for many students and residents over the years, some of which he has inspired to seek further education and to go into emergency medicine.

## Research

Dr. Geraci has demonstrated great accomplishments in publishing and research since completing his PharmD. His research areas of interest include emergency medicine, drug interactions, and toxicology. He was invited to serve as an Editorial Board member on the International Journal of Emergency Medicine and serves as a reviewer for a host of medical journals, some by invitation.

Despite his relatively short career in the medical field, his bibliography lists nine peer-reviewed original papers and articles of which he is first author of seven. He has published five non peer-reviewed articles and two posters. In addition, Dr. Geraci conceived and authored functional websites which improved information access across a four hospital system.

His most significant papers include:

**1) Mustard gas: imminent danger or eminent threat?**

The above article is a comprehensive review of a toxic chemical warfare agent which not only was used in the past but presently poses as an extensive world-wide environmental hazard. Dr Geraci corresponded with researchers in the field who agreed that nebulized, inhaled N-acetylcystiene at the bedside may be a potential first line treatment for inhalational exposures in humans. This recommendation is novel and is discussed in the treatment section of his paper. This paper has been passed to the US Director of Homeland Security and has been vigorously requested by clinicians and military officials in the US and abroad.

**2) New onset diabetes associated with bovine growth hormone and testosterone abuse in a young body builder.**

This report is the first to describe abuse of a veterinary medicine in humans. This case report is a marriage of pharmacology knowledge between the endocrine and toxicology communities. Although solid causal evidence was impossible to ascertain in this situation, the preexisting literature on diabetes associated with human growth hormone use and the temporal relationship of supra-therapeutic drug abuse with this patient increases the index of suspicion. This report has increased surveillance on this “common” drug of abuse among athletes.

### **3) Antipsychotic-induced priapism in an HIV patient: a cytochrome P450-mediated drug interaction.**

This report was the first publication to come from the Baptist's Emergency Department and was identified and researched by our Emergency Medicine PharmD's, Dr's Geraci and McCoy. It demonstrates that a preexisting alteration of CYP450 enzymes due to protease inhibitors can likely cause adverse effects by newly added medications. As drug interactions are common reasons for emergency department visits, this paper demonstrates that clinically trained pharmacists play an integral role on the front lines of treatment.

#### Clinical Practice

Dr. Geraci has brought a broad educational background to our multidisciplinary department. He has rapidly established himself as a superb clinician. He demonstrates an excellent work ethic that is framed in a personality that enjoys the practice of critical care. He brings ongoing didactic information exchanges, debate, and teaching to the members of our department as well as our residents.

Dr Geraci and his partner, Dr McCoy, built the emergency department pharmacy practice at our Downtown campus. Since that time it has been used as an example to people within our system as well as having practitioners from outside our system tour and observe their roles.

Dr. Geraci's experience, willingness to assist others, and ability to think on his feet has made him an important asset in the development of Baptist Health's growing emergency medicine and pharmacy residency programs.

#### Administration

Dr. Geraci has served in a variety of administrative roles including the following:

- Institutional
  - System Health & Safety Committee
  - Disaster Preparedness Committee
  - Senior Emergency Services Committee
  - Pharmacy Resident Education Committee
  - System Code Blue/Rapid Response Team Committee
  - Emergency Dept/Pharmacy Liaison for Medication Variance
  - Baptist Health System secure pharmacy intranet website author.
  - Wolfson Children's Hospital/Baptist Health System Pharmacy Residency website creator, designer & webmaster.
  - Authored "Code BIO" Mass Vaccine/Prophylaxis Plan for Baptist Medical Center Downtown

- Assisted in procurement and liaison between the Country Department of Health and the CDC for Baptist Health's ChemPack (National Nerve Agent Antidote Stockpile)

- State/National/International
- Chair, Emergency Preparedness Committee, Florida Society of Health System Pharmacists, 2009-2011.
- Editorial Board Member International Journal of Emergency Medicine
- Speaker's Bureau Florida Society of Health System Pharmacists
- Member, American Academy of Clinical Toxicology
- Member & Logo Designer for The Toxicology History Association
- Member, American Society of Health System Pharmacists
- Member, Florida Society of Health System Pharmacists
- Voting Member, Critical Infrastructure Committee  
State of Florida, State Working Group, Region 3
- Team Member, Region 3, State of Florida, Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT)

Letters of recommendation may be obtained from the people listed below. They hold the rank of Associate Professor or Professor at their respective Academic Health Centers.

Mark Munger, PharmD  
Professor, Pharmacotherapy; Adjunct Professor, Internal Medicine  
University of Utah College of Pharmacy/College of Medicine  
30 S. 200 E., Room 201  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84112-5820  
Phone: (801) 581-6165  
Email: [mmunger@deans.pharm.utah.edu](mailto:mmunger@deans.pharm.utah.edu)

Dr Hugh G. Rappa, MD  
Professor and Academic Director  
Associate Dept. Chair  
Nova Southeastern University  
Physician Assistant Program  
6675 Corporate Center Parkway  
Suite #112  
Jacksonville, Florida 32216  
Phone: 904.245.8985  
E-mail: [rappa@nova.edu](mailto:rappa@nova.edu)

Marcus Ferrone, PharmD  
Associate Professor of Clinical Pharmacy  
Box 0613, 3333 Calif. St, Laurel Heights 420  
University of California, San Francisco

San Francisco, California 94143-0613  
Phone: (415) 502-8151  
Email: [ferronem@pharmacy.ucsf.edu](mailto:ferronem@pharmacy.ucsf.edu)

Richard Stromberg, MD  
Medical Director, Baptist Emergency Department  
820 Prudential Drive  
Suite 713  
Jacksonville, Florida 32207  
Phone: (904) 396-5682  
Email: [StrombergR@aol.com](mailto:StrombergR@aol.com)

In summary, I believe Dr. Geraci clearly fulfills the criteria for Associate Professor. He is acknowledged by peers as an expert in emergency medicine and critical care pharmacy evidenced by activity in societies and activities in our specialty. He has also served in many teaching and educational positions. His bibliography demonstrates motivation and experience with nine peer-reviewed articles in top specialty journals. His educational and administrative contributions have been clearly outlined in this proposal. Of note, he was recently a quarterfinalist and considered a "highly qualified" applicant to NASA's astronaut program during the last selection process. Dr Geraci continues to seek self improvement, unique challenges, and believes in pursuing his dreams.

Thank you for your consideration of this promotion/appointment. If you would like additional information or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (904) 202-2551 or via email at [Nicole.Blackwelder@bmcjax.com](mailto:Nicole.Blackwelder@bmcjax.com).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nicole Blackwelder". The signature is written in dark ink and includes a horizontal line extending to the right from the end of the name.

Dr. Nicole Blackwelder  
Director, Department of Pharmacy  
Baptist Medical Center Downtown