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**Michigan's Highest Honor in the Pharmacy Profession Awarded to Bugdalski-Stutrud**

Carol A. Bugdalski-Stutrud of Commerce Township will receive the Michigan Pharmacists Association (MPA) Pharmacist of the Year Award during the Association's Annual Convention & Exposition, held Feb. 24-26 at the Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center. This award is Michigan's highest honor in the pharmacy profession.

Bugdalski-Stutrud has devoted her career to the advancement of the profession, preparation of students for the future of the profession and working to create patient-centered care throughout all pharmacy practice settings. Bugdalski-Stutrud earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Pharmacy from Wayne State University (WSU) in 1986 and completed a Community Pharmacy Residency the following year. This residency was the first American Pharmacists Association (APhA) joint residency program with Wayne State University and Arbor Drugs. After completing her residency, she extended that partnership and knowledge into her initial career. Upon graduating, Bugdalski-Stutrud spent 13 years at Arbor Drugs serving first as Director of Pharmacy Development and Operations. She then served as Vice President of Pharmacy Operations until 1998. Shortly thereafter she joined the ranks of faculty at WSU.

Bugdalski-Stutrud understands the value of a professional organization and has been described as a conscientious member who strives to be involved and make as large of an impact as possible. She has been a career long member of MPA, joining once she was licensed. She has served MPA in many functions, most notably her involvement with the Pharmacy Action Response Network, served on the MPA House of Delegates from 1993-7 and served as chair of the MPA Professional Affairs Committee from 1992-3. She has served many roles with the Wayne County Pharmacists Association including chairman, secretary and vice-president. Beyond those roles, Bugdalski-Stutrud was also appointed to MPA's Patient Centered Medication Home/Accountable Care Organizations (PCMH/ACO) Task Force in 2011 because of her interest and background in the development and implementation of healthcare in these innovative models.

Bugdalski-Stutrud spent many years educating pharmacy students at Wayne State University using her expertise in community pharmacy practice, interprofessional education and pharmacist involvement in primary care services to prepare pharmacy students for the future of the profession. Her passion for the patient-centered medical home opened the doors to collaboration with the Independent Physicians Association in southeast Michigan. Her efforts were aimed at integrating community pharmacists and other healthcare practitioners into these established practices. Her efforts have been recognized not only on the state level, but also at the national level. She has received the Fellow of APhA designation because of her national involvement with the organization since 1987, with her recent recognition as the 2014 APhA-Academy of Student Pharmacists Outstanding Chapter Advisor. She has also served on the APhA Board of Trustees as well as the APhA Foundation Board.

Recognition for Bugdalski-Stutrud's accomplishments began as soon as she completed pharmacy school. She has received the Merck Professionalism Award (May 2009), Outstanding Community Preceptor of the Year (May 2007), Vanguard Leadership in Pharmacy Award (July 2003), with her first recognition coming from the Wayne State Pharmacy Alumni Association who presented her with the Presidential Service Award in May 1991. Bugdalski-Stutrud is continually recognized by her peers as a force of change in the profession and known as a knowledgeable and devoted mentor to all the students, new practitioners and colleagues she prepares for the future of the pharmacy profession.

Michigan Pharmacists Association, representing the nearly 9,000 pharmacists and 15,000 pharmacy technicians in Michigan, strives to serve members by providing support, advocacy and resources that ultimately improve patient care, safety, health and the practice of pharmacy. For more information, visit [www.MichiganPharmacists.org](http://www.MichiganPharmacists.org).

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