



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Executive Director  
Ron Corey, PhD, MBA  
16 Carolyn Court  
East Hanover, NJ 07936  
973/884-4757  
rcorey@plei.org

**In our 32<sup>nd</sup> annual presentation,  
The Pharmacy Leadership & Education Institute (PLEI) announces  
Robert S. Pugliese, PharmD, BCPS, recipient of the  
Albert B. Prescott Pharmacy Leadership Award for 2018**

**February 12, 2018, East Hanover, NJ** – Dr. Robert S. Pugliese, PharmD, BCPS, Associate Director of JeffDESIGN at the Sidney Kimmel Medical College and Founding Director of the Health Design Lab @JeffInnovation of Thomas Jefferson University, will be honored with the 2018 Prescott Pharmacy Leadership Award during the Annual Meeting of the American Pharmacists Association (APhA) in Nashville, TN, on Sunday evening, March 18, 2018, when he will give a scholarly address. Dr. Pugliese is a Clinical Pharmacist, specializing in Emergency Medicine, a teacher, a mentor, an entrepreneur, a civic leader and an innovator.

An award for leadership by a young pharmacist was established by Phi Delta Chi in 1987. The Albert B. Prescott Pharmacy Leadership Award is given annually to a pharmacist no more than 10 years into his or her career. The recipient delivers a scholarly lecture on issues such as pharmacy as a profession, leadership, or future trends in pharmacy practice or education.

Albert Prescott was dean of pharmacy at the University of Michigan from 1870 to 1905. A maverick, he was rebuffed by APhA for his heretical view that pharmacy should be an education-based profession – not an experienced-based trade. The credentials committee at the 1871 APhA convention rejected Prescott as unworthy of being seated as a voting delegate. But Prescott persevered. By the 1890s, Prescott's vision and convictions were proven correct. The rest of the country began to follow Prescott's lead. Ironically, he was eventually elected president of APhA in 1899, and became the first president of the organization we now know as the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP), when it was founded in 1900.

Today, the Prescott Pharmacy Leadership Award is coordinated by the Pharmacy Leadership & Education Institute (PLEI), with major support from the Phi Lambda Sigma Pharmacy Leadership Society.

The selection committee was comprised of PLEI Board Chairman John Grabenstein, RPh, PhD, who served as Chair of the Committee; PDC Board members Michael Mone, Pamela M. Schweitzer, and Traci Thompson; Mary Euler, Executive Director of Phi Lambda Sigma, and by previous winners of this prestigious award: Afton Wagner, PharmD, Sonak D. Pastakia, PharmD, MPH, BCPS, Alex J. Adams, PharmD, and Joshua J. Neumiller, PharmD, CDE, FASCP.



**About Robert S. Pugliese, PharmD, BCPS – Associate Director of JeffDESIGN at the Sidney Kimmel Medical College and Founding Director of the Health Design Lab @JeffInnovation**



Robert S. Pugliese, PharmD, BCPS, is Associate Director of JeffDESIGN at the Sidney Kimmel Medical College and Founding Director of the Health Design Lab @JeffInnovation. This first-of-its-kind program and space supports a multidisciplinary approach to solving public health and healthcare challenges and provides Design Thinking focused interdisciplinary education to medical students and other healthcare professionals. Robert has presented on the intersection of health and design nationally at venues such as Stanford Medicine X and SXSW. A practicing Emergency Medicine Clinical Pharmacist and Clinical Assistant Professor at Thomas Jefferson University and Hospital, Robert has over 10 years of experience in the clinical and operational aspects of healthcare delivery in the urban environment. As a type-1 diabetic, Robert takes a personal interest in providing education and advocating for the significant diabetic population he encounters in his daily work. Robert is the current Vice Chair of the Emergency Care Section Advisory Group for the American Society of Health System Pharmacy. He is also Associate Editor and founding contributor to ALiEMU.com, a site that provides free peer-reviewed online education to medical professionals. Robert received his Doctorate of Pharmacy at Northeastern University, Boston MA where he helped found the Beta Chi chapter of Phi Delta Chi.

About Pharmacy Leadership & Education Institute, Inc.

The Pharmacy Leadership & Education Institute (PLEI) develops leaders among student pharmacists and pharmacists by conducting programs to improve leadership skills, to strengthen the profession as a whole, and thereby advance the public health.

PLEI strives to reach as many student pharmacists and pharmacists as possible, in a variety of venues, to help them grow in their personal leadership skills, giving them examples of how to apply these skills in pharmacy settings (e.g., ambulatory, inpatient, long-term care, corporate, academia, government) and in their personal lives.

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) recognizes PLEI as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization; EIN 582296988.

PLEI coordinates the Prescott Pharmacy Leadership Award, Leader Development Seminars, Leader Development Institute, the *Lead←Grow→Shape* leadership workbook, and other educational events for pharmacists and student pharmacists.

###