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**Lucas Berenbrok Selected  
as 2023 Recipient of  
Albert B. Prescott Pharmacy Leadership Award  
for Early-Career Leadership**

**December 13, 2022, South Lyon, MI** - In the 37<sup>th</sup> annual presentation, the Pharmacy Leadership and Education Institute (PLEI) has named Lucas A. Berenbrok, PharmD, MS, BCACP of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, the 2023 recipient of the Albert B. Prescott Pharmacy Leadership Award. Dr. Berenbrok is recognized for his groundbreaking leadership in developing over-the-counter (OTC) hearing aid education for pharmacists, his innovative research of the accessibility of community pharmacists, and his expertise in integrating pharmacist-led pharmacogenomics services into family medicine practice.

Dr. Berenbrok's personal mission statement is "to cultivate pharmacist leaders who advance pharmacy practice by bettering patient health and medication-related outcomes with multidisciplinary outpatient healthcare teams." His leadership efforts are described as intentional and guided by the tenets of servant leadership. Dr. Berenbrok will receive his award and deliver a scholarly address during the APhA Annual Meeting in Phoenix in March 2023.

The Albert B. Prescott Pharmacy Leadership Award recognizes a pharmacist fewer than 10 years past graduation for demonstrating exemplary leadership qualities indicative of someone likely to emerge as a major leader in pharmacy over the course of his or her career. It evolved from an award first presented in 1987 by Phi Delta Chi to recognize leadership by a young pharmacist. From its beginning, this has been a profession-wide recognition, not restricted to any fraternal group or practice setting. It is currently coordinated by the Pharmacy Leadership & Education Institute (PLEI), with major support from the Phi Lambda Sigma Pharmacy Leadership Society. In conjunction with accepting the award, each recipient delivers a scholarly lecture on issues such as pharmacy as a profession, leadership, or future trends in pharmacy practice or education.

The selection committee was chaired by PLEI Board Member Dennis Worthen and included PLEI Board Member W. Michael Heath; Phi Delta Chi President Andrea Bourque; Phi Lambda Sigma Awards Committee Vice-Chairperson Courtney Dawson, and the previous four recipients of this prestigious award: Joey Mattingly, Lindsay Kunkle, Jennifer Bacci, and Ryan Costantino.

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## About Lucas A. Berenbrok, PharmD, MS, BCACP



Dr. Berenbrok received his Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the University of Pittsburgh, School of Pharmacy in 2013. He also holds a Master of Science Degree in Clinical Research from the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine.

Dr. Berenbrok serves as an Associate Professor of Pharmacy and Therapeutics at the University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy. He has additional professorial appointments in the University of Pittsburgh Clinical and Translational Science Institute and the University of Pittsburgh Department of Communication Science and Disorders. His leadership and work in the classroom have been recognized as the Stanford I. Cohen Teacher of the Year, he has been twice named the American Pharmacists Association – Academy of Student Pharmacists Faculty Member of the Year at the University of Pittsburgh, and was a finalist for the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy 2022 Innovation in Teaching Award.

Outside of the classroom, Dr. Berenbrok has established two new pharmacy services at the University of Pittsburgh and the UPMC Health System. In 2018, he established a Comprehensive Medication Management Benefit by working with the Human Resources, Benefits, Finance and Legal departments resulting in a benefit that offers medication management, travel health, tobacco cessation, diabetes prevention and health education to nearly 14,000 employees of the University. He also co-led the creation of an outpatient pharmacogenomics service at UPMC integrating pharmacist-led pharmacogenomics services into family medicine practices. His efforts in this area have led to him being nationally recognized as an expert in the field of pharmacogenomics.

Dr. Berenbrok engaged a diverse, interprofessional group of stakeholders to establish pharmacist competencies for OTC hearing aids. His work in this area resulted in the first OTC hearing aid certificate program for pharmacists, affirmed by the American Academy of Audiology. In addition, he has created reference tools for community pharmacists and technicians that would help to flag conditions that would exclude the use of OTC hearing aids and necessitate an audiologist referral.

Dr. Berenbrok has worked with datasets to advocate for pharmacy change and transformation. His first publication in this area used a large dataset to demonstrate how often patients visit community pharmacies in comparison to primary care physicians. This article, published in the JAMA Network Open, has been cited over 70 times in the last two years and has received an attention score in the top 5% of all research outputs scored by Altmetric. His work with geographic information systems which, during the Covid-19 pandemic showed that 90% of Americans live within 5 miles of a community pharmacy, demonstrated the accessibility of community pharmacists to impact individual and public health. His work in this area has been cited extensively by the mainstream media, as well as industry publications.

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## About Albert B. Prescott

Albert B. Prescott was Dean of Pharmacy at the University of Michigan from 1870 to 1905. Prescott was a visionary and trail blazer, holding the unorthodox view that pharmacy should be an education-based profession – not an experience-based trade. Even as a Dean, Prescott was rebuffed by the American Pharmacists Association (APhA), so much so that 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.

## About the Pharmacy Leadership & Education Institute, Inc. (PLEI)

The Pharmacy Leadership & Education Institute (PLEI) facilitates engaging professional leader development activities, to enable personal growth that will transform the delivery of healthcare. In 2021, PLEI established its [Academy for Leader Development](#) that offers on-line training to develop leaders, enhance teamwork, and drive success through personal, interactive sessions. 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 across the country. The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) recognizes PLEI as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization; EIN 58-2296988. You can learn more about PLEI at [www.plei.org](http://www.plei.org).

## About Phi Lambda Sigma

Phi Lambda Sigma was established in 1965 to develop leadership qualities among pharmacy students and pharmacists and to recognize leaders in the profession. Today, the Society's National Executive Committee, and 134 collegiate chapters, build upon this foundation and work to cultivate leader development and inspire transformational change within pharmacy. Phi Lambda Sigma hosts an annual Leadership Summit each summer and utilizes the GiANT Worldwide platform as its primary leader development program through the year in order to equip and empower the next generation of pharmacy leaders. More information can be found at: [www.philambdasigma.org](http://www.philambdasigma.org).

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