

# Pharmacist completes residency training

Causey's Pharmacy and Xavier University of Louisiana, College of Pharmacy announces that Dr. Kristie J. Raker has completed her community pharmacy residency. The residency had an emphasis on training a pharmacist to assist self-insured employers to reduce their health care costs, especially with medication.

With the rising cost of health care, employers are looking for ways to reduce costs. "This residency program is an attempt to train pharmacists to be able to assist self-insured employers with this growing problem," states Dr. Steven T. Boyd, residency director and assistant professor of Xavier University.

Raker had the opportunity



**Raker**

to work with employer groups including Morris & Dickson, Inc., Sports South, Inc., Weyerhaeuser, Inc. and Pilgrim's Pride, Inc. The emphasis was looking for strategies to improve patient care including better medication options, patient educa-

tion and adherence to medication regimens. She trained in the anticoagulation clinic and cardiology clinic with Dr. Christopher Ingram. Dr. William Zeichner served as a preceptor for surgery clinic and Dr. LeAnn Causey Boyd served as a preceptor for the diabetes education center and employer groups. Raker completed a hospital rotation at Oschner Medical Center in New Orleans in April.

The program was funded by The Community Pharmacy Foundation as a \$46,000 grant to Xavier University of Louisiana, in association with Causey's Pharmacy, to establish a full-time pharmacy residency program to develop an employee healthcare program for the Natchitoches area.

Raker is a graduate of University of the Pacific, School of Pharmacy in Stockton, Calif., and has specialized training in clinical pharmacy and nutrition care. She accepted a position with Novo Nordisk Pharmaceutical in the Dallas-Fort Worth region as a clinical medical liaison.

"This residency and pharmacy program are truly leading edge," Boyd said. "Completion of the residency is significant for Xavier University and for Causey's Pharmacy, because it's one of the first of its kind in the country."

Causey's Pharmacy continues to serve businesses and most employers are eligible to participate, Boyd said. For further information call Boyd at 318-357-1303.