APhA head presented 30th anniversary Kenneth L. Waters Lecture

“It’s an exciting time to be a pharmacist” was the topic of the 30th anniversary Kenneth L. Waters lecture at the University of Georgia College of Pharmacy. Thomas Menighan, executive vice president and chief executive officer of the American Pharmacists Association (APhA), made the presentation.

Prior to his current role at APhA, Menighan was founder and president of SynTegra Solutions, Inc., in Germantown, Maryland. The company provides supply chain and charge back auditing and consulting in risk management, 340B systems, anti-counterfeiting, and the technology of medication information. Menighan also founded SymRx, Inc., and developed CornerDrugstore.com.

Throughout his career, Menighan has served volunteer roles within the profession of pharmacy, including president of APhA from 2001 to 2002 and a member of the APhA Board of Trustees between 1995 and 2003. He was a senior staff member of APhA from 1987 to 1992. While on staff as senior director of external affairs, he managed state affairs, public relations, new business development, and practice management issues.

His other professional experiences include management of the PharMark Corporation, creator of RationalMed, and licensor of systems for states to conduct drug utilization review for millions of state Medicaid enrollees. Menighan also founded and was a 20-year Medicine Shoppe owner in Huntington, West Virginia, and he is currently a partner in Pharmacy Associates, Inc., a multistage specialty pharmacy that today serves patients in much of the United States.

Menighan received his bachelor of science in pharmacy in 1974 from West Virginia University School of Pharmacy and a master of business administration in 1990 from Averett College. In 2011 he received an honorary doctor of science degree from West Virginia University and in 2010 was awarded a doctor of science degree by the University of Charleston (West Virginia.)

The Kenneth L. Waters Lecture Series was started in 1982 to honor the late Dean Emeritus Kenneth L. Waters who was dean of the College from 1948 until his retirement in 1977. The purpose of the lecture series is to bring nationally and internationally known leaders in pharmacy to the UGA campus and to recognize Waters’ outstanding accomplishments and contributions as dean.

For more information on the Waters Lecture, visit www.rx.uga.edu.