

PharmDigest

Published by the Pharmacy Student Council

Volume V

Issue I

Fall 2018

PCOM Club Fair



From August 28-30, 2018, pharmacy students participated in the PCOM club fair to learn about opportunities for involvement.

ISPOR Clothing Drive



On September 10, 2018, Diana Tran (Class of 2021) along with other members of International Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research (ISPOR) organized a clothing drive with the aim to help the homeless.

Community Service in Pharmacy

Christopher Holaway, Pharm.D.
Assistant Professor, Department of
Pharmacy Practice



Q. Tell me a little about yourself

I am a vocal Christian. I am a strong advocate for patients who have no one to advocate for them. This sentiment stems from my military background where the number one operating command is to take care of those being oppressed in different regions of the world. I graduated from UAB with a BS degree in molecular biology and chemistry. Afterwards, I graduated from Auburn University School of Pharmacy with my BS degree in Pharmacy.

After practicing several years, I wanted to be tied to patient outcomes rather than just dispensing medicine, I decided to commit to three more years of pharmacy school at the University of Florida College of Pharmacy where I graduated with my Pharm. D. degree in Florida. Fellowship training in cardiology at UAB helped prepare me with the knowledge, skill set and perspective to reduce cardiovascular disease in populations at the highest risk.

Q. What inspires you to do community service?

My life as an active Christian and my faith in Jesus Christ as my savior, fuels my commitment to provide community service to populations that lie in underserved areas of the US. It is my obligation as a father to my daughter and son to model this behavior of the importance of community

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Kappa Psi Meet and Greet



On September 12, 2018, Kappa Psi Fraternity hosted a Meet and Greet evening at Your Pie. Pharmacy students came out to support the fraternity and make connection with others.

Metro Atlanta Heart Walk



On September 29, 2018, the Operation Heart committee of PCOM School of Pharmacy APhA-ASP Chapter participated in the Metro Atlanta Heart Walk. They had an opportunity to meet stroke survivors and family members of those affected by stroke.

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service. It is extremely important for me to expose them and teach them the value of service to the community at a young age.

Q. How do you rate the importance of community service in the field of pharmacy?

On a scale from 1-10 with 10 being the most important, It's a 10. Serving others is the foundation of our profession.

Q. What are your current and future community service plans?

I volunteer at Morehouse School of Medicine H.E.A.L clinic. H.E.A.L represents health equity for ALL lives. We provide primary care to patients without insurance and/or who just migrated to this country from abroad. Many people have immigrated to this country and are diagnosed with hypertension, asthma, COPD, diabetes, and hyperlipidemia. Two selected student pharmacists and I teach the value of long-term management of chronic disease in a patient specific directed manner. We teach the value of why medication adherence is important. We ensure that 100% of our patients have a one year supply of medication for chronic disease states to ensure cardiovascular disease is minimized to a level that is negligible. We ensure no patient is left out. Additionally, my church goes to Clarkston, GA where there is a large immigrant community to communicate with translators about the H.E.A.L clinic. MARTA supplies us with MARTA cards to ensure transportation is not a barrier for these patients. We are currently working with Lyft and Uber for transportation options. Quarterly we have provided clothing and food for the people of Clarkston in a successful manner. Last but not least, I volunteer as a skilled worker for Habitat for Humanity to help build homes for veterans and the elderly and participate in "Repair for Kindness."

Q. What advice do you have for students?

Develop the appropriate amount of time for studying and reading. Balance your time and don't just study to ensure you live a productive life rather than a busy life.

Always strive to have fellowship with people from every

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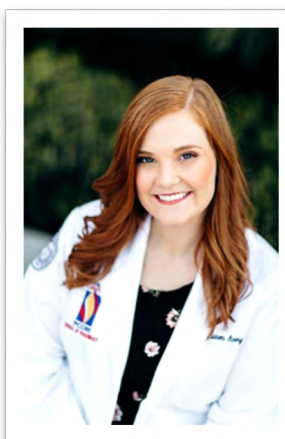
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walk of life to listen and learn. People respect people who listen rather than just talk. Tecumseh once said, "A single twig will always break but a bundle of twigs will forever stay strong."

Most importantly, understand what your purpose is in life and seek it out. Always know where your shoreline is so you can always go home.

Pharmacy Practice Resident

Lauren Avery, Pharm.D.
PGY-1 Pharmacy Practice Resident



My name is Dr. Lauren Avery and I am a current PGY-1 pharmacy practice resident and clinical instructor at PCOM School of Pharmacy and WellStar North Fulton Hospital. I am a recent 2018 graduate from PCOM School of Pharmacy. Although this journey of residency began in July, the preparation began long before that. During my first year of pharmacy school, I started getting involved on campus in various organizations and began to learn about all of the career options for pharmacists. It was during my second year when I realized I wanted to pursue a residency. I continued to stay involved in organizations such as ASHP, APhA, Kappa Psi Pharmaceutical Fraternity, and Pharmacy Council and began taking on leadership roles. Being involved on campus and holding these leadership positions was the best decision I made. This played a large part in helping me get in this position today. I encourage you to find an organization on campus that is right for you and get involved!

Fast forward and three years of pharmacy school have flown by. The didactic portion was over and it was time for clinical rotations. Perhaps the best advice I received prior

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Pharmacy Practice Faculty Lunch Panel



On October 3, 2018, the PCOM School of Pharmacy APhA-ASP Chapter and the Pharmacy Student Council hosted the second Semi-Annual Pharmacy Practice Faculty Lunch Panel. Students had the opportunity to ask questions about our faculty's unique experiences and seek advice on clinical residency applications.

ASHP Clinical Competition



On October 6, 2018, PCOM School of Pharmacy ASHP-SSHP Chapter hosted the annual ASHP Clinical Skills Competition with the purpose to encourage and recognize excellence in clinical skill development. The winning team, Sharie Artis-Hood and Chris Moses (class of 2019), received a free registration and represented the chapter at the ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting.

Rho Chi Initiation



On October 9, 2018, the Epsilon Delta Chapter of Rho Chi, the pharmacy academic honor organization, held their annual dinner and induction at the 1818 Club in Duluth. Twenty new members joined the chapter and received the Rho Chi pin, membership certificate and a letter from the national president as part of the ceremony. Dr. Katie Karaga (Class of 2015), from Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, was the invited speaker for the event.

APhA-ASP Participates in Policy on Tap



On October 15, 2018, PCOM school of Pharmacy APhA-ASP members participated in Policy on Tap hosted by Mercer School of Pharmacy. Members had a chance to discuss pharmacy policy with Mercer School of Pharmacy APhA-ASP members. Presenting in the picture from left to right are Kinjal Shah, Jeffrey Clark, Macy Biddulph, and Zachary Dykes (Class of 2021).

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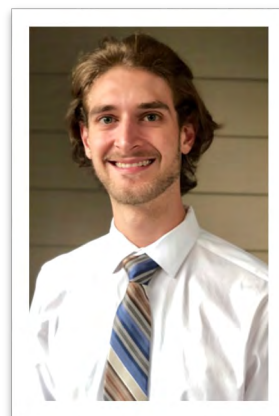
to beginning rotations was to treat each one as a job interview. I took this advice to heart and I encourage you to do the same. Clinical rotations are a time for growing, learning, and preparing for ASHP Midyear and the residency application process. When applying for a residency position, you will need strong letters of recommendation. Utilize your preceptors during your APPEs to write these letters on your behalf. Use this time to take every opportunity that may come your way. Whether it be helping with research or writing an article for publication, these opportunities will help build your CV and set you apart when applying for a residency position.

After attending Midyear, submitting my applications, and several interviews, I got the news that I had been offered a position for a PGY-1 Pharmacy Practice Residency at PCOM! I could not have been more excited to begin this journey. GA-PCOM had been my home for the past four years, and now I am able to continue learning from our amazing faculty. My journey as a resident has been both challenging and rewarding so far. From interdisciplinary rounds to precepting students, I have already learned so much as a new pharmacist. There is a variety of specialty areas that I am able to explore such as oncology, cardiology, emergency medicine, and critical care to name a few. In addition to our clinical training, we will also receive a teaching certificate through our residency that will open up doors for a career path in academia. The days may be long, but the experiences are invaluable. I cannot wait to see what the future holds after the completion of my residency.

Meet Brent

Brent Chatoff

Class of 2022 Representative



My name is Brent Chatoff and I am the representative of the P1 class of 2022. I am joining GA-PCOM from the small town of Hinesburg, Vermont. Coming from Vermont, I love the outdoors: from hiking, to kayaking, to snowboarding. I am excited to explore Georgia and see what this state has to

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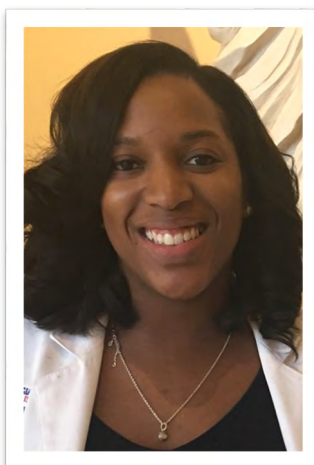
offer. From my previous education, I received a bachelor’s degree in pharmaceutical sciences from MCPHS University in Boston, Massachusetts. With regards to pharmacy, I had the opportunity to work in a 503b outsourcing facility, Edge Pharmacy Services. During my time at Edge Pharmacy Services, I gained experience compounding, working in quality assurance, and assisting with training. Now, with some background given, what do I plan to achieve as the P1 class representative?

Being class rep during a change in the processes and curriculum of the school of pharmacy, I want to ensure the transition is done in a smooth manner. I want minimal frustration for students as we adapt to these changes. I will make sure to listen to the needs of the class and apply them accordingly. Along with ensuring a smooth transition, I want to learn more about how student council and the other organizations work at GA-PCOM, since this is my first leadership role. From what I learn, I will apply it to my role as class rep and get insight into which areas need to be improved. I do not want to limit my possibilities as class representative but most importantly be there for my class and school as we work to become successful pharmacists.

Haiti Mission Trip

Ashley Douglass

Class of 2021



This past summer, I was presented with the opportunity to travel to Port-au-Prince Haiti for a one-week medical mission work with Caribbean Lifetime Mission. I could not resist the offer after learning about the conditions the country was in due to the horrible earthquake that took place ten years ago. I knew that going to Haiti would allow me to use the skills I’ve learned from my first year of Pharmacy school and help those in need. I accepted the offer, even with all the difficulties and adversities I knew I may face.

In preparation for our trip, the first thing we did was pack all the medical supplies. We had a large suitcase packed with all the supplies needed for each day. Most of the

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PCOM School of Pharmacy Annual Career Day



On October 23, 2018, PCOM School of Pharmacy hosted its annual career day. Pharmacy students from year 1 to year 4 were given an opportunity to learn about different opportunities in the field of pharmacy.

APhA—Get a Scoop



On October 24, 2018, students and faculty enjoyed ice cream while spreading awareness about pharmacist provider status hosted by the PCOM School of Pharmacy APhA –ASP Chapter.

DEA Drug Take Back Day



Led by APhA-ASP chapter, PCOM school of pharmacy students partnered with Snellville Police Department for the DEA Drug Take Back Day on October 27th. Together they successfully collected over 331 pounds of unwanted and expired prescription medications.

Annual Mercer AMCP Symposium



On November 9, 2018, PCOM school of Pharmacy AMCP members attended the 9th Annual Mercer AMCP Symposium. At the conference, members learned about managed care pharmacy and the diverse opportunities that are available. Present in the picture from left to right are Bethlehem Sheferaw, Diana Tran, and Kinjal Shah (Class of 2021).

GA-PCOM Food Drive



Partnering with GA-PCOM medical students, PCOM School of Pharmacy students collected food donations for South Georgia hurricane relief. Present in the picture from left to right are Dr. Michael Sampson (Associate Dean and Chief Academic Officer of PCOM South Georgia), Lilytte Tagala (Pharmacy, Class of 2021), Annie Phung (DO, Class of 2021), Diana Tran (Pharmacy, Class of 2021).

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supplies were donated by the organization that we were traveling with or were donated from students and churches. At this point, we didn't know exactly how many people we would be seeing, but we soon learned that there would be over seven hundred people. This made me a little nervous, because there were only two pharmacy students on the trip. I knew with faith and preparation everything would run smoothly.

Arriving in Haiti was like something out of a movie. Once we got off the plane, we were greeted by a band playing music, giving us a piece of their culture. This set the tone for every encounter we had with the great people of Haiti. Our first day was at a church, which also housed a school for the local children. When we pulled up there was 200 people, along with the children that attended the school, waiting for us. When we started seeing patients, one of the major medical complaints that we received from the women was vaginal infection. However, it turned out to be normal vaginal discharge, and this resulted in a loss in quantity of fluconazole. We learned from our mistakes on the first day and were better prepared for the week ahead of us.

The next day we traveled to a small village that didn't have running water and the nearest hospital was at least an hour away. The people were so excited and anxious to see us. The people that lived in the village were in pretty good health. Each day of the week we traveled to a different village to offer services. One day we saw some cases of scabies, which was a surprise to all of us. Unfortunately, we did not have the medication to treat the bug, but the organization leader was kind enough to drive back to the city to get the medication to meet the needs of the patients. The biggest concern we encountered was overall general hygiene. Towards the end of the week, we held informative sessions about hygiene before any of the patients were seen.

Over all, the experience was eye opening and humbling. I, as an American, am privileged and will continue to help those in need. I was honored to represent PCOM Georgia Campus in a positive light. I know I completed one of our biggest missions of service and it would have made our founders proud.

Class of 2022 White Coat Ceremony

Members of PCOM School of Pharmacy Class of 2022 received their white coat on October 19th at Infinite Energy Theater.



Congratulations Class of 2022!