

PharmDigest

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AACP Fall Institute



Doctors Caroline Champion, Shari Allen, Yun Bai, Vishaka Bhawe, and Samuel John represented PCOM at the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) Fall Institute in November 2017.

Giving Tuesday



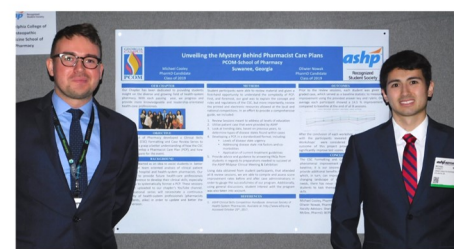
On November 28, 2017, three pharmacy organizations celebrated Giving Tuesday by collecting glucose tablets and monetary donations to raise funds for Endo Clinic at the Hall County Health Department. APhA-ASP, ASHP-SSHP and Kappa Psi Pharmaceutical Fraternity competed for the most donations. The winner was ASHP-SSHP.

Guide to Midyear

Andrew Shaefer

Class of 2019, P3 Class Representative

This past December I traveled to Orlando for the ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting which was an eye-opening experience. At first, the amount of information and activities was overwhelming, but I managed to settle in as the week progressed. I ended up learning a lot about the various career opportunities following graduation. I spoke with students from all over the country with different areas of interest at the poster presentations. I sat in on seminars providing the latest treatment information on multiple sclerosis, biologics, and many more. I am very glad that I made the trip this year and I will attend again and hopefully get some interviews. Over the summer, I was working at a hospital back home in Indiana and had a discussion with a fourth year student from Purdue University College of Pharmacy. We were talking about our career paths and the topic of Midyear came up. She explained her regret of not going during her third year. She felt very underprepared for the interview process and



Olivier Nowak and Michael Cooley (Class of 2019) presenting the ASHP-SSHP chapter poster

(Guide to Midyear continued on page 2)

Student Research



Irاندokht Khaki Najafabadi (Class of 2018) has been conducting research projects on the development of a system to deliver xanthohumol to adipose tissues, and evaluating the compatibility of norepinephrine bitartrate with antibiotics under Dr. Vicky Mody.

Holiday Luncheon



On December 1, 2017, students, faculty and staff members gathered around the atrium for a seasonal luncheon to show their holiday spirits with festive foods and clothing.
TOP: Dr. Edo-abasi McGee, Dr. Jay Lee, Dr. Hua Ling and Dr. Eric Wang
BOTTOM: James Hernandez, Ricky Ayoung-Chee and David Luong (Class of 2019)

(Guide to Midyear continued from page 1)

with making the most of her time with all the different activities. The conversation taught me two things: always take advantage of an opportunity to talk with an upperclassmen, and to go to Midyear as a third year student. I registered as early as possible because the registration rises at the end of October, then I filed my excused absence paperwork. Although winter trimester is one of the most difficult semesters, planning ahead will make the trip well worth the time. I headed down to



Andrew Shaefer, Oliver Nowak, and Bernadett Borona (Class of 2019) shoot aliens at Universal Studios Orlando

Orlando on Saturday, which was the unofficial start day of Midyear. That first morning of getting on the shuttle from the hotel and walking into the convention center to see tens of thousands of pharmacy related attendees made me admittedly apprehensive. This is my top reason for attending Midyear in your third year, because learning the lay of the land is pretty important and hard to grasp unless you have prior convention experience. At check in you are provided with a detailed schedule of events in a tote bag that is full of new medication pamphlets and advertisements from every imaginable Pharma company. There are endless opportunities at this event. You can attend educational sessions, network, and build relationships for future career development. I attended several student-centered activities. These events are included in registration. This year they had a student's night out at a GSHP reception for Georgia pharmacists and students and Universal Studios, a private party



Haeju An, Sasa Nguyen, Najra Maric, Hien Vo, Olivier Nowak, Laurice Mata, Bernadett Boronea, Jenny Chang, Andrew Shaeffer and Ernessa Samuel (Class of 2019)

(Guide to Midyear continued on page 3)

for ASHP Midyear attendees. I highly recommend attending next year, getting your classmates involved and taking advantage of this fun and unique opportunity.

Professor Q & A

Dr. Kimberly L. Barefield, PharmD, MHA
Associate Professor of the
Department of Pharmacy Practice

Q: When did you know you wanted to become a pharmacist?

A: *When I was younger, my father really wanted me to be a pharmacist because he as a barber and many of his friends were pharmacists. When I was an undergrad at the University of Kentucky, I worked in a pharmacy lab. After obtaining my Bachelor of Science in 1997, I attended the University of Kentucky College of Pharmacy. In 2004, I earned my BCPS (Board Certified Pharmacotherapy Specialist) from the Board of Pharmacy Specialties. I also obtained a Masters in Healthcare Administration (2010) from South University in Savannah, Georgia.*



Q: What makes you a great professor?

A: *I am a good listener and a very empathetic person. However, some people think that I am tough professor, but my best interest is to help students understand the material and be successful*

Q: What was your pharmacy career path?

A: *I was a PGY1 pharmacy residency at Richland Memorial Hospital in Columbia, South Carolina. Then, I was a clinical pharmacist at Doctor's Hospital in Augusta,*

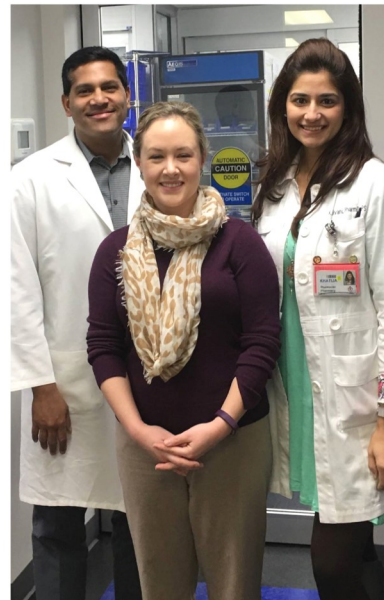
(Professor Q & A continued on page 4)

Health Career Academy Grant



The Division of Racial and Ethnic Equality of Aetna and Main Line Health teamed up together to select recipients for the 2017-2018 Health Career Academy Program Grant. The program allows students of GA-PCOM to visit Central Gwinnett High School and expose the high school students on health care careers. On December 18, 2017, Samantha Sabada, Obinna Ekechukwu, Danielle Land (Class of 2020) and Khadijah Jihad (DO, Class of 2020) were chosen as recipients.

Diabetes Spectrum Publication



In December 2017, a research project entitled *Evaluating the Implementation of the EndoTool Glycemic Control Software System* by PGY-1 Residency Program Director Samuel John, PharmD, BCPS and inaugural residents Kacie Waters, PharmD, BCPS and Khatija Jivani, PharmD, BCPS was recognized and published in the American Diabetes Association's Diabetes Spectrum.

Angel Tree



The programs of GA-PCOM collected toys to give to the community during the holiday season. This year's Angel Tree project was headed by SGA president Tyler Raeford (MS, Class of 2018) with help from the project's founder, Hershika Patel (Class of 2018).

Managed Care



On January 10, 2018, Class of 2017 graduate and former AMCP student chapter president Dr. Tenicia Talley, PharmD, MSCR spoke about her experiences as a pharmacist in managed care.

Walgreens Grant



Walgreens presented Dr. Michael Lee and the PCOM Office of Development with a contribution to PCOM pharmacy students in January 2018. Pictured are Dr. Michael Lee, Walgreens Area Healthcare Supervisor Young Chang, Kevin Barry, Necie Steward, and Alisa Tony.

(Professor Q & A continued from page 3)

Georgia and subsequently at Beaufort Memorial Hospital in Beaufort, South Carolina. I also served as a faculty for student societies and helped coordinate a PGY1-PGY2 Academic Administration and Pharmacy Practice residency program at South University.

Q: What sparked your interest in PCOM?

A: I took the wonderful opportunity in coming to GA-PCOM for many reasons. One, the campus is closer to home and I can spend more time with my husband. Two, I wanted to relocate of the hurricanes in Savannah. Three, I wanted to start a new chapter of my life with new experiences in a different location and environment.

Q: How have your experiences been at PCOM?

A: It has been extremely positive. All of the faculty and administrative have been very great and welcoming. For this, I am truly happy in becoming a part of the PCOM family.

Q: What would you like to accomplish at PCOM?

A: Academically, I would love to develop an elective course such as internal medicine or evidence-based medicine and try to develop a practice site. Professionally, I would like to get more involved with the pharmacy societies like ASHP (American Society of Health-System Pharmacists) and APhA (American Pharmacists Association).

Q: What do you do on your free time? And if you could travel to any place, where would it be?

A: I enjoy spending time with my husband, playing with my cat and dog, traveling, shopping and gardening. I would love to travel to Brazil and Fiji because of the beautiful beaches and they both seem like peaceful places.

Q: What advice would you give to students?

A: Use all your resources during your academic years and rotations to lay a foundation that will expand your experiences in your career.

Superlatives Season

Barbara Myers
Public Relations Manager

Faculty, staff and students at Georgia Campus – Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (GA-PCOM) were pleased to be recognized with accolades in February. The college was named one of Atlanta's 2018 "Top Workplaces" by the Atlanta Journal-Constitution (AJC) and a 2017 "Best of Gwinnett" winner in the higher education category by Gwinnett Magazine. For the "Top Workplaces" designation, 2,348 metro Atlanta companies were nominated or asked to participate in the awards program by the AJC and its partner, Energage, a workplace data solutions team.



The publication awarded GA-PCOM with a "Best of Gwinnett 2017" plaque on February 22, 2018.

Energage then surveyed 101,986 metro Atlanta employees and compiled the top 150 companies. GA-PCOM was one of 50 companies to be named a top company in the mid-size category. The "Best of Gwinnett" designation is a result of the magazine's

annual readers' poll where readers and editors weigh in on the best of everything in Gwinnett in more than 20 business and community sectors. The process starts with a nomination on the Best of Gwinnett website.



Red Cross Blood Drive



On January 19, 2018, ASHP-SSP hosted a blood drive on campus. Faculty and students of all programs donated to the Atlanta Red Cross. Pictured is Andrew Schaefer (Class of 2019).

Patient Counseling Competition



On January 16, 2018, APhA-ASP and their president Ricky Ayoung-Chee (Class of 2019; top-right) hosted their annual patient counseling competition. Jordan Kram (bottom row, second-left) won a trip to the Annual APhA-ASP meeting where she will be competing. Other participants include David Luong (Class of 2019), Kinjal Shah (Class of 2021), Najra Maric and Vanessa Ibeh-Kingsley (Class of 2019).

Happy Birthday, PCOM



Students and faculty gathered for cake and speeches to celebrate the founding of PCOM on January 23, 2018. Pictured are Ankita Patel, Shaina Patel, Brad Allgood, Radhika Bhakta, Amy Tuhlei, Charles Kuang (Class of 2020).

National Wear Red Day



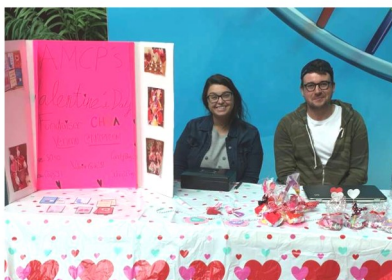
February 1, 2018 was National Wear Red Day in order to raise awareness for heart disease. The campaign was organized by APhA-ASP. Members and other fellow supporters wore red to recognize heart disease and had pins of a red dress to support The Heart Truth which is specifically for women with heart disease.

Day at the Dome



GPhA hosted the annual Day at the Dome for students from Georgia pharmacy schools PCOM, Mercer, South, and the University of Georgia on February 2, 2018. The Day at the Dome give pharmacy students an opportunity to become advocates towards pharmacy issues and public policies.

AMCP Fundraiser



The AMCP student chapter including president Bernadett Boronea and Vice-President Oliwier Nowak (Class of 2019) hosted their annual Valentine's Day fundraiser on February 14, 2018. Items sold were Valentine's Day cards, goodie bags and candies.

Meet Betty

Betelehem Sheferaw
Class of 2021, P1 Class Chair



First and foremost I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to the Pharmacy Class of 2021 for electing me as your class chair. This position is held for four years, so I am humbled to be selected by you all. My name is Betelehem Sheferaw, but many of you all know me as Betty. I was born in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia but moved to America at the age of five.

Coming to America was a monumental event in my life that has shaped me by teaching me determination and showing me that there is no limit to excellence. I have learned that I need to leave my comfort zone to discover what I am capable of accomplishing. After growing up in Georgia, I moved to Washington, D.C. to attend Howard University and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Biology. I then decided to move back to Georgia to further my education at PCOM School of Pharmacy to go after my dreams of becoming a pharmacist as well as a servant and humanitarian to my community. Each and every one of us come from a different background. Over these first two semesters, I have been able to grow closer to many of my classmates and hear their stories. I learned about different strengths and struggles which are foundations that will be utilized or strengthened in our career. As we embark on this journey until May of 2021, we might find ourselves overwhelmed and unmotivated. Rather than deter us from our goals, every trial and tribulation can transform into our desire to make circumstances better for ourselves and ultimately for our future patients. As author Jordan Belfort said "The ONLY thing standing between you and your goals is the story you keep telling yourself as to why you can't achieve it." Thank you for allowing me to be the voice for Class of 2021.

ISPOR Speaker



ISPOR hosted an informational meeting about health economics and outcomes research with the Senior Associate Director at Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals, Dr. Patricia Grossman (center) on February 15, 2018.

Pictured are Teena John, Oliwier Nowak (Class of 2019), Dr. Kumar Mukherjee, David Luong, Bernadett Boronea (Class of 2019), and Jonathan Park (Class of 2020).

Shiloh High School Opens Mock Pharmacy



On February 15, 2018, Darnae Parks, Shiloh Principal Dr. Danyel Dollard, Wellness Health and Education Director Dr. Krystal Tomlin, Interim Dean Michael Lee and Dr. Candis McGraw-Senat attended a ribbon-cutting at Shiloh High School for the grand opening of a mock pharmacy lab. The mock pharmacy was funded and supported by CVS to provide high school students with an opportunity to be certified pharmacy technicians.

Black History Month



During February, GA-PCOM celebrated Black History Month with students of all programs wearing dashikis and Black History Month sweatshirts to represent their culture.

Important Dates

APhA Annual Meeting & Exposition

March 16-19

Downtown Nashville, TN

AMCP Managed Care & Specialty Pharmacy Annual Meeting

April 23-26

Boston, MA

Class of 2018 Capstone

April 25 to May 3

PCOM

PCOM Graduate Dinner Dance

May 22 at 6 PM

Infinite Energy Center

PCOM School of Pharmacy Commencement

May 24 at 11 AM

Infinite Energy Center

Final Exam Week

May 28 to June 1

PCOM

GPhA Georgia Pharmacy Convention

June 21-24

Nashville, TN