



Long Island University's College of Pharmacy: Practice in Action

The last academic year, Doctor of Pharmacy students of the Arnold & Marie Schwartz College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences of Long Island University made a strong and positive impression as to what the profession of pharmacy may expect to see from the next generation. Here is a brief overview of some of the major pharmacy student events and activities that took place at the Brooklyn Campus last year and a look ahead at upcoming activities for this year.

During the second week of September each school year the College's Pharmacy Student Leadership Council (pharmacy's student government) hosts a Pharmacy Club Fair during which the professional and fraternal associations recruit members into their chapters. The week before the big day, club leaders visit classes to promote the benefits of their associations. Many of the major pharmacy chains attend and support the event and the luncheon for over 400 students. The American Pharmacists Association-Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP) takes the lion's share of the students as members, but other organizations work hard to increase their professional memberships as well. The American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP), the American Society of Consultant Pharmacy (ASCP), the Student National Pharmaceutical Association (SNPhA) and the National Community Pharmacists Association (NCPA) all have active chapters on campus, as well as a new student-initiated group known as PISA, for the Pharmaceutical Industry Student Association.

Throughout the semester, the College and the PSLC invite guest speakers to introduce students to a variety of pharmacy practice experiences and career opportunities. Last fall's events included College of Pharmacy alumni to talk about opportunities in the pharmaceutical industry from AstraZeneca, Eli Lilly, Pfizer, as well as a fellow from Novartis and Rutgers University's Pharmaceutical Fellowship Program. There were visits from the APhA national office and the executive director of the NYS Council to speak on the value of joining professional societies. Other guest speakers included Rite Aid's full-time immigration lawyer who spoke on the latest changes in federal law for international students, followed by individual Dean's Hour Programs with a consultant pharmacist, a nuclear pharmacist, an independent pharmacist and a pharmaceutical scientist and professor, each talking about their professional practice experiences.

In October, PSLC President Evangelia "Angie" Davanos '07 was the featured speaker for a Dean's Hour Program focusing on educating students on major changes in Medicare Part D in January. The previous summer, Angie had trained at the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services as part of her Pfizer-AMCP internship in Buffalo. The Dean's Hour was a chance to share what she had learned. Out of that meeting came the idea for the leadership challenge project for the College's chapter of Phi Lambda Sigma, the pharmacy leadership society. Angie and classmate Jim DeMicco arranged for students to be trained to assist seniors in better understanding their choices in Medicare Part D. Students went out into the community, made presentations at senior centers and also assisted pharmacists in the stores where they worked.

The Rho Chi Pharmacy Honor Society members were also active. At this College, Rho Chi students know membership is not just an honor they can justly claim recognizes their academic achievement, it also means they are expected to participate in the chapter's tutoring program, offered free to other pharmacy students, which they do throughout the school year

The fall semester also means preparing for the annual residency, fellowship and graduate programs showcase. PSLC and other club leaders all take part in making sure the day goes well. Over seventy residents, directors and coordinators attended the program from 18 programs from throughout the New York metropolitan area and from as far as Maryland (Johns Hopkins Hospital) and Connecticut (Yale-New Haven Hospital). Leading up to the event, a series of talks by clinical faculty and recent graduates doing residencies and fellowships precede the showcase, explaining why students should consider going on for post-graduate educational opportunities.

The College's chapter of the American Pharmacists Association-Academy of Student Pharmacists is the largest pharmacy association on campus with more than 600 members. Each October, the chapter celebrates American Pharmacists Month with a number of activities. For the last several years, for several days that month, students have gotten up before dawn, donned their white coats, hopped on the subway and converged on Midtown Manhattan where they have promoted the profession in front of millions of viewers on major network morning shows like ABC's "Good Morning America" and NBC's "The Today Show."

In November, APhA-ASP teamed up with the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) to successfully promote National Diabetes Month by holding educational sessions on how to properly use glucometers, by fundraising for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Fund, and conducting a medication "brown bag" counseling event as well as blood pressure screening at the Woodstock Senior Center located at Times Square, in Manhattan.

In December, dozens of students and faculty attended the ASHP Midyear Meeting in Las Vegas.

The warmer weather that finally brings the spring semester also means that day at 6 a.m. and board buses that snake through the city northward for the three hour trip to the state capitol. On March 28, 2006, four buses with over 200 students, faculty and administrators from the College set out to participate in Pharmacy Lobby Day 2006. In recognition for the best attendance of any New York State College of Pharmacy six years running, Dr. Henry Cohen and Dr. Robert DiGregorio were on hand to receive the "Superstar Awards" from PSSNY and the state society's executive director.

One of the most important bills on the agenda looked to support the passage of Collaborative Drug Therapy Management (CDTM) legislation. In preparation of the day, students made dozens of appointments with state legislators, collected letters of support from clinical

Calendar of Events

State Board Application Deadline: November 1, 2006

ASHP Midyear:
December 2-7, 2006. Anaheim, CA.

ASHP Match Program:
Sign up - Jan. 12, 2007
Submit rank order list - March 9, 2007

State Reception at ASHP
MCM: Anaheim Marriott, December 4, 2006, 5:30 - 7:30 PM.

NYSCHP Winter Program:
Killington, Vermont, January 4-7, 2007.

NYSCHP Leadership Meeting:
Albany, NY, January 29, 2007.

NYSCHP Annual Assembly
The Sagamore Resort
Bolton Landing, NY
May 4, 2007 - May 7, 2007

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faculty and physicians at preceptor sites, organized published data supporting CDTM from other states and made packets of information to give to each legislator. Students practiced their arguments and went over FAQ sheets and organized themselves into groups and team leaders for the program, offered free to other pharmacy students, which they do throughout the school year.

As the semester finished up, campus administrators took note of many of the many accomplishments of the pharmacy students. Out of the 84 LIU Brooklyn Campus students receiving recognition in Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities, 58 were from the College of Pharmacy.

The current school year is already well underway. The Club Fair had a record number of students in attendance. In late September 2006, several pharmacy student organizations participated in the annual MetroTech Health Fair held in busy Downtown Brooklyn. The fair promotes health education and awareness among the Brooklyn business community in MetroTech and is also open to the local community. This year, APhA-ASP and ASHP distributed information and answered questions about heartburn, immunization, AIDS/HIV, asthma, smoking cessation, and hypertension. On hand to supervise and help with counseling were faculty advisers from College of Pharmacy, Drs. Lorraine Cicero, John Lonie, and Joseph Nathan. Planning for this year's National Pharmacist Month began over the summer when the national APhA-ASP office contacted chapter president Daniel Zinkovsky '08 to help arrange an even larger media event than in the past. On October 5, 2006, more than 400 pharmacy students from pharmacy schools throughout Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Massachusetts and New York will meet

ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting

It's time to start thinking about the ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting (MCM) already, even though the meeting is December 3-7, 2006 and school has just started! It will take place in Anaheim – another good reason to start thinking MCM.

Student Pharmacist Programming

There is special programming for student pharmacists. A special "Student Schedule of MCM Activities" will be mailed to all ASHP student members in their October packet. The schedule will be posted on the ASHP website (www.ASHP.org) in late September.

Personnel Placement Service

The ASHP Personnel Placement Service (PPS) Registration and Services opens August 28, 2006 at www.pps.ashp.org. PPS brings you together with hundreds of available pharmacy positions, including residencies and fellowships, for face-to-face interviews during the MCM. Early registration is open until October 18. This is the place for everyone interested in residency (hospital and community) or fellowship positions.

PPS registrants use a special web service to post a resume, search listings, and conduct other job placement activities online before the meeting. The web site also provides important tools including interview tips, critical dates, and other useful references. At the Midyear, PPS registrants will be provided an exclusive area to participate in personal interviews. It is a very busy, hectic and sometimes confusing experience. Don't be daunted. It is well worth it.

To participate in PPS, you must also register for the Midyear. You can register for PPS before you register for the Midyear or do both at the same time (just as long as you are registered for the Midyear before you arrive at the meeting).

What are the Fees?

Advance registration for PPS by October 18 is \$50. Late price registration from October 19 – November 22 is \$95. Registering onsite is \$95 for students.

MCM registration fees for students are \$185 for an ASHP member and \$225 for a non-member. By joining ASHP before the MCM you pay \$40 less in registration fees, for a net savings of \$10, which you can use to join the NYSCHP. Student membership in NYSCHP is \$10 and for ASHP \$30.

See your New York State Council of Health-system Pharmacists (NYSCHP) faculty liaison or your ASHP faculty liaison for more details and membership applications. For ASHP, you can also join online at www.ashp.org/student. To join the NYSCHP online go to www.nyschp.org and click on [NYSCHP Store](#). Remember these are separate organizations.

Residency Showcase

New York City outside the television studios of ABC, CBS, and NBC to promote American Pharmacists Month. LIU's white-coated pharmacy students have already made arrangements that day to be interviewed for a segment on ABC's "Good Morning America."

Phi Lambda Sigma's leadership challenge this year will focus on promoting the passage of CDTM in Albany and will harness the resources of all the campus pharmacy professional associations. In addition, plans are being considered to have a legislative breakfast at the College for local legislators to showcase the professionalism of our students and the role of the clinical pharmacist and residents at neighboring Brooklyn Hospital.

Pharmacy students at the Arnold & Marie Schwartz College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences have learned that participating in professional activities can open up important opportunities for networking, professional growth and leadership experience. But it also has shown that they can help shape their profession and impact the overall health of their communities. They look forward to taking a more active role in the profession as they go on to complete their doctor of pharmacy degrees.

By Mei Chang '08, Daniel Zinkovsky '08 and Patrick J. Campbell, Director of Student & Professional Activities



The Residency Showcase at ASHP's Midyear Clinical Meeting offers an opportunity to gain insight into ASHP-accredited residency programs. This is separate from the Personnel Placement Service and is a forum to meet current residents and preceptors from programs in an informal session to gain information about their programs and institutions.

ASHP Clinical Skills Competition

Another aspect to the ASHP MCM is the National Clinical Skills Competition. Each Pharmacy School that participates receives a complementary registration to the MCM for their winning team. The two-day national competition takes place on Saturday, December 2nd and Sunday, December 3rd. Students who participate at their school's competition should be prepared to participate in the national competition. The top 10 finalists at the MCM will receive a \$100 ASHP gift certificate. The National winning team members each receive a \$500 prize. Additional details of the Clinical Skills Competition will be forthcoming from your ASHP Faculty Liaison.

For more information on the ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting or residencies go to the student section of the ASHP website (www.ASHP.org/student/index). A source of information on why you should complete a residency, how to choose a residency, other residency resources from APhA and ACCP (American College of Clinical Pharmacy), and where residencies are located can be found by clicking on "Residency Information" on the ASHP Student Page under Professional Development. This web page also directs you to information concerning the National Residency Matching program. Lodging and Food at the MCM. There are more hotels in Anaheim than are officially listed as convention hotels. Many of these hotels are more agreeable to a student's budget, especially if you have multiple people sharing the room. Try to stay near a "convention hotel". There are shuttle buses from these hotels to the Convention Center. The Convention Center is huge and you will be doing a lot of walking just in that facility.

One hint for students on a limited budget is your ability to get through a MCM without having to buy meals. There are breakfast and dinner symposiums sponsored by various pharmaceutical companies every day. You can probably also find something for lunch if you look hard enough.

As you can tell, there is a lot going on during a MCM. It is a place to learn, a place to develop or advance your career and a place to meet people. Your state organization, NYSCHP, and the Schools of Pharmacy will be sponsoring a reception during the midyear meeting in New Orleans. Be sure to attend on Monday December 8 from 5:30 – 7:30 PM in the Hilton Riverside Hotel.



Government Affairs and the New York State Council of Health System Pharmacists



Appreciation of how NYSCHP views its responsibility toward public policy and the affairs of government begins with its stated mission:

The mission of the New York State Council of Health-system Pharmacists is to represent its members and advance pharmacy as an essential component of health care.

The Council provides leadership and resources to promote quality pharmaceutical services directed at appropriate medication therapy and positive patient outcomes.

One means identified in support of the mission is to “**advocate progressive legislation and regulation that supports public health.**” That this stated goal of the Council speaks of the *public* health and not the *professional* health is likely a reflection of the nature of pharmacy practice in this unique time. It seems that the issues that are of great importance to the profession are also critically important interests of the public. How many organizations can say that? As a result, NYSCHP commits a great deal of time and resources to advocating for rational public policy in the regulation of pharmacy practice and medication use.

Primary responsibility for public policy is invested in the Vice President for Government Affairs. This voluntary post is responsible for monitoring proposed changes (laws and regulations), acting as liaison to agencies that regulate practice (Board of Pharmacy, Department of Health, DEA, FDA, etc.) and other stakeholders (other professional associations), acting as advocate with decision makers and initiating discussion within the organization. Some examples follow.

In recent years the Council has taken a leadership role in advocating for legislation designed to maximize the safety of medication use through application of the principles of pharmaceutical care. An Termed Collaborative Drug Therapy Management (CDTM), the proposal would amend the definition of pharmacy practice (NYS Education Law §6801) to allow pharmacists, under a protocol with a physician, to make limited modifications to drug therapy based on objective criteria. Now permitted in 43 states, CDTM is a well established tool for improving care in many complex disease states including diabetes,

hypertension, chronic pain and more. The Council will continue to advocate the change to the pharmacy practice law necessary to add this important patient care tool. Other current example involves the “dual status” designation, prescription-requiring and OTC (with restrictions), recently assigned to the emergency contraceptive, “Plan B”. After the second rejection by the FDA in late August 2005, the agency called for public comment on how to satisfy its safety concerns. NYSCHP submitted a comment letter suggesting that the agency make the drug available only through a pharmacist. This was ultimately adopted in part; women aged 18 years and older have OTC access on request when there is a pharmacist on duty (the prescription requirement is retained for younger patients).

Also, in the interest of improving professional life, Government Affairs has recently undertaken a review of how the state responds to substance abuse in the profession. New York State has a professional assistance program that would help individuals suffering from addictive disease into recovery. The question is: how can this process be improved? NYSCHP is reviewing how other professions and other states encourage professionals into recovery. This involves review of laws, regulations and discussion with responsible parties to determine and provide the best practice for our pharmacists.

Generally, one of the most important things the Council can do is to keep its members well informed at a functional level. Members ought to have enough information about important professional and medication use issues to feel confident discussing with the individuals making the decisions: legislators and regulators in government agencies. This is where policy is made and where any given decision can only be improved by the informed input of medication therapy experts. Our advocacy is well-received, supports sound policy decisions and, ultimately, better patient care.

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ASHP 2005 Clinical Skills Competition Results



St. John's University

Sara Myones and Danielle Ferrari, 6th year Doctor of Pharmacy students at St. John's University College of Pharmacy and Allied Health Professions, placed among the top ten teams at the 10th Annual Clinical Skills Competition at the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists' (ASHP's) 40th Midyear Clinical Meeting, December 4-8, 2005 in Las Vegas, Nevada.

During the competition, students analyze patient cases, demonstrate their skills in assessing a patient's medical history, and identify drug therapy problems and treatment goals. The participants then recommend a pharmacist's care plan that includes monitoring variables and desired outcomes.

Upon winning the local competition at St. John's, Sara and Danielle were funded by the University to participate in the national competition with 82 teams from other pharmacy schools across the country. St. John's congratulates Sara and Danielle on their exceptional achievement!

University at Buffalo School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Services

Crystal Francoforte and Karen Kuczmarski, P4 students of the SUNY at Buffalo School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences were one of ten out of 82 two-person teams to reach the finals of the 10th annual ASHP Clinical Skills Competition held at this year's ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Each year, hundreds of pharmacy students from across the country compete in this competition, where they are evaluated on their ability to critically analyze a complex clinical case and develop a pharmacist's care plan. Crystal and Karen, who were funded by UB and the Western New York Society of Health Systems Pharmacists to represent the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, were the second duo in as many years to achieve a top 10 finish in this competition! Please join WNYSHP and UB in congratulating two of our most exceptional students on their wonderful accomplishment!!!



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