



WORLD HEALTH STUDENT ORGANIZATION (WHSO)

The World Health Student Organization (WHSO) collaborates with the medical school with the mission of providing care to local and international communities while gaining professional and cultural experiences. WHSO provides its members with many ways to serve populations in the Detroit area and organizes trips to Ecuador, Haiti, and Nicaragua throughout the year.

One of WHSO's featured events in 2016 has been the Mission of Mercy (MOM) free dental clinic that took place June 10th-11th at Macomb Community College. There, pharmacy students had the chance to take vital signs, record patient histories, obtain prescriptions, dispense medications, and provide counseling to almost 1,000 patients that received nearly \$1 million in care.

The organization continues to provide a multitude of options for students to get involved. One event is for Freedom House, which is a home for refugees located in Detroit. In the past, students volunteered to visit the house to present on topics such as "Cold and Flu" and "High Blood Pressure."

WHSO has a major presence internationally. Volunteering students and licensed healthcare providers from the pharmacy and medical school are sent to Haiti, Nicaragua, and Ecuador several times throughout the year. The upcoming spring/summer trips for 2017 are to Haiti and Ecuador. At these locations, clinics are created for underserved communities to be able to receive a high standard of medical care at no cost. Being able to visit these countries every year gives WHSO the opportunity to provide consistent care to the communities while developing and maintaining relationships with the patients.

By providing students with a chance to work with underserved populations locally and overseas, WHSO allows its members to develop personal and professional skills to prepare them for their future career in healthcare.



WHSO volunteers with members of the community served in Ecuador during the 2015 summer trip



Students and faculty volunteering at Mission of Mercy Dental Clinic in June 2016.

Top: Amir Ghara, Amir Pasovic

Bottom: Jamie George, Maknuna Ferdous, Stephanie Fern, Dr. Helen Berlie, Tahnia Alauddin, Alex Muma, Kevin Marck Intig, Nicole Elkhoury

SNPhA

STUDENT NATIONAL PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION



SNPhA WSU and SNPhA UofM at COTS Health Fair

Student National Pharmaceutical Association (SNPhA) is an educational service association of pharmacy students who are concerned about pharmacy and healthcare related issues, and the poor minority representation in pharmacy and other health-related professions. SNPhA offers members the opportunity to develop leadership (8 different positions available) and professional skills. SNPhA's missions are to educate communities on better health practices and more importantly, to develop within communities a positive image of pharmacists.

During the past academic year, SNPhA hosted several health fairs and events geared toward the improvement of the health, educational, and social environment of the community such as COTS Homeless Shelter Health Fair, Sam Clubs Diabetes Awareness Fair, AIDS Walk, Kidney Walk, etc. During winter 2017, SNPhA will be hosting another health fair at HUDA Clinic and Sam Clubs Diabetes Awareness Fair. SNPhA provides education about medication management, healthy lifestyle, stroke awareness, diabetes, smoking cessation, mental health, etc. at health fairs. All of the health fairs are collaborated between SNPhA WSU chapter and UofM Chapter. This is a great opportunity for members to expand networks and knowledge. SNPhA's e-board and members will attend and present by-laws resolution at the regional conference in Sacramento, California in March. Every year, SNPhA also hosts the Parkers House of Pancakes (PHOP) which is the most electrifying fundraising event at the college.

The key objective of the student chapter of Fighting Aids With Nutrition (FAWN) is to raise funds in order to provide liquid nutrition to people living with HIV/AIDS in Sub-Saharan Africa and to people who experience catastrophic illnesses around the world. Additionally, our organization has been strongly involved within the community to promote healthy lifestyles through nutrition education. This year, we started a partnership with Vista Maria, an agency that provides hope and support to vulnerable youth, in which we have and will continue to be educating young women on various topics including proper nutrition and the importance of various vitamins and minerals.

We have been very busy this past year –organizing multiple fundraisers both within the school and in the neighboring community, participating in community health fairs including the St. John's Armenian Health Fair, taking part in volunteer initiatives at World Medical Relief, and organizing multiple professional seminars. One such seminar was entitled "The Value and Need for Nutrition When Fighting HIV/AIDS," presented by Dr. Frankie Julian and his father, the founder of FAWN, Pastor Frank Julian. This presentation highlighted the equal importance of pharmacological therapy and nutrition for people living with HIV/AIDS, which helped to enforce the mission of our organization.

Through the hard work of the 2015-2016 FAWN student chapter, 300 cans of Ensure liquid nutrition was shipped out to Sub-Saharan Africa to help those in need. The goal of the 2016-2017 FAWN student chapter is to at least double this number. We have had multiple fundraisers, ranging from bake sales, to candy gram sales, to FAWN T-shirt sales, which have been a great success thanks to the support of the EACPHS family. One of the big fundraisers organized by the FAWN parent chapter is their annual Tigers game fundraiser every June –which is an all-around fun day in support of a great cause! Tickets can be purchased from members of the FAWN eboard at EACPHS.

FIGHTING AIDS WITH NUTRITION (FAWN)



**FAWN student chapter donating
Ensure Liquid Nutrition at the World
Medical Relief Center, May 2016**

STUDENT SOCIETY OF HEALTH-SYSTEM PHARMACISTS

WSU-SSHP is a professional pharmacy organization whose mission is to enhance the understanding of pharmacy practice in health-systems and provide networking opportunities for students to learn about the career directions in health-system pharmacy.

WSU-SSHP kicked-off the school year with Discovering the DMC at Detroit Receiving Hospital-Detroit Medical Center. During this event, student pharmacists met with the hospital's pharmacy residency director, specialists, and residents. The program commenced with pharmacists presenting about the training they received and their specific role as a health-system pharmacist. The day continued with the pharmacy staff taking our students on a tour of the hospital's inpatient and outpatient pharmacies. During the tour, students had the opportunity to ask questions and become familiar with the health-system's pharmacy services.

WSU-SSHP also promotes student pharmacist interactions with patients in the community, thus promoting the value of health-system pharmacy through direct care. Student members educated the public about proper management of asthma and smoking cessation at the St. John Armenian Health Fair. This provided student pharmacists the opportunity to enhance their personal and professional development.

In January of 2017, WSU-SSHP launched the Pharmacist Shadowing Program. This initiative aims to provide the exposure of health-system pharmacy to interested members. As students schedule a visit with participating pharmacists, they will understand the knowledge and skills needed to practice in a health-system environment and learn about the various positions available for pharmacists practicing in health-systems. Most importantly, the program serves as an opportunity to network with clinical pharmacists and specialists in areas of interest.

WSU-SSHP is determined to expose student pharmacists to the varied aspects of health-system pharmacy early in their career, through the positive impact of networking and mentorship, in efforts to prepare them for their future as clinical pharmacists!



Discovering the DMC at DRH-DMC

On farthest left is Dr. Whitney Gibson and Dr. Taylor Franckowiak



St. John Armenian Health Fair

From left to right: Francesca Bignasci, Jamie George, and Souheila Hachem

AMERICAN PHARMACISTS ASSOCIATION-ACADEMY OF STUDENT PHARMACISTS

It has been a tremendously successful year, thus far, for the APhA-ASP Wayne State chapter. The year began with our annual flu clinics that occur throughout main campus. Our pharmacy students had the opportunity to immunize 876 faculty members at the flu clinics. APhAASP has also welcomed two new committees to the chapter, OTC Medication Safety and Operation MTM. Committee chair, Mona Mawari, of the OTC Medication Safety committee has been proactive in coming up with new and exciting ways to educate the public about the use of OTC products. "Pharmacy Night" was an event held by OTC Medicine Safety and Generation Rx at Woodworth Middle School in an effort to educate students and their parents about both prescription and nonprescription safety. Our student chapter was also very involved in American Pharmacists Month during October. Our rock and wall painting around campus was featured on the APhA-ASP Facebook page. At our mid-year regional meeting, Andrew Stone was recognized by our chapter for his hard work while taking on the role of policy vice-president.

Our most anticipated event that we are all looking forward to is attending the APhA annual meeting and exposition in San Francisco, CA, from March 24-27. APhA2017 is an opportunity to increase professional development, expand our network with peers from all around the country, and shape the future of the profession. One of the many benefits from attending APhA2017 is the presentations held by nationally recognized experts covering topics ranging from leadership and pharmacy management to patient safety and medication errors. Attending a meeting like this, at least once, is vital in developing our student and professional career.



Andrew Stone receiving member recognition award at the annual Midyear Regional Meeting in Cincinnati, Ohio.



Members painting the rock on main campus for American Pharmacists Month.

Left to right: Lorraine Tarpley, Monica Murariu, Kat Vi Choung, Riam Yacoub, Chandni Patel, Andrew Stone

LAMBDA KAPPA SIGMA (LKS)

Lambda Kappa Sigma started a new community outreach program and partnership with the local Vista Maria program. Vista Maria's goal is to provide healing and hope to women and children who have suffered from trauma, abuse, and neglect. Our program is designed to educate the women of Vista Maria on their health, prescription medications, and potential counseling opportunities.

At the 2016 National Lambda Kappa Sigma convention, our chapter received 1st Place in the Core Values Poster Competition for all of our hard work and dedication to Vista Maria. Along with that award we also received 1st Runner-Up Collegiate Chapter of the Year. Our chapter excelled in our outreach programs, fundraising opportunities for our national philanthropy, our academics within our chapter and improved our relations with other collegiate chapters.

We encourage our members to take part in academic achievements. This year, we had 11 members present research at the Eugene Applebaum 13th Annual Research Forum. Also, we continue to develop a strong organization that is driven by women in pharmacy and promote a strong leadership within the pharmacy community.



2016 Lambda Kappa Sigma National Convention

Left to right: Bethany Hill, Amy Morin, Bre Johnson, Pilar Mackey, Debbie Bourquin

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT: CHRISTINE RABINAK, PHD

Q: CAN YOU PLEASE EXPLAIN THE RESEARCH YOU ARE CURRENTLY CONDUCTING?

A: I am currently involved in many different projects. My primary focus is on trauma and psychological effects of trauma manifested mostly as post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). We want to look at it from two aspects. The first: why does one person recover when one does not? We want to see if there are biomarkers or something in the genetics that facilitate why two people who have similar experiences recover differently. We evaluate this using brain imaging and function MRI while a patient is completing emotional tasks. Our second aspect is if someone has PTSD, how do we treat that? We want to look at pharmacologic and behavioral aspects to treatment to see how we can best help these patients recover. We know that exposure-based therapy has some demonstrated effectiveness, but it is incomplete. We are looking for ways to improve existing treatments.



We are most interested in the cannabinoid system because it contains the highest number of brain receptors. We know that many PTSD patients attempt to self-medicate with marijuana, but there is not enough research currently to understand the chronic effects on marijuana treatments. What we do know is that patients have increased suicidal thoughts upon stopping and altered distribution of those receptors. We are hoping to find something different to target this system pharmacologically.

One example that we are looking at is using a low dose of Dronabinol or other THC-analog prior to exposure therapy to see if this helps PTSD patients respond to the therapy. It has been shown in animal studies that this low dose helped reduce the fear upon re-exposure later to the same stimulus. We are looking to see how this works in humans and if this could be a possible treatment modality.

Q: WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS FOR THE GRANT YOU WERE GIVEN? WHY ARE YOU EXCITED ABOUT THE GRANT?

A: Our plan is to focus on trauma in kids and our local Detroit community. With kids, we know that threatening experiences impact their neural development. Many of the adults that are experiencing PTSD now had some of their most traumatic and life-altering experiences as children. For example, we want to look at some of the long-term consequences of surviving cancer. We have found that children who experience cancer come out with extremely advanced coping skills. We want to figure out how these were developed and how we can manipulate that to help patients who need those coping skills for their current situation. We want to look at the whole family including the caregivers and siblings to see how they develop their coping skills too. While we are not able to pinpoint the genetic variability this way, we can see how their brains function differently when presented with similar stimuli.

In addition, Detroit providers and officials state that there is a deficit of resources to help these patients dealing with PTSD. These patients often also abuse drugs and alcohol and may also be homeless. Detroit providers focus on the substance abuse and homelessness, but not the underlying cause. We want to help these patients with their underlying PTSD and help with the substance abuse and homelessness. One of the benefits for these patients that our research offers is the opportunities for free therapy sessions. Even if they choose to remove themselves from the research, they still get the free therapy sessions to help with their PTSD. We are hoping to use our research to give back to our community.