



June 2023

# THE STUDENT PHARMACIST



## WHAT'S NEW?

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# Lambda Kappa Sigma (LKS)

Omicron Chapter made the most of 2022, since six of our members traveled to Indianapolis last July for the first in-person LKS convention since 2019. We made many memories with collegiate and alumni members from across the nation. Our chapter had the honor of taking home a handful of awards: Collegiate Chapter of the Year, Gold Level Chapter of the Year, Top Leadership Team, and Top Service Event. Our faculty advisor, Dr. O'Connell, was also awarded the Vanguard Leadership Award. It was great to be recognized for the hard work our chapter has done!

What made the year even more fantastic was having the opportunity to initiate fourteen new members last November into our chapter. The P1 and P2 students that decided to join our fraternity truly represent our core values of sisterhood, leadership, service, scholarship, and integrity. We welcomed them into our chapter with our annual initiation celebration.

LKS works to deliver a variety of presentations to our local philanthropy, Vista Maria. This year, our sisters presented on women's health and provided the women of Vista Maria with a variety of personal care products donated by OCPA. We also

participated in DEA Drug Take Back Day with APhA-ASP's Operation Substance Use Disorders, where some of our members assisted in providing proper medication disposal education to the community.

We continue to strengthen our sisterhood bonds by meeting up throughout the semester to have some fun and destress from school. Our annual picnic at Dr. O'Connell's house, Halloween cookie decorating, and our "Secret Lamb" gift exchange are some of the ways we continue to encourage sisterhood within our chapter! LKS is excited to take on the next academic year together and continue to build these lifelong relationships within our chapter, striving for even more success in the upcoming year!

**-Morgan Mrowca (P3), LKS President**



LKS Convention: Omicron chapter at the LKS Annual Awards Banquet  
(Pictured from left: Andria Zuhlke, Dr. Mary Beth O'Connell, Kelly Kepley, Paige Hanke, Jewel Konja, Michelle Dierker, Dr. Sara Brown, and Morgan Mrowca)



**Andria Zuhlke, P3**  
**LKS Sisterhood Chair**

## **Why did you choose to be a part of LKS?**

I joined LKS to be able to meet more of my classmates. Since my class started online, I was looking for opportunities to get to know everyone.

## **What has been your favorite activity/event held by LKS?**

My favorite activity/event held by LKS has been our annual initiation celebration. Each year we treat our new members to a dinner. We all get to dress up, mingle, take pictures, and eat delicious food.

## **What are your plans after you graduate?**

I am still not sure of my plans after graduation. I will either begin practicing in community or apply to residency.

## **What makes someone a good fit for LKS?**

Anyone who is looking to make friends, network, and uplift women in the field of pharmacy would be a perfect fit for LKS.

## **What other organizations, if any, are you a member of?**

I am also a part of APhA-ASP as co-chair of the OTC and Med Safety committee.

# Rho Chi

The year of 2022 marked the 69th anniversary of our Rho Chi Alpha Chi Chapter at Wayne State. In addition to continuing traditions, our chapter is working to create new opportunities to develop intellectual leaders, recognize intellectual achievement, and advance pharmacy and student success.

In April 2022, we were able to recognize and welcome fifteen students into our Alpha Chi Chapter. During the 2022-2023 academic year, we continued to advance student success by expanding on past tutoring traditions to include P2 tutoring. Our chapter has also preserved our P1/P3 Mentoring Program in which P1 students are matched to P3 students to foster a mentor-mentee relationship. The P1/P3 mentoring program gives P1s the opportunity to have a mentor to guide them with their transitions to pharmacy school and provides them with pharmacy experiences through shadowing of P3 APPE rotations.

Our Alpha Chi Chapter continued to advance student success at our college of pharmacy by preparing P3 students for their APPE interviews. Thanks to our committed pharmacy practice department, our chapter was able to facilitate mock interviews to allow our P3 students to get valuable interview feedback from our pharmacy professors.

Our Alpha Chi Chapter is continuing to recognize and develop intellectual leaders and advance pharmacy and student success and we are seeking new ways to make a larger impact on these missions.

**-Mary Marogi (P3), Rho Chi President**



2022-2023 Rho Chi E-Board (from left to right): Chantel El-Sayah, Lauren Lim, Mary Marogi, Caroline Simko, Morgan Mrowca



2022-2023 Rho Chi initiate members (left to right, top to bottom): John Purdie, Samer Abuhlaweh, Klejdi Sejдини, Raneem Sannah, Sameera Javed, Chantel El-Sayah, Lauren Lim, Mariam Aidibi, Linda Kobeissi, Caroline Simko, Morgan Mrowca, Leena Ahsan, Linh Pham, Mary Marogi, Josephine Cipriano

**Lauren Lim, P3**

*Rho Chi Treasurer*

## Why did you choose to be a part of Rho Chi?

A unique aspect of Rho Chi is that you initially get invited to join the organization based off your academic success from your first 2 years.

The invitation to join was a great honor knowing that I would be surrounded with other bright students from my class!

## Describe your favorite memory of pharmacy school so far.

The P2 class bonding event at the Cider Mill! Our P1 year was completely online, and this was our first in-person class bonding. It was a fun experience being able to de-stress and bond with my classmates in a non-school environment.

## What are your plans after you graduate?

I plan to complete a PGY1 residency to further expand and sharpen my personal and professional skills. After, my goal is to pursue a career in clinical pharmacy in a hospital setting with potential interests in specializing in the future.

## What makes a student a good fit for Rho Chi?

Besides the academic requirement, being a team player will make you a great fit for this organization. I think of Rho Chi as a community for bright minds to collaborate and support each other through pharmacy school.



Managed care pharmacy is a professional pharmacy practice area focused on leading the way to assist patients in attaining the medications they require at an affordable cost. The practice of managed care pharmacy applies clinical and scientific evidence to support the appropriate use of medications to enhance patient and population health outcomes while optimizing the use of limited resources.

AMCP is the professional association leading the way to help patients get the medications they need at a cost they can afford. Its diverse membership of pharmacists, physicians, nurses, and professionals in life sciences and biopharmaceutical companies leverage their specialized expertise in clinical evidence and economics to optimize medication benefit design and population health management and help patients access cost-effective and safe medications and other drug therapies.

"I joined AMCP to learn more about Managed Care and what it offers with regards to long-term pharmacy career," said AMCP President Jackie Fleury. "Our AMCP seminars have been a great way for our chapter members to gain an immersive experience in the skills necessary for effective formulary review and management as well as other facets of managed care pharmacy."

"Managed care pharmacy is figuring out the most efficient way to properly care for patients, controlling costs while ensuring patient safety," says WSU AMCP alumnus advisor, Dr. Fadi Manuel. "The increasing costs of health care are not sustainable, especially given recent economic trends. Through managed care pharmacy, pharmacists play a vital role in managing health outcomes and cost while enjoying diverse responsibilities in the health care system. When I first entered pharmacy school, I wasn't familiar with managed care pharmacy. However, through AMCP I learned how this career path can benefit so many people. When working within a health plan, the work that you do can impact thousands, if not millions of lives. This is what I want to do; make the biggest impact I can and help improve the quality

of health care for as many patients as I can."

During his time studying at WSU, Dr. Manuel was instrumental in growing the local AMCP chapter and advocating for managed care to be included in the pharmacy school curriculum. Last fall marked the first offering of a managed care elective course coordinated by Dr. Insaf Mohammad. "The new managed care elective covers topics such as prescription drug benefit, formulary management, specialty pharmacy, drug use evaluation, outcomes research and pharmacoeconomics," added Manuel, who serves as a guest lecturer for the course. "This elective will highlight the key roles that pharmacists can play in managed care pharmacy. There are a variety of opportunities in this field of pharmacy practice and I'm excited that students can now learn about managed care at Wayne State."

**-Joseph Paul Javier (P2), AMCP Chairman/Past President**



**A:** 2022 AMCP National Convention in Chicago **B:** Macy Shupp (left) and Elizabeth Lemanske (right) at the AMCP PharmPhest tablet



# Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy



**Johnie Bailey, P2**  
AMCP President-Elect

## What networking connections have you made through AMCP?

Through AMCP, I have met the president of AMCP Midwest, Troy Koch, and many industry leaders that focus on medication optimization to members that have started their own businesses. I find having made the types of connections that I have encountered an asset for current and future career choices.

## What are your plans after you graduate?

Upon graduation, I plan to pursue opportunities of doing a post-graduate residency program in managed care with an emphasis on research opportunities.

## Describe your favorite memory of pharmacy school so far.

My favorite memory of pharmacy school has been meeting students from many different facets of life, that are educating themselves to become the very best practitioners in pharmacy and providing competent care throughout the profession. The connections that I have made are lifelong resources to navigating the practice of pharmacy.

# American Pharmacists Association - Academy of Student Pharmacists



The American Pharmacists Association – Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP) chapter at Wayne State University is a model organization for student pharmacists to find their ‘why’ in pharmacy. APhA-ASP provides a multitude of opportunities for patient care involvement, pharmacy practice reform, leadership development, and professional growth – all factors that are fundamental to pharmacy advancement.

Comprised of a team of co-advisors, an executive board, eleven committees, and over 130 student pharmacist members, our organization continues to grow and have a profound impact on the community. Some of our most successful events include blood pressure screenings at the Detroit RiverWalk, Pharmacy Day at the Capitol, DEA Drug Takeback Day and conferences hosted by the APhA

national chapter such as the APhA Annual Meeting and Midyear Regional Meeting.

As our organization continues to grow, so do our ideas. This year, we are working on innovative plans to expand our organization, encourage student involvement, and foster a supportive professional community for our student pharmacists at the Eugene Applebaum College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences.

**-Shannon Habba (P2), APhA-ASP President**



**A:** Substance Use Disorders Chair, Macy Shupp, volunteering at DEA Drug Takeback Day **B:** OTC Medicine Safety Chair, Lauren Lim, participating in the campus health flu clinic **C:** Fall 2022 General Meeting

## Carolina Orzol, P3

*APhA Vice President of Professional Affairs*



### **Describe your favorite memory of pharmacy school so far.**

My favorite memory of pharmacy school so far has been practicing at my community pharmacy rotation. I was able to apply my counseling skills and provide education to patients based on knowledge I have gained from class. I also learned a great deal about the pharmacist's responsibilities at this site.

### **What kind of networking connections have you made through APhA?**

Through APhA-ASP I was able to connect with my classmates as well as students from other graduating classes. I have also been able to network with several pharmacists across hospitals in southeastern Michigan.

### **Why did you choose to be a part of APhA-ASP?**

I chose to be a part of APhA-ASP because it is the largest student organization at our school and therefore offers many great opportunities. APhA-ASP offers a variety of leadership positions for students to get involved in many different aspects such as being a committee chair or directly being an eboard member.

# Kappa Psi

The past year has been a noteworthy year for Wayne State's Mu Omicron Pi chapter of Kappa Psi Pharmaceutical Fraternity. After winning the prestigious Best Professional Program Award from the Professional Fraternity Association, beating out all other professional fraternities across the United States, WSU Kappa Psi was recently honored locally by the Wayne County Pharmacists Association (WCPA).

In 2022, WCPA bestowed the Gordon Goyette Jr. Humanitarian Award for the chapter's continued philanthropic efforts serving our community while advancing the profession of pharmacy including work at World Medical Relief, Inc., promoting childhood literacy with Reach Out and Read, and educating the community about the economic impact of COVID-19 with Up to Us. This marks the first time an entire organization was granted this award.

Mu Omicron Pi also honored its members for their outstanding achievements and contributions to the fraternity and the profession of pharmacy. Brothers Noah Trotter and Joseph Paul Javier were awarded the Kappa Psi Asklepios Key. This esteemed Kappa Psi distinction recognizes brothers of the highest character, work ethic, philanthropic work, and excellence in scholarship.

Wayne State's Kappa Psi chapter was also honored at the fraternity's 60th Grand Council Convention held last summer in Phoenix, Arizona. The event included nearly 500 brothers and guests from across the U.S., Canada and the Bahamas. In addition to conducting the business of the fraternity, Wayne State's Mu Omicron Pi chapter was awarded the new Kappa Psi Chapter Leadership Award, which honors hard work and initiative.

"To be presented with this award is an honor for our Past President Noah Trotter and our entire chapter,



*Kappa Psi brothers (from left to right): Obioma Opara, Ronith Murali, Noah Trotter, Johnnie Bailey, Jad Kawas, Brian Gliberman, Evan Johnson, Graham Selegean, Daniyal Nasir, Justin Zimmerman, Lucas Crum, Jacob Dudash, Zachary Grossklaus, John Purdie, and Joseph Paul Javier*

and we as an organization will strive to keep working together as a unit to maintain our status," said current Chapter President Evan Johnson, who traveled to Phoenix with brother Daniyal Nasir. "Being able to attend a convention was an honor and provided us an opportunity to witness our fraternity's involvement on a national level. We were able to meet and network with brothers from across the country and in a wide variety of fields within pharmacy. Knowing that Kappa Psi will always support us in our journey through pharmacy is a wonderful feeling."

Kappa Psi Pharmaceutical Fraternity is the oldest and largest pharmacy fraternity with a mission to develop leaders with a passion for service to their community while creating lifelong professional connections.

**-Joseph Paul Javier (P2), Kappa Psi Corresponding Secretary, Professional Development Chair**



**Evan Johnson, P3**  
*Kappa Psi President*

**What is your current leadership role in Kappa Psi? Describe your favorite part about your role.**

I am the current president of Kappa Psi Pharmaceutical Fraternity. My favorite part about the role is that I can be involved throughout every brother's role within the fraternity. You can work alongside members to achieve the goals set because as president, one of your biggest responsibilities is to ensure members are growing and maturing so that they can do that for future brothers. Being able to see the growth and development of the P1/P2's to be able to take on leadership positions is my personal favorite part about being the president.

**Describe your favorite memory of pharmacy school so far.**

My favorite memory of pharmacy school so far was when I moved into the fraternity home and was able to live with other brothers of Kappa Psi. Moving into the fraternity home helped me to focus on school because everyone that I lived with was also in some point of their pharmacy school career.

**What kind of networking/connections have you made through this organization?**

Networking opportunities provided through the fraternity are endless. Kappa Psi doesn't just exist at Wayne State University, there are chapters nationwide. From graduate members who have pursued the industry route with fellowships, pharmacists who have pursued PGY1/PGY2 residencies, community pharmacists, all the way to pharmacists who own their own pharmacies. The fraternity places such high emphasis on the importance of networking and being able to market yourself. This was one of the main reasons Kappa Psi interested me as an incoming P1.

# Industry Pharmacists Organization (IPhO)

The Industry Pharmacists Organization (IPhO) is the organization whose pharmacist members are universally recognized within the pharmaceutical industry as being the most professionally equipped to contribute to the development, commercialization, promotion and optimal use of medicines.

Two years ago, the local chapter of the Industry Pharmacists Organization (IPhO) was established at Wayne State University's Eugene Applebaum College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. Since its inception, IPhO has been busy growing its roster of WSU student pharmacists, preparing them with a working knowledge of industry pharmacist roles and key pharmaceutical industry driving forces, as well as understanding the skills and experiences necessary to become successful industry pharmacists.

"Upon entering WSU Applebaum's PharmD program, I wanted to know how pharmacists could

leverage their academic and experiential training in the pharmaceutical industry," said Bhargav Kovuru, who founded the WSU chapter of IPhO with current president, Joseph Paul Javier. "I came across IPhO and took the initiative to bring a chapter to our campus to guide like-minded student pharmacists and provide us with the necessary resources and professional networks to excel in our future careers. IPhO offers students a chance to explore pharmaceutical industry-focused career opportunities. It's an organization that can act as a gateway to a whole new field of pharmacy that students aren't exposed to in their curriculum."

Last year, WSU IPhO competed against 65 teams representing pharmacy schools from across the United States in the prestigious Value of Industry Pharmacists (VIP) Case Competition and placed 8<sup>th</sup> in the nation. Teams were given the hypothetical case scenario of a recently discovered biologic entity that showed promise as a treatment for Alzheimer's disease. The novel drug was a monoclonal antibody directed against tau proteins. As research suggests that Alzheimer's-related brain changes may result from a complex interplay among abnormal tau and beta-amyloid proteins, VIP Case Competition teams were tasked with planning the steps of bringing their new biological entity to market, making sure to highlight four key functional areas: Clinical Development, Regulatory Affairs, Medical Affairs and Marketing/Market Access. WSU's team consisted of Bhargav Kovuru, Lucas Crum, Fadi Manuel, Jasmine John, Jovan Lozo, Karli Pelaccio, and Joseph Paul Javier

"This accomplishment is a milestone for us, as we established our chapter just over a year ago and this was the first time Wayne State IPhO competed in the VIP Case Competition," said Chapter President Joseph Paul Javier. IPhO is currently gearing up for the 2023 cohort of the VIP Case Competition. This year's competition focuses on a kinase inhibitor that targets fibroblast growth factor receptors (FGFR) in several ways to impact enzymatic activity of several mutated FGFR cell proteins. This drug shows promising antitumor activity in preclinical studies and is being explored as a treatment option for patients with locally advanced or metastatic urothelial cancer. **—Joseph Paul Javier, IPhO President**



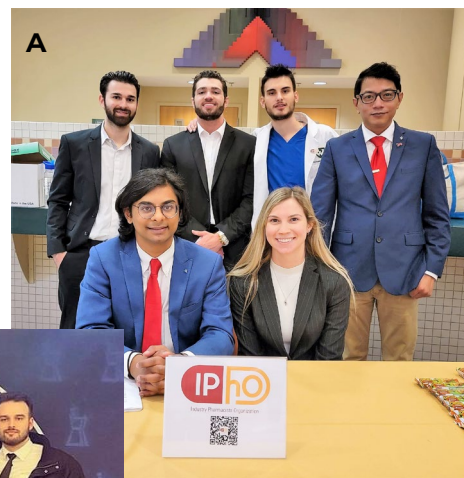
**Joseph Paul Javier, P2**  
IPhO President

## Why did you choose to be a part of IPhO?

I founded the Wayne State Chapter of the IPhO two years ago with fellow student pharmacist Bhargav Kovuru. Having a background in Integrated Marketing and Communications prior to starting pharmacy school, I wanted to leverage this experience with my future career in pharmacy. Learning about the pathways within industry that PharmDs can pursue was a natural choice. Before starting at Applebaum, I was only familiar with the roles pharmacists play in the community or hospital setting. Through IPhO, I've discovered less traditional, yet equally fulfilling careers that pharmacists can pursue like market access, regulatory affairs, clinical development, and medical affairs.

## Describe your favorite memory of pharmacy school so far.

My favorite memories of pharmacy school are being surrounded by students and faculty that have supported me and showed a genuine interest in my academic success and personal well-being while in the program. While in the program, I was hit hard by COVID-19 and then I was diagnosed with lung cancer. While I was sick, my classmates and teachers would reach out to see if I was okay. Even when I was confined in the hospital after having surgery to remove half of my lung, my fraternity brothers and other schoolmates would come and visit me to try and lift my spirits. The college has been very supportive of me in returning to the program after taking a leave of absence to convalesce. For all this, I am truly grateful.



**A:** IPhO PharmPhest table (from left to right, top to bottom): Lindon Nikolaj, Nick Ciaramitaro, Tom Lucaj, Joseph Paul Javier, Ronith Murali, Elizabeth Lemanske **B:** IPhO symposium at Purdue (from left to right): Bhargav Kovuru, Tom Lucaj, Nick Ciaramitaro, Jovan Lozo



# Student Pharmacists Diversity Council



The Student Pharmacist Diversity Council, SPDC, is a student-led organization whose mission is to promote the value of diversity in healthcare by promoting unity and creating a culturally inclusive environment among health care professionals and patients alike.

Some events that we hosted in 2022 include the Midwest Buddhist Temple Health Fair in October and a Pronoun Pins Fundraiser in November. The Midwest Buddhist Temple was an event dedicated to providing healthcare services including blood pressure monitoring, glucometer training and blood sugar measuring, and free flu shots to the community of the Midwest Buddhist Meditation Center. The Pronoun Pins Fundraiser was an event held during Transgender Awareness week to help raise visibility of transgender people and the importance of this in healthcare.

SPDC also has the SPIN committee, which is the Student Pharmacist Inclusion Network, where the committee aims to provide personal and professional development to pre-pharmacy students.

**-Linh Pham (P3), SPDC President**



**A, B:** Pronoun pins fundraiser **C.** Midwest Buddhist Temple health fair



**Linh Pham, P3**  
**SPDC President**

## **Why did you choose to be a part of SPDC?**

I chose to be a part of SPDC as I value the importance of diversity in healthcare, and I felt that I could be a part of spreading this message of diversity during my time in pharmacy school. .

## **What has been your favorite event held by SPDC?**

The Midwest Buddhist Temple Health Fair has been my favorite event hosted by SPDC as it was nice to be able to give back to the

Temple community and see the impact we were able to make. Furthermore, everyone was extremely welcoming and appreciative of the services we were offering at the Temple as they made the event even more enjoyable.

## **What makes someone a good fit for SPDC?**

SPDC is an extremely welcoming organization, so anyone is able to join! Anyone that values diversity or is interested in learning more about diversity would be a great fit.

# SNPhA

Wayne State's chapter of the Student National Pharmaceutical Association has been busy mobilizing its members to serve the local community with various public health initiatives. As an educational service association of pharmacy students who are concerned about the profession of pharmacy, health care issues and the poor minority representation in these areas, the mission of SNPhA sees its student leaders planning, organizing, coordinating and executing programs geared toward the improvement of the health, educational and social environment of minority communities.

SNPhA has eight initiatives that it promotes throughout the year, ranging from Fighting Diabetes to educating the public about HIV/AIDS prevention with their Remember the Ribbon campaign.

"To commemorate World AIDS Day, our chapter helped raise funds for local HIV/AIDS charities and passed out red ribbons on campus, a symbol of those who have lost their lives to complications from HIV," said WSU SNPhA President-Elect, Daniyal Nasir.

"Currently, we are working on grassroot efforts and going into the communities of Detroit to address substance abuse and the opioid epidemic. Addiction is a mental health issue, and this is the focus of our SNPhA Prescription for Service project. SNPhA is working towards breaking down barriers and changing the way people everywhere embrace mental health."

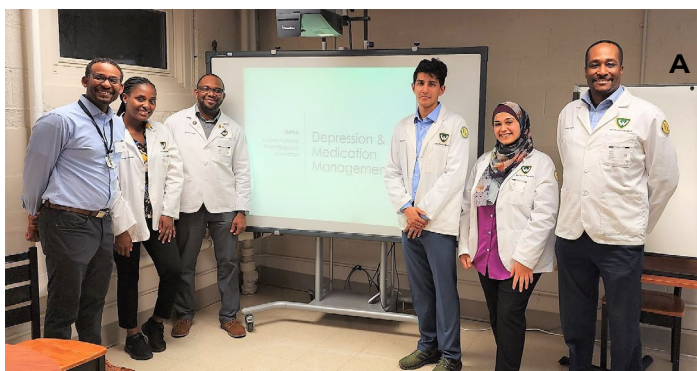
One in five adults will struggle with a mental health issue this year and every group of individuals is impacted in some capacity, from minority communities and veterans to the elderly and the young. SNPhA's mental health initiative encourages students to equip themselves with the knowledge and skills to talk with patients about their mental health and to strengthen their mental well-being so we can bring out the best in ourselves and others.

In order to further this initiative, Wayne State's SNPhA students and faculty advisor Dr. Dennis Parker recently visited Vista Maria to give a presentation on mental health, depression, and mental health management. Located in Dearborn Heights, Vista Maria is a healing resource center that fosters restorative relationships to deliver innovative care

treatment and education to vulnerable youth and families. WSU SNPhA is also working with the Michigan Poison and Drug Information Center to educate the public on where to find resources to get treatment for addiction, how to properly dispose of unused prescription medications, and how to prevent accidental overdoses.

"As a future pharmacist, I want to give back to my community and be a role model for people of color," said Johnie L. Bailey, WSU SNPhA Vice-President. "Detroit's minority communities are affected by disparities in healthcare. This has to do with reasons like the stigma associated with mental health, vaccine hesitancy, access to transportation and other socioeconomic factors. I am proud that our SNPhA members are working toward promoting equitable healthcare access and other health care services through community outreach and education in and around Detroit."

**-Joseph Paul Javier (P2), SNPhA Chairman/Past President**



**A:** Vista Maria Presentation on Mental Health **B:** Community Health Fair, joint initiative with SNPhA, Wayne State University, and University of Michigan

## Why did you choose to be a part of SNPhA?

When I decided to pursue pharmacy, I knew what I wanted to do. The organization presented me with that platform. I am passionate about my profession and desire to serve humanity and be a voice for the minority and underserved.

## Describe your favorite memory of pharmacy school so far.

I have so many memories that I cherish, that choosing one is so unfair. But I would say that the day I was chosen/accepted into the Kappa Psi Pharmaceutical fraternity is a day I won't forget easily. Becoming a part of a brotherhood that believes in all the things I am passionate about and more, providing me with a platform to serve and achieve my goals, and taking me out of my comfort zone in order for me to grow was a miracle come true.

**Obioma Opara, P2**  
**SNPhA President**

