I am encouraged and excited about a Pharmacy Student Newsletter. This hopefully will assist communication efforts between students, faculty and alumni. I am writing this at the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy Interim Meeting where a major focus is on change. So it seems quite appropriate that I provide a few words on some of the change that is going on in pharmacy education and how that is impacting our program. There has not been too many times in my years as a pharmacy educator that I have seen the degree of change that our program will face in the next 3 years. These are driven by 3 major events/efforts that every pharmacy student, faculty, and alumni in our program should be aware. The first involves the first ever Pharmacy Program Strategic Plan, which you can access at: http://www.aacp.org/resources/education/cape/Pages/default.aspx. These outcomes have 4 broad domains to guide the curricular in doctor of pharmacy programs: 1) foundational knowledge that is integrated throughout pharmacy curricula, 2) essentials for practicing pharmacy and delivering patient-centered care, 3) effective approaches to practice and care, and 4) the ability to develop personally and professionally. I would challenge every student/faculty/alumni to look at these outcomes and see how well we do in meeting them. How well do we prepare graduates to: manage healthcare needs of patients during transitions of care, participate with interprofessional healthcare team members in the management of, and health promotion for, all patients. How well do we prepare our graduates to foster accountability and leverage expertise to form a highly functioning team (one that includes the patient, family, and community) and promote shared patient-centered problem solving. You can see we have a lot of work to do. Finally the accreditation standards for the doctor of pharmacy degree will be undergoing substantive change. The draft standards are found at: https://www.acpe-accredit.org/deans/StandardsRevision.asp. These are very different from existing standards and will serve to drive curricular change in areas such as interprofessional education, student-centered learning, and will advance our professionalism curriculum. There is an entire standard devoted to co-curricular activities and interprofessional education. I encourage you to look at and review these documents that are transforming the educational experience in our program. Provide us feedback on what you think we are doing well and what we need to do better to prepare our graduates for practice 2020 and beyond. I look forward to hearing from you.

Richard Slaughter, Associate Dean of Pharmacy
The purpose of SNPhA is to plan, organize, coordinate and execute programs geared toward the improvement for the health, educational, and social environment of the community.

SNPhA is an educational service association concerned about pharmacy, health related issues and the poor minority representation in pharmacy and other health-related professions.

The Student National Pharmaceutical Association (SNPhA) kicked off the school year by raising over $500 and having 17 of our members walk in the Detroit AIDS Walk held every September in Royal Oak. At the walk, SNPhA members had a display which educated people on HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention, such as safe sex and proper needle disposal. Each semester the SNPhA executive board plans a free health fair for the uninsured and underserved population in Detroit. In October of this past year, SNPhA held a health fair for the residents at the Coalition on Temporary Shelter (COTS) in Detroit, a temporary shelter for people who are in between living situations. SNPhA members were able to practice their patient care skills at various “stations”. These included things such as blood pressure screening, blood glucose measurement and diabetes education, smoking cessation consultations, healthy eating and weight management, and medication management. We saw over 25 patients who were excited to participate and thankful for our service. SNPhA is also very focused on collaborating with other schools of pharmacy SNPhA chapters to share information, increase communication and strengthen networking. The University of Michigan SNPhA members came to Detroit to volunteer at the COTS health fair, this was a fun event where members were able to serve their community as well as network with other pharmacy students. The SNPhA executive board is in the process of planning a health fair for the winter semester expected to occur sometime in late March. Furthermore, one of our most exciting and tasty events, Parker’s House of Pancakes (PHOP) is March 12. This fundraiser will be held in the commons where the executive board and our faculty advisor Dr. Dennis Parker will be making fresh pancakes all morning! Lastly, the SNPhA Regional Conference hosted by The Ohio State University will be held March 14-16 in Columbus Ohio. The current executive board will be driving to Columbus on Friday March 14th to represent Wayne State University. SNPhA looks forward to continuing our dedication to the pharmacy profession and serving the community we are a part of.
Arab American Pharmacist Association

With the help of the hardworking board and active members, the Arab American Pharmacist Association (AAPA) participated in various events throughout this academic year, including fundraisers, cultural seminars, health screenings, and wellness education. In September, a few of the members volunteered at the “Tune Up Your Family Health” Health Fair hosted by the Wayne County/Oakland County Pharmacists Association. Members measured weights, BMI, and provided nutrition education. This March, we will be hosting our own health fair where members will measure patients’ blood pressure, blood glucose, and BMI in order to screen for diabetes and hypertension. Through participation in the school’s Community Apple Days, the AAPA members educated the metro Detroit community on healthy diets, exercise, and over-the-counter medications. This February, the AAPA plans to engage in the Michigan Antibiotic Resistance Reduction program.

Members will educate elementary students on the importance of antibiotic resistance through educational games and informational sessions. In December, the AAPA hosted a “Culture & Medicine” seminar in which Dr. Nancy Lewis, PharmD, MPH educated students on the role of health care professionals in providing care to the underserved population. Later in March, we plan to have a panel of speakers to discuss infertility issues. Through food sales, fundraisers, and the generous time of active members, the AAPA was able to raise money and provide meals to the less fortunate. In December, AAPA raised $250 for the American Red Cross for Typhoon Relief by hosting a Middle Eastern Food Sale. During participation in Community Apple Days, we were able to raise $300 for the Breast Cancer Research Fund through a healthy foods fundraiser. In June, the AAPA will engage undergraduate students to participate with us in the American Cancer Society’s annual event, Relay for Life. We will provide health screenings to raise money and awareness for the organization. At the beginning of the school year, members were given donation cans to be filled with money for the “Hunger Hurts” program by Zaman International, and the members raised over $1600. In addition, one of our biggest accomplishments was during the Kids Against Hunger event this January. The AAPA gathered almost 50 volunteers who were able to package 10,000 meals in less than two hours to be distributed to starving families in third world countries, local areas, and local disaster relief. The pharmacy school application process can be strenuous, so the AAPA is pleased to reach out to pre-pharmacy students and give them a helping hand. We have been successful in setting up a mentorship program, which pairs our members with pre-pharmacy students. We also coordinated an informational session for the students who are applying to the program, to help strengthen their applications. Lastly, we are coordinating an AAPA Alumni Dinner with the parent chapter to take place in April. Through the support and involvement of our 90 hard working members and our supportive parent chapter, the AAPA plans to preserve and flourish in our accomplishments through the end of the semester and into the upcoming year.

The Arab American Pharmacist Association (AAPA) strives to advance and support Arab American Pharmacists in serving society as the profession responsible for the appropriate use of medications and services to enhance optimal patient care and public health.
Christian Pharmacists Fellowship International

Hello from Pharmacists in Christ! We are a relatively newer organization which began just a few years ago in 2012, when P4 founder Daniel Lane sought to initiate an organization for student pharmacists to fulfill the goal of upholding Christian values by loving God and loving people. Our core values are to provide fellowship among like-minded professionals, challenge and promote spiritual growth, encourage the advancement of knowledge and ethics in the practice of pharmacy, encourage evangelism and the integration of faith into practice, and provide support and opportunity for service. So far this semester we’ve held bible readings and prayer circles to help support one another on our journey. Recently, we’ve also begun working with Elevate Detroit, a Detroit-based church organization which serves Saturday afternoon lunches to the poor and homeless in Detroit. We have a lot of fun meeting new people, praying with them, and spreading hope. We’re looking forward to doing some bible studies, health screenings at local churches, and more Elevate Detroit outings later this year! If you’re interested in learning more, feel free to join us at our next meeting!

CPFI Members Deanna Janisse, Libin Philip and Vic Nguyen serving lunch to Detroit residents with Elevate Detroit.

Faculty Spotlight: Dr. Candice Garwood

Q: What led you to pursue a pharmacy profession in ambulatory care and anticoagulation?
A: I was interested in pharmacy in high school. I liked science and thought pharmacy was a flexible career offering many different options. I chose ambulatory care because I loved hearing people’s stories and making a sustainable impact in their lives thought continuity of care.

Q: We understand that you were recently the recipient of the Excellence in Teaching Award. Can you tell us why this award is important to you?
A: It was really important to me because it was the first award I have received for teaching, which is something that I have strived to be good at for a long time. Additionally, I was nominated by peers. It is really special to be acknowledged by your colleagues for doing something well.

Q: What are some of your hobbies or things you do for fun?
A: I have two small children and most of my weekends are devoted to them. I like to travel with my family and also love creative projects and crafts.

Q: What do you strive for as a pharmacist?
A: I think that I strive to do my best and always get better. What inspires me in pharmacy has been the opportunity to impact others-patients, and students, and also pharmacy residents. I am the PGY2 ambulatory care residency director at Harper Hospital. I have had the opportunity to work with and influence a number of outstanding pharmacists through that role.

Q: What advice would you give to current pharmacy students?
A: Seize the opportunities that will create your career path. Realize that pharmacy is evolving and it is important to adapt with the evolving environment.