



## Arab American Pharmacist Association

The Arab American Pharmacist Association -WSU Student Chapter (AAPA) strives to provide health care services and appropriate medication uses to the Detroit Community through professional, cultural, and community health fair events hosted by student pharmacists throughout the academic year.

The 2016-2017 year was met with great success as students strived to provide superior health services to the community. In collaboration with the American Pharmacists Association's Generation Rx, the AAPA and C-ASIST, a non-profit community organization, hosted a multidisciplinary seminar series aimed at bringing awareness and educating healthcare professionals on the growing epidemic of substance abuse/misuse. Furthermore, our members continued with educating elementary school students about antibiotic resistance and the importance of staying healthy via the Michigan Antibiotic Resistance Reduction (MARR) program.

Additionally, further education and health screenings were provided to community members of all ages at health fairs including The Juneteenth Health Fair and The St. John Armenian Health Fair.

During the fall semester, the AAPA, in affiliation with CVS Pharmacy, launched its first Flu Clinic at Hype Athletics in Dearborn. The clinic focused on providing vaccinations at no charge to community members. It also provided our newly immunization trained pharmacy students with hands-on experience, as well as the opportunity to enhance their communication skills.

AAPA-WSU also continues to host its annual "Culture and Medicine" seminar, where diverse health care providers share their experiences with cultural adversities and how to overcome them. This seminar, in addition to other networking opportunities that are hosted, provide student pharmacists with the ability to develop relationships, network, and learn from active and experienced leaders in our society.



**AAPA members educating kids about Antibiotic resistance at McCollough Younis Elementary School in Dearborn**  
*Student pharmacists from left to right:*

*David Movsesian, Linda Kalfayan, Zeinab Aoude, Hussein Chahrour*

## DEW Clinic

The DEW Clinic is a student-run, non-profit organization that provides the greater Detroit area with no-cost, high-quality diabetic education through an interdisciplinary team approach. The goal is to provide support and assist people in the community in managing or preventing diabetes and its potential complications by providing personalized, holistic treatment plans.

Volunteering at the DEW clinic is an excellent way to improve both professional communication as well as patient care skills. Students from several disciplines work together to provide optimal patient care. These disciplines include students and faculty from pharmacy, medical, physical therapy, occupational therapy, social work, and dietetic graduate programs. The clinic runs on the first Monday of every month from 5-6:30 PM at the SAY Detroit Family Health Clinic in Highland Park and is open to students from any of the disciplines mentioned above.

Based on feedback from students who have volunteered at the DEW clinic, several of them have stated that they have had an improvement in their communication skills as well as their professional development for their career focus. The clinic is an excellent opportunity to improve on these skills necessary for health care careers and is also an excellent opportunity to gain knowledge regarding diabetes and the treatment and management of the condition.

# Student College of Clinical Pharmacy



**PharmPhest 2017 (left to right):** *Candice Mckay, Linda Kalfayan, Raneem Talia, Natalia Jarbou, Namitha Nair*

The Student College of Clinical Pharmacy (SCCP) is the student chapter of ACCP, a professional and scientific society that provides leadership, education, advocacy, and resources enabling students to achieve excellence in practice, research, and education. The events that we hold aim at giving students access to clinical pharmacy practitioners engaged in a wide spectrum of specialty practices, academic institutions, and research programs. In the past academic year, SCCP held specialties seminars on Managed Care Pharmacy and Pediatric Pharmacy. The Managed Care seminar helped students get an understanding of Pharmacy specialties outside of community or hospital settings. In October, we hosted Dr. Tutag Lehr and Dr. Lulic who shed some light on pharmacists' role in Neonates and Pediatric specialty pharmacy. Our organization is also heavily involved in promoting research at Wayne State University. We hosted the Directed Study seminar where faculty presented the research projects they are involved in and the opportunity for students to participate in them. SCCP also participated in Community Apple days- a multidisciplinary event that Wayne state hosts for middle and high school students. This was a great opportunity to show Pharmacists' contributions to the community and educate students on the topic of over the counter medication safety. We will be facilitating the "ACCP Clinical Pharmacy Challenge" early fall and are currently planning the local challenge. In the winter semester we will be planning the "ACCP clinical research challenge." This innovative and unique competition offers pharmacy students the chance to participate in an online journal club and the opportunity to submit a clinical research proposal. The upcoming year is going to be exciting and eventful. We look forward to student participation and interest to help students become successful clinical pharmacists.

CPFI (Christian Pharmacists Fellowship International) is an organization for pharmacists and pharmacy students practicing in all areas of pharmacy. We aim to encourage integration of faith into practice through community service and missions both home and abroad. The CPFI-PIC (Pharmacists in Christ) chapter at Wayne State University, though fairly new, has been growing over the years. In the past, CPFI has partnered with CHIP, which offers health services to the homeless. Blessing Bags has also been a service that we do to distribute essential items to the homeless. We were also able to donate Christmas presents through the Giving Tree to some deserving children! In the coming year, CPFI plans to become more engaged with the community. We plan on taking part in Life Remodeled, a non-profit organization that organizes annual projects to beautify Detroit. We also plan to aid in tutoring Detroit students, which is currently being offered through the local churches. We hope to create events in which we provide health services to those in local churches to further promote good health in the community. As CPFI continues to expand, we hope to get more students involved in serving the underserved and integrate their faith as they move into their pharmacy career.



**(Left to Right)** *Bridget Vendittelli, Eric Lahoud, Marina Pittiglio, Kyle Snider, Amanda Dowker*



# Kappa Psi

Mu Omicron Pi welcomed six new brothers: Ryan Caputo, Zack Mueller, Chima Nwamba, Nick Peters, Brian Randall, and faculty member Dr. Philip Pokorski! While in the process of joining Kappa Psi, they assisted in our fall fundraiser which helped orchestrate a clothing drive for The Salvation Army. The brothers of Mu Omicron Pi celebrated the semester break with the Annual Brotherhood Winter Retreat and Holiday Dinner. The dinner was followed by the annual Secret Santa gift exchange between the brothers of our chapter. On February 26<sup>th</sup>, three brothers participated in the Fight for Air Climb to help raise money for the American Lung Association, an event which our chapter has been involved in for 3 years now.

Participation included running up over 70 flights of stairs of the General Motors Renaissance Center in Detroit. In order to participate in the event, each brother had to raise a minimum of \$100 to donate. Brothers of our chapter were able to raise over \$500 for the cause! We would like to thank everyone who donated! On April 1<sup>st</sup>, ten of our active brothers went to the Great Lakes Winter Province in Grand Rapids, MI. On May 16<sup>th</sup>, the brothers represented Kappa Psi at PharmPhest and hosted the annual PharmPhest BBQ. In addition, on June 9<sup>th</sup>, we hosted our annual Founder's Day Awards Dinner, an

awards ceremony and networking event between active and graduate brothers of Kappa Psi. This summer, we plan on involving incoming first year students in doing a philanthropy event for Detroit's Neighborhood Service Organization, which reaches out to the community to help chronically homeless individuals.



*Pictured (left to right): Bill Snyder, Andrew Hanna, Tony Tayar, Nick Peters, Scott Clancey, Mohamed Ghotiemi, Ryan Caputo, Zack Mueller, Brian Randall, Sean Lang, Frank Bauer, Dave LaForest, Greg Kozmor, Saif Findakly (Front): Chima Nwamba, Dr. Philip Pokorski, Michael Bassil*

# Rho Chi

The Rho Chi Society is the National Academic Honor Society of pharmacy. Rho Chi recognizes and rewards intellectual achievement, promotes highest ethical standards, and fosters collaboration. The Alpha Chi Chapter of the Rho Chi Society at Wayne State focused much of its efforts this year on aiding new students entering the program and providing opportunities to upperclassmen to enhance professional skills. Over the summer of 2016, we collaborated with the Class of 2018 E-board to develop the ongoing P1/P3 mentorship program. During the first months of Fall semester, we offered programs to help P3 students to develop their interview skills through different seminars as well as mock interviews that we host. Throughout the year, we held multiple fundraisers and made a financial contribution to a local underserved clinic, the Cabrini Clinic. Moreover, we have provided tutoring opportunities that varied from group to one-on-one settings in addition to mock practical assessments for students in need. We were proud to collaborate with the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences to sponsor the Roland T. Lakey Award Lecture on April 5<sup>th</sup> 2017. The honoree was Dr. Hiroshi Maeda, a renowned Japanese researcher and distinguished professor at Sojo University in Japan. He is well known for his achievements in cutting edge chemotherapy delivery systems as well as being recognized as the most influential scientist in pharmacology in 2014. The event was followed by a banquet and induction ceremony where we welcomed this year's newly elected members into the society. We will continue the long-standing tradition of supporting our peers and our community in the year to come.

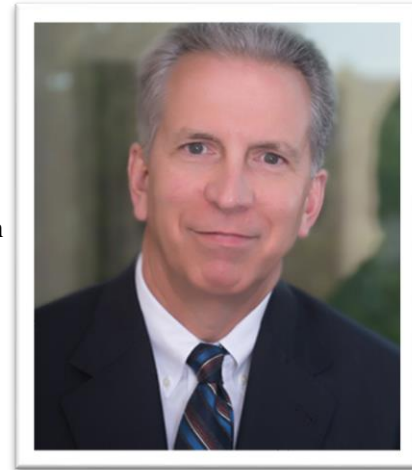
**2017 Rho Chi Inductees**  
from left to right: *Felda Matti, Raneem Talia, Rand Yacoub, Laila Shammout, Kristen Zofchak, Andrew Stone, Richa Shah, Nicole El-Khoury, Michael Farah, Benjamin August, Brad Berak, Dung Ho, Kevin Marck Intig, Shannon Blatter, and Carly Burns.*



# Interim Associate Dean: Brian L. Crabtree, Pharm.D.

## 1. *What is one story that stands out to you when working with students at WSU?*

I have so many stories that I appreciate from my time here, but there is one that happened recently that stands out. We had a graduate in our most recent class whose parents emigrated from what was then known as Yugoslavia to US during the 1960s to seek opportunity and safety. They did not speak any English and only had what they could bring with them in their suitcase. The father found work and together they had 9 children. These parents knew that a good life in America depended on those children having an education and they sacrificed in any way they had to in order to provide for that. This graduate from our program was the youngest of the 9. All 9 graduated from college: 5 as engineers, 2 as pharmacists, 1 as a nurse, and 1 as a physician. All 9 attended WSU. It is stories like these that demonstrate the types of students we have at WSU. We have students from a variety of different background: 1<sup>st</sup> generation immigrants, refugees, and many more. Students and their families who have sacrificed everything to get them to where they are today.



## 2. *What has WSU meant to you?*

WSU is full of students who are of a different breed: they are hungry. WSU recruits students who come from a variety of backgrounds and experiences to allow for educational development. Personally, WSU has developed my ability to find fulfillment in the success of others. I find this trait in all of our faculty and students as well. Our faculty loves our students and works tirelessly to watch them succeed. In doing that, many of our faculty members achieve at an unbelievable level. Take Dr. Rybak for example. He and I started on practically the same day when I first arrived at WSU. Dr. Rybak built his lab from nothing, and now he has people calling him from all over asking for his help with patients who have resistant strains of infections. There are people out there sitting with their families now who would not be there if it was not for Dr. Rybak's help. As well, Dr. Kilgore is a fully capable physician who could be practicing anywhere in his field, but he has a passion for disease prevention through immunization and sees that future in the field of pharmacy. It is incredible to see what our faculty is doing.

***”Success in life is finding a harmony  
between what you do and who you are.”***

## 3. *What advice do you have for pharmacy students as they begin their career in pharmacy?*

My biggest piece of advice: do anything you can to enhance your skills and to make you as competitive and attractive as possible to your patients and future employers. A PharmD and a license to practice does not set you apart anymore. The question you need to answer is what can I offer that is different and special? The big way to get involved in these is to always be present and visible. If you are visible, I promise you that opportunities will be presented. Networking and getting involved with professional organizations is key to this. But I would discourage you from getting involved with every organization and having a laundry list of groups. Instead, find 1 or 2 that can act as your home and really get involved within them. You cannot be at every event and that is okay, you need to do well in your studies too. The big thing is to be present, involved, engaged, and qualified, because there is going to come a time where someone you met while networking will need a pharmacist for a particular job and they will think of you first.

An aspect of enhancing your skills is residency training. One thing that I would like to stress is that I do not believe that all students have to do a residency. We here at WSU state that with your PharmD degree you are ready to practice at a generalized practitioner level. But if you want to be involved with a specific population or become highly skilled in a particular field, residency training is a perfect way to get that additional training. I know that it comes with a financial sacrifice and I do not take that lightly. But for a short-term investment in your 20s or 30s you can be practicing in the field of your dreams for the next 45 years. You have to open your heart and mind to the possibility that your short-term reduction in income will allow you to give and receive for the rest of your career.

## 4. *Where do you see pharmacy headed in the upcoming years?*

The future of pharmacy to me does not lie within the specialists in the hospitals. The future of pharmacy is in the community. Pharmacists are the most accessible healthcare providers. There are statistics out there that state that every American lives on average within 2 miles of a pharmacy. That is unmatched access to our communities that pharmacists have. With the push for immunization and other healthcare services to be done in pharmacies, patients can have unseen access to healthcare. Things and tests that could formerly be only done in a big city hospital can now be done in even the smallest communities. Another big path for pharmacy is in personalized medicine. Pharmacogenomics and point of care testing allow for a brand new style of medication management that pharmacists have an opportunity to entrench themselves in. There are many more directions, but I would boil it down to these 5: personalized medicine, telehealth, opiate addiction, metabolic disease related to dietary habits and obesity, and our attempts to cure cancer once and for all.