TOP STORIES

2010 SNPhA National Convention

The Student National Pharmaceutical Association (SNPhA) returned from the 2010 National Conference in Seattle, WA, with money, power, and respect. Four members were awarded scholarships, two were appointed as chair over three of the six National Initiatives, and two clinical skills teams placed 2nd and 3rd in the National Clinical Skills Competition. The chapter won the 2010 National Convention Registration Award for registering the most members and received Certificates of Participation for completing projects within all six National Initiatives (i.e., Diabetes, Power to End Stroke, HIV/AIDS, Operation Immunization, Chronic Kidney Disease Initiatives, Legislative/Voting/Immigration). The chapter was also named one of the Top 3 Chapters in Chauncey I. Cooper (CIC) points, which are acquired as a measure of the quality and quantity of chapters’ community service projects that target the six National Initiatives listed previously. Success is nothing new to the UT SNPhA chapter as it has received the Chapter of Excellence Award five times in the past decade, which is the highest honor of any chapter nationally. Other awards received include the Community Service Award for 3 consecutive years (2004-2006), and the 2009 Civic Award from the National Kidney Foundation of West Tennessee.

UPCOMING EVENTS

2010 Feurt Symposium
HealthCare Reform: How it Affects Pharmacy Practice
September 29, 2010 • 8:15 am CT
Student Alumni Center Auditorium, Memphis

KEYNOTE ADDRESS
C. Ed Webb, PharmD, MPH
Health Care Reform: Words, Actions and Leadership

16th Annual Emmett Manley PARscription Golf Tournament
Wednesday • September 29, 2010
Stonebridge, Memphis
For Information: Contact iswanson@uthsc.edu

APhA-ASP to HOST Region 3 Meeting in MEMPHIS

Sponsor a student for $100. Contact sphelps@uthsc.edu if interested
"HEALTH IN THE CITY" A FRESH TAKE ON FOOD

On July 30-31, 2010, The Consortium for Health Education, Economic Empowerment and Research (CHEER) hosted its first local conference to address health disparities in healthy eating and food access. The conference targeted Mid-Southerners who want to make health a top priority. In Memphis, poor diet and difficulty accessing healthy food choices often lead to health issues such as diabetes, hypertension and obesity. This conference informed participants on new ways to access healthy, affordable food that can improve health and reduce hunger in the city. Specifically, conference objectives were to:

- Discuss food hardship and its impact on food choice
- Discuss the links between food and health outcomes
- Explain the paradox that obesity is prevalent in Memphis “The Hunger Capital”
- Encourage healthy food choices by educating the community on new food resources
- Promote public/private partnerships that establish equitable access to healthy foods
- Explore incentives for incorporating food choice and healthy eating into medical practice recommendations

Community organizations, health care providers, neighborhood groups, policy makers, churches and media were invited to participate. One unique feature of the conference was a special cooking demonstration by Memphis native Bryant Terry, chef and author of “Grub: Ideas for an Urban Organic Kitchen” and “Vegan Soul Kitchen (VSK): Fresh, Healthy, and Creative African-American Cuisine.” Additionally, conference speakers represented a number of prestigious community organizations, public health and academic institutions, including Memphis Inter-Faith Alliance (MIFA), Memphis Food Bank, Healthy Memphis Common Table (HMCT), Grow Memphis, Memphis & Shelby County Health Department, University of Tennessee Health Science Center (UTHSC), and LeMoyne-Owen College (LOC). A town hall panel of community and local government leaders completed the conference. More than 100 attendees left with beneficial information and new contacts for developing future partnerships to address food access and security. Drs. Shelley White-Means and Brandi Franklin appeared on Channel 24’s Midday Show and WDIA’s Bev Johnson radio show to promote the conference. Moreover, our keynote chef and speaker Bryant Terry was featured on Channel 3’s “Live at 9” show to conduct a live cooking demonstration.

In all, “Health in the City” was very successful. Highlights of the conference will be featured in upcoming editions of the Memphis Flyer, the CHEERLeader, and the UT Record. For more information about CHEER, visit our website at www.uthsc/cheer or contact the CHEER office at 901-448-1985.
Rep. Cohen Visits Ambulatory Care Practice Site

Recognizing the national focus on healthcare reform and the potential benefit pharmacists could bring to the public, Amanda Howard-Thompson, Pharm.D., BCPS initiated a dialogue between pharmacists and legislative officials concerning reimbursement for pharmacists’ services and the benefits of collaborative practice with healthcare professionals. Under her own initiative, she contacted US Representative Steve Cohen, a key advocate involved in the public healthcare debate, to illustrate the benefit that pharmacy has brought to her clinical site, the UT Family Practice Center in Memphis, TN. He visited her site with Randy Wade, a candidate for Shelby County Sheriff, to gain an understanding of the contributions that pharmacy makes to the collaborative practice. Based on this positive response from leading Shelby County officials, Dr. Howard-Thompson successfully demonstrated the interest in the potential benefits that pharmacists can bring to the national healthcare debate. She encourages others to contact their legislative officials to ensure not only community practice, but other pharmacy specialties can be represented in healthcare reform, as these specialties are not well known to people outside the healthcare field.

UT Pharm Net

by Michelle M. Zingone, Pharm.D., BCPS, CDE; UT Pharm Net Director

The University of Tennessee Pharmacist Practice Based Research Network (UT Pharm Net) was established in 2007 to bring practicing pharmacists in ambulatory care together to conduct research. The UT Pharm Net mission is to: 1) provide a forum for pharmacists to conduct collaborative research focused on medication use, clinical pharmacy practice, and pharmacist education/training, and; 2) optimize medication use and clinical pharmacist practice that results in high quality, reproducible clinical outcomes that are translatable to patient care.

The UT Pharm Net has received a total of $375,000 in funding from the Tennessee Department of Health for the Diabetes Initiative Program, a pharmacist-physician collaboration for diabetes care. There are 7 ambulatory care practices sites across the state participating in the project. The sites include Holston Medical Group (Kingsport), University of Tennessee Graduate School of Medicine Internal Medicine Center (Knoxville), University of Tennessee Graduate School of Medicine University Family Physicians (Knoxville), University of Tennessee University Medical Group (Alcoa), Alvin C. York Veterans Affairs Medical Center (Murfreesboro), the Regional Medical Center (Memphis), and University of Tennessee St. Francis Family Medicine Clinic (Memphis). The pharmacists involved in the project include (in alphabetical order): Anita Airee, Debbie Byrd, Jennifer Campbell, Brian Cross, Joni Foard, Andrea Franks, Christa George, Ben Gross, Alex Guirguis, Gale Hamann, Amanda Howard-Thompson, Shawn McFarland, Kristie Ramser, Shaunta’ Ray, Katie Suda, and Michelle Zingone.

UT Pharm Net members were able to showcase the development of the network at the 2010 AACP Annual Meeting in Seattle, Washington. The session reviewed the AACP key strategies for launching a pharmacy practice PBRN by highlighting the lessons learned in the development of the UT Pharm Net.
Grants and Contracts

Sarka Beranova, PhD. Quantitative and Qualitative Evaluation of Peptides in Curesurf. Chiesi Farmaceutici SpA. $3,000

John Buolamwini, PhD. Inhibitors of the ENT4 Adenosine Transporter for Cardioprotection. USPHS Grant. $60,000.

Ram Mahato, PhD. Growth Factor and Antiapoptotic Gene Delivery to Human Islets. USPHS. $102,643

Bernd Meibohm, PhD. Inhibitors of Latent M. Tuberculosis. ARRA – St. Jude $31,485

Laura Thoma, PharmD. Perrigo R & D Supplement (Private). $24,259

Laura Thoma, PharmD. Eminent Services Corp (Private). $10,900

Shelley White-Means, PhD. CHEER: Transforming Health Disparities into Health Possibilities. ARRA-USPHS. $177,958

Publications

Papers


Foster SL, Moore WP. High-dose influenza vaccination in the elderly. JAPhA 2010; 50: 547-547.


Presentations

Nathan Rawls delivered two presentation entitled “Psychopharmacology of Depression: Treatment Resistant Case Studies” and “Medications and Preparing for the End” at the TPA 2010 Geriatric & Long-Term Care Conference on August 19 in Franklin, Tennessee.
Individual UT SNPhA Awards and Scholarships – 2010 National Meeting

Kendra Young is a P3 from Memphis and immediate past SNPhA Chapter Delegate. She serves on the National Executive SNPhA Committee as an appointed Chair to both the Chronic Kidney Disease and Diabetes Mellitus areas. Kendra was also awarded The Holland Book Award. The award, given through the National Pharmaceutical Association (NPhA) Foundation, was started in 1998. The award allows NPhA members who cannot provide endowed scholarships to still participate by presenting students of their choosing with these awards. The Hollands believe that “to whom much is given, much is required”, a quote that causes them to sponsor a student to the convention each year and to offer a book award. Hopefully, this program will encourage recipients to help someone else in the future.

Valeana Ruffin, a P4 from Smyrna, GA, and immediate past UT SNPhA President, was appointed as Power to End Stroke Chair and is now an officer on the SNPhA National Executive Committee.

Alda Shepherd, a P3 from Fayette, MS, and immediate past Secretary of the UT SNPhA chapter, was awarded the Rite Aid Scholarship for $2000. Rite Aid provides this award in conjunction with National Pharmaceutical Association (NPhA) Foundation to aid in the education of future pharmacists who are outstanding students and have experience a community pharmacy. The NPhA is the parent organization to SNPhA.

Zachary Germann, a P2 from Suwanee, GA, and current Knoxville Social Chair, was awarded the National Pharmaceutical Association Endowed Scholarship for $1000. The Award, sponsored by the National Pharmaceutical Association (NPhA) was established in 2001, to reward SNPhA members who have excelled academically, contributed to the growth of SNPhA, and who are dedicated to promoting the profession of pharmacy.
Morgan Rainey, a P3 from Joliet, IL, and immediate past SNPhA Treasurer of the chapter, was awarded the “Future Pharmacists Future Leaders” Scholarship Pharmacy Award for $1000. The award, sponsored by The National Pharmaceutical Association Foundation and The Kroger Co., was established in 2007 to reward SNPhA members who excelled academically and who are dedicated to promoting community pharmacy.

**SNPhA CLINICAL SKILLS COMPETITION – 2nd and 3rd place winners**

The SNPhA National Clinical Skills competition was recently held in Seattle, WA. Kendra Young and Christa Nance placed 2nd. Kendra (2nd from the right) is a P3 from Memphis and Christa (far right) is a P4 from Jackson. Third place in the competition went to Danesha Williams (far left) and Sandra Weissmiller (2nd from the left). Danesha is a P3 from Shubuta, MS and Sandra Weissmiller is a P4 from San Mateo, CA.

Sonia Bedi, PhD candidate, has received a AstraZeneca Travelship Award to attend the Pharmaceutical Sciences World Congress (PSWC) in conjunction with AAPS annual meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana, November 13-18th.

Suresh Potharaju, PhD graduate student, has been selected to receive a travel award from the AAPS Modified Release Focus Group (MRFG), to attend the 2010 FIP PSWC/AAPS Annual Meeting and Exposition in New Orleans, Louisiana, November 14-18th.

**Student Publications**


Foster SL, Moore WP. High-dose influenza vaccination in the elderly. JAPhA 2010; 50: 547-547.

**STAFF**

Marjo Jacks, Beverly McCray and Barbara Willingham and have been nominated for the Lichterman Employee of the Year award.
LIMELIGHT – SAMPQUITA “SAMPY” WRIGHT, P4 STUDENT PHARMACIST
By Lynne Moore, Communications and Marketing

Balancing life can be a difficult task, but Sampaquita “Sampy” Wright, fourth-year pharmacy student, manages to find a balance between a demanding education, extracurricular activities and marriage to another UTHSC student. Sampy represents the well-rounded student that the UTHSC College of Pharmacy looks for when educating the next health care professional.

Sampy, a Nashville native, is married to fourth-year medical student Adam Wright. After earning her bachelor’s degree in biochemistry and molecular biology from UT Knoxville, Wright decided that the UTHSC College of Pharmacy was the best choice for her. “UTHSC’s College of Pharmacy is rated one of the best schools in the country,” she stated.

Her passionate connection to science and medicine was developed early in life. However, her mother-in-law, a pharmacist and UTHSC alumna, sparked an even greater interest in the field. Since her entrance into pharmacy school, she has been heavily involved in various extracurricular activities. She volunteers at the many local health fairs, the Target House as a special-event volunteer, and a tutor at the Mustard Seed after-school program. Her professional memberships include the Tennessee Pharmacists Association, Tennessee Society of Student Pharmacists, Phi Delta Chi Pharmaceutical Fraternity, Rho Chi Honorary Society, and Phi Lambda Sigma Leadership Society.

Most recently, Sampy and another pharmacy student (Alex Stephens) organized CHANCE (Chapters Helping Advocate for Needy Communities Everywhere), which is a two-year service project geared towards the pharmacists’ role in affecting communities with high infant mortality rates. The project allowed student pharmacists to facilitate classes at AGAPE House for underprivileged pregnant women and host several health fairs to raise awareness about infant mortality. The project was awarded a $2,000 grant from the American Pharmacists Association-Academy of Student Pharmacists. In her efforts in giving back to the community, Sampy donated nine inches of hair to the American Cancer Society through the Pantene Beautiful Lengths.

The dedication and time she has incorporated into pharmacy school has granted Sampy with a number of honors, awards and scholarships, consisting of the Kirk Hevener Scholar of the Year Award, the Plough Scholarship, Spirit Award, P3 Class Community Service Award, and a host of others. “I credit my success here at UTHSC to my professors, who are well-known in their expertise and for their willingness to always help, guide and go the extra mile in any way possible,” she said.

After completing pharmacy school, she plans to enter a residency and explore the world of academia. “I enjoy the teaching aspect of pharmacy and the ability to mentor other students and give back in the ways I received from my preceptors and professors.” Although pharmacy school is challenging both academically and socially with leadership positions in campus organizations, Wright advises students to: “Find something you are passionate about and dedicate yourself wholeheartedly. Being fully involved in the community and other aspects of your education will enhance your educational experience and make your time here at UTHSC memorable.”
OTHER

The college family extends its sympathies to:

Dr. John P. Kelsey, III on the passing of his father
Rep. David Shepard on the passing of his father

DEMOGRAPHICS - Class of 2014

There are 145 students in the P1 class. The majority (57.2%) are female. There are 107 (73.8%) white; 21 (14.5%) black/African-American, 10 (6.9%) other Asians; 6 (4.1%) Asians, and 1 (0.7%) Vietnamese. There are no Hispanics in this class. Tennessee residents comprise 82.8% (120) of the class. In-state residents come from west Tennessee (38.3%), middle Tennessee (34.2%) and east Tennessee (27.5%). The majority of non-Tennesseeans (25) come from Mississippi (8), Alabama (3), Texas (3), Virginia (3) and Kentucky (2). The remaining six are from Arkansas, Colorado, Florida, Indiana, Kansas and Ohio. In-state undergraduate schools are noted below:

| UT Knoxville | 35 | Christian Brothers University | 3 |
| MTSU | 17 | UTHSC | 2 |
| U of Memphis | 12 | Freed-Hardeman University | 1 |
| UT Martin | 8 | Lee University | 1 |
| UT Chattanooga | 5 | Maryville College | 1 |
| ETSU | 5 | Rhodes College | 1 |
| Union University | 5 | University of the South | 1 |
| Tennessee Tech University | 4 | Vanderbilt University | 1 |
| Tennessee State University | 4 |

Most students have a degree (n=128/145). The majority have earned a BS or BA degree (82.1%). The remaining have a MS (8) or PhD (1) degree. The average cumulative undergraduate GPA was 3.44 ± 0.33 and the average PCAT composite 70.3 ± 17.1.

IT’S FOOTBALL TIME IN TENNESSEE – GO VOLS!!

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* Student tailgate party (alumni welcome) on UTK campus- Claxton Building Courtyard (corner of Andy Holt Ave and Volunteer Blvd) - 3 hours before kickoff
At the conclusion of the last newsletter, the College applied for and received full membership in the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (1924).

Andrew Richard Bliss, Jr. was appointed the first dean of the UT School of Pharmacy. Dr. Bliss was an eminent pharmacist, researcher, and educator. He had come to the University in 1923 as Chief of the Division of Physiology and Pharmacology in the College of Medicine. Dr. Bliss served as dean until June 30, 1933, when he resigned to become a director of Webster Laboratories, whose facilities were located just across the street from the School of Pharmacy in Memphis.

At this time, the main building of the School of Pharmacy was Lindsley Hall. The building had also served as the home of the old College of Physicians and Surgeons, and in fact, was the only building on the UT campus in Memphis for a number of years.

In 1927, the Tennessee General Assembly provided funds for the erection of a new pharmacy building, later named the Crowe Research Building. The Crowe building served for over sixty years as the home of the School of Pharmacy, and some offices and laboratories of the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences remain housed in the Crowe Building today.

The number of faculty members increased from 11 in 1911 to 30 by 1931.

Submit news items to sphelps@uthsc.edu or jbogue@uthsc.edu