



# THE WORxD

## UC CoP AROUND THE WORLD EDITION!

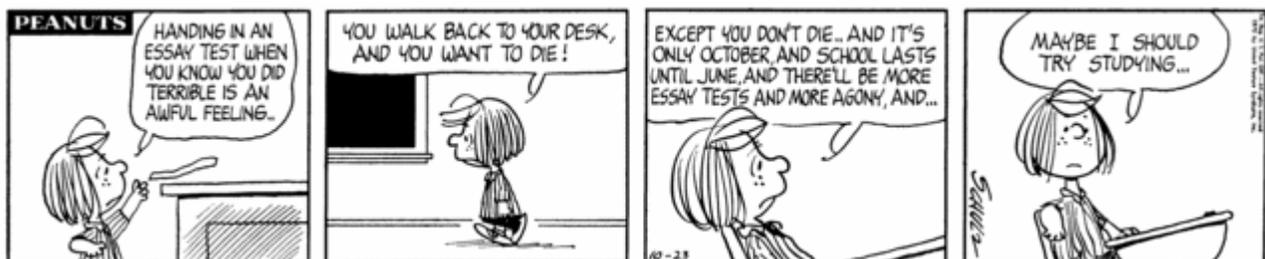
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### Letter from the Editor

By: Gina Panno

Well, I hope everyone's semester is off to a great start! And of course I hope everyone is adjusting to the wild temperature changes we're having. This issue is brief, but I wanted to spread the word around the college about the exciting trips our students and faculty are taking around the world! The first article features Dean Mac's trip to China with Drs. Guo and Kasting, followed by a piece written by Cory Simonavice about his experience in Taiwan. On the back of this issue you'll find some brief updates from the student organizations. So please, take a break and enjoy!



## Exploring Collaboration with Chongqing Medical University in China

Recently I had the opportunity to sit down with Dr. Guo and talk about his recent trip to Chongqing Medical University (CQMU) with Dean Mac and Dr. Kasting. He discussed and elaborated on Dean Mac's update he sent to the college faculty and staff on their way back from China.

This trip was made as a follow up to President Ono's visit last year to sign sister university agreements with Chongqing University and Chongqing Medical University.

The delegation from UC met with the leadership team from CQMU to discuss future potential partnerships. CQMU College of Pharmacy is very interested in several UC educational programs, such as certificate programs, like anti-coagulant therapy management, which would provide UC CoP staff the opportunity to travel to China to train practicing pharmacists and physicians. Another exciting potential partnership is creating a joint UC-CQMU Master's program in cosmetic science. This is a growing field in China with few opportunities of graduate level programs. UC CoP may also contribute to teach some parts of CQMU clinical pharmacy courses, to mentor CQMU faculty and creating continuing education in therapeutics for pharmacists.

How exciting! Look for updates on developments of our new partnership with our sister university!



## A Little Background of Chongqing and CQMU:

- ◆ Chongqing means “double happiness”
- ◆ Chongqing is the largest city in China with a population of 32 million!
- ◆ CQMU has a brand new building specifically for the UC-CQMU partnership! The International College of Medical Sciences building (ICOMS)
- ◆ CQMU has two campuses and 10 affiliated hospitals, equaling about 8000 beds
- ◆ CQMU CoP has the largest clinical pharmacy program in China, admitting about 120 students per class



Above: Dean Mac with CQMU's Zhu Yang,  
Dean of the College of Pharmacy

## PharmD Taiwan

### *A student pharmacist's one month international experience*

By: Cory Simonavice

In November of 2012, I received an email from APhA-ASP IPSF informing me of my selection to participate in the Student Exchange Program. Only a limited number of student pharmacists from the US are chosen to participate in this international pharmacy student exchange each year, so I was thrilled and honored to be able to have this experience. The exciting news eventually led up to me being placed in Taiwan for one month of pharmacy experience. I would travel from the last week of May until the last week of June and spend two weeks in community pharmacy in Kaohsiung, a city on the coast, and two weeks in a large university hospital in Taichung. After buying plane tickets and organizing living accommodations, all that was left was a 22 hour flight through Atlanta and Tokyo to Taipei, Taiwan.



After landing in Taipei, it did not take long for me to fall in love with the country, maybe partially due to being handed thousand dollar bills in exchange for a 20, as well as buying a 30 minute bus ride into the city for about \$2.50 USD. I spent my first night in Taipei, the capital city, waiting for the morning's bullet train to take me to Kaohsiung. This first night was a test of my very limited Mandarin Chinese, hiring a taxi and trying to order food at a night market. I had been up for over 24 hours, but didn't care about sleep. I was in Taiwan. Dreams were coming true.



Kaohsiung (高雄) is a lovely city, the type of city where one could imagine themselves living. In my two weeks here I swam on a beach with giant container-ships as a backdrop, hiked a mountain with wild monkeys, visited dozens of intricately decorated temples, ate the most amazing foods at night markets, made special friendships, and, most importantly, got a two week exposure to Taiwanese health care and the role of a community pharmacist in Taiwan. The owner/pharmacist of the pharmacy I shadowed is Tom, or Cheng Ching, and he has 30 years' experience running his own pharmacy. The pharmacy is small, and intimate. He is the only pharmacist and works 6 days a

week. His wife and a single employee are his assistants. The patients come in at a pace of about one every 20 to 30 minutes. This gives the pharmacist as much time as needed to counsel and build a relationship with his patients. Each patient is a registered card holder for the National Health Insurance program (which covers about 99% of the country). The health insurance is paid for by progressive pay stub taxes. The copay for medication is \$10 NTD on anything less than \$100, 20% on things greater than \$100, up to a \$200 (~\$7 USD) copay maximum.



My pharmacist and I also went on a couple of field trips (and by field trip, I mean hopping on the back of his scooter). I was fortunate enough to witness a traditional Chinese herbal medicine pharmacy, an acupuncturist, a pharmacist-lead education program at a senior center, and the Kaohsiung City Pharmacy Association lunch. Most herbal medications are prepared by a Traditional Medicine expert and are bought at a separate store, but all pharmacists are trained in herbal medicine and acupuncture in addition to western medicine. Since most Taiwanese pharmacies are independent and small, most community pharmacists will be the owner and manager. Tom feels management skills, knowledge of financials and advertising, and good customer relations are important skills for pharmacists.

My second two weeks in Taiwan were in Taichung (台中) at China Medical University (中國醫藥大學) hospital. I had many different types of experiences including : General overview of the roles of hospital pharmacists (no technicians allowed), Inpatient Chinese traditional medicine pharmacy, Trauma ICU and Surgery ICU rounds, a geriatric medication monitoring research project, and I presented a patient in front of hospital directors, doctors, nurses, and pharmacists. I feel that these programs really helped me grow as a student pharmacist, despite being in a completely different health system. The biggest lesson I learned was that we have things to learn from them (ex: patient access to care) and they have things to learn from us (standards of practice, pharmacist training).



There was plenty of time to travel on the weekend, and I visited many of the best sights of Taiwan. Snorkeling at the beach on the southernmost tip of the island, biking around a sacred high-mountain lake, visiting a traditional city for the Dragon Boat festival, renting a scooter (illegally) and going on a 8 hour joy ride along the pacific coast, and exploring the capital city and world's second tallest building in Taipei. It may sound cliché, but these

personal trips really taught me a lot about myself, and I grew as a person. Between the professional experience provided at the community and hospital pharmacy settings and the personal experience traveling on the weekends, my one month in Taiwan left me a better pharmacist, and a better person.



After returning from Taiwan, Cory began a new student organization: **The International Pharmacy Outreach Committee (IPOC)**. Several initiatives the committee has developed include a pharmacy textbook drive supporting the University of Liberia and hosting an international pharmacy student over the summer. If you want to get involved or would like additional information, feel free to email Cory at [simonaca@mail.uc.edu](mailto:simonaca@mail.uc.edu)



**“I had been up for over 24 hours, but didn’t care about sleep. I was in Taiwan. Dreams were coming true.”**

# Organization Updates

## PLS

- ◆ PLS is currently accepting nominations until Friday, February 14

## Drop Inn

- ◆ OTC Drive will be February 10–21
- ◆ Tribunal Chili Cook-Off will be Monday, February 24

## APhA

- ◆ Elections are tentatively scheduled for Monday, February 24

## Kappa Psi

- ◆ Elections will be held Sunday, February 16
- ◆ Blood Drive will be March 24
- ◆ Relay for Life will be April 4

## SNPhA

- ◆ Look for the Penny War fundraiser Monday, February 10 in the wet lounge!

## SSHP

- ◆ Elections will be held Monday, February 17
- ◆ OSHP Annual Meeting is April 10-11 in Columbus, OH
- ◆ SSHP is really excited for their first ever Pharmacy Practice Model Initiative (PPMI) Week March 24-28! They expect to have several important speakers, lunches and other activities throughout the week. Be on the lookout for more announcements!

## ACCP

- ◆ Elections will be Wednesday, February 12
- ◆ Pie-A-Professor will be scheduled for the end of the semester
- ◆ ACCP is proud to announce that their mentoring program for future pharmacy students is in full swing!

## CPFI

- ◆ Elections will be held Wednesday, February 19
- ◆ Murder Mystery Party is scheduled for Friday, February 28

## NCPA

- ◆ Elections will be held Tuesday, February 11
- ◆ Trivia Night is scheduled for March 7!

## Rho Chi

- ◆ Rho Chi will be inducting the P2 class on Thursday, February 20
- ◆ Elections will be held after the inductions
- ◆ Guidelines will be on sale in early- to mid-March

## Tribunal

- ◆ Script Your Future Brown Bag event will be morning of Saturday, February 15 at St. Vincent DePaul
- ◆ Drug Awareness event scheduled for April 10 and 15
- ◆ Student-Faculty Volleyball is scheduled for Sunday, March 2 @ Grand Sands Volleyball Courts

## Contact Us

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with questions or comments