Welcome Class of 2020
We are excited that you are a part of our pharmacy family!

This August we welcomed our class of 2020 P1s to our school with the infamous white coat ceremony. This fall was filled with several organizational events as well as some updates from the Ohio Pharmacist Association as far as new legislation. The updates can be found in this edition of Rx Word. I hope you enjoy, and have a wonderful Winter Break!

What’s to Come…

Next fall our college will provide an opportunity for individuals to not only partake in an event to improve their health, but also learn about what pharmacy entails. The majority of our community is not aware of how pharmacists play a significant role in everyone’s health. The goal of our Pharmacy 5K is to bring our community and amazing student pharmacy organizations together to share the importance of pharmacy. The proceeds will be donated to Shelterhouse, as there is always a need for our Drop Inn program. In the meantime, our committees are working hard toward creating this event, which could turn into an annual celebration of the pharmacy profession.
Updates from the Dean
A Note from Dean Mac

Dear PharmD students- this academic year, our college welcomed 93 new PharmD students and 45 new MS & PhD students, for an all-time record enrollment of 499 students, including an all-time high of under-represented minority students. This includes the first students in our new online certificate and Master's programs in pharmacy leadership. In addition, the University of Cincinnati welcomed the largest freshman class in its history.

Beyond the numbers, though, is an environment where we try our best to treat each of you as an individual and we strive to have a great learning environment. Part of that includes having state-of-the-art facilities. The first phase of the $34 million Kowalewski Hall renovations were completed in August 2016 with the faculty and staff moving into new offices. In January, our new 214-seat auditorium opens. The remainder of the renovations, including new classrooms, teaching labs, student lounge space and a new glass addition to the building for student networking space is scheduled to be completed by the end of summer 2017. This follows the move of our Division of Pharmaceutical Sciences into new offices and renovated labs in the Medical Sciences Building, along with our new classroom next to Subway, earlier in 2016. I want to thank you for your patience with the construction and disruptions to our spaces. In many ways, this is like a home renovation; with us continuing to use the spaces while the construction occurs all around us. So, there will be some short-term pain for long-term gain.

Since January 2016, we have been working on a new strategic plan for the college, We Are Pharmacy: Rx For The Future, which was approved by the faculty in August 2016. The new tagline for the college is “Lead. Care. Transform.” Our new, simplified mission is: “Develop progressive pharmacy practitioners and researchers to lead the evolution of healthcare.” You will notice that the word “lead” appears in both our new tagline and in our new mission. This is by design. We want to be known as a place that produces leaders in the profession of pharmacy and in pharmaceutical science. This also fits with our new online programs in pharmacy leadership. As part of the strategic planning process, we heard from many PharmD students who completed the on-line survey and who participated in the focus group just for Pharm D students. Your input was valuable and it did make a difference in our final plan.

Since summer 2016, our college has welcomed five new faculty members and our college’s first Academic Fellow. Since 2013 when I became dean, we have grown from 31 full-time faculty members to 41 full-time faculty members and I’m proud of the quality of the faculty members we’ve been able to recruit to the college. Hopefully you’ve already seen the difference they’ve made to the college.

Finally, remember that a small act of kindness can go a long way. I’m so grateful for all that you do for others and for our broader community. If you have a moment, please check out this video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PIHtuKc3Gjg

Best of luck with your finals and end the semester strong. Have a great Christmas and holiday season!

Dean Mac

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Organizational Updates

You can find updates from each organization below. Take a look at what the organizations are doing and think about what you might want to get involved in this spring!

Kappa Epsilon

KE has had a busy and exciting fall semester! Our recruitment included awesome rush events at Kappucinos at Starbucks, Cyclebar, studying at Panera, and dinner at Keystone. We had 18 new members join KE!

October was a busy month with Breast and Ovarian Cancer Awareness (BOCA) week. The week included a bake sale, filling 100 goodie bags for cancer patients at the Barrett Center, Drink Pink, and we wrapped up the week at the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer walk. Almost $1,100 was raised to donate to the American Cancer Society!

A new service project was started this semester called Girls Love Mail where at each meeting, everyone writes a letter of encouragement to a woman recently diagnosed with breast cancer. We have also been teaming up with other organizations for service projects including Habitat for Humanity with KY and a coat drive with IPhO. We are looking forward to exciting events in the spring!

CPFI

Some members of CPFI participated in First Ladies’ Initiative this semester along with members of APhA. We also hosted Gene and Susan Lutz, national board members of CPFI and a Past President of APhA (Gene 2004-2006) to dinner. We’ve also been active with Operation Christmas Child, and have been put back in the national board’s eye by having our founder, Rusty, organize a Punch Out with St. Vincent de Paul. Additionally, we’ve had weekly coffee, Bible studies (Wednesdays at noon), early Morning Prayer on Fridays at 7:30 (usually), and have our murder mystery party on Saturday!
IPhO

Lots of events for this student chapter of IPhO! IPhO held a chili dog fundraiser in the college! Dr. Andrea Murphy and Dr. Michael Schur from Medical Vigilance Solutions, a group in the Drug & Poison Information Center (DPIC) came to present to our members. IPhO also attended a Cincinnati Cyclones hockey game! Dr. David Catanzaro, a Medical Science Liaison from Actelion, presented to our members, about manufacturing pulmonary hypertension medications. In addition, Dr. Brendan Doran, a research pharmacist and project manager from CTI, a clinical research company, came in and presented to our members.

SSHP

This semester SSHP has had several volunteering opportunities to help give back to the Cincinnati community such as participating on the UC team for the Cincinnati Walks for the Kids in September at the Cincinnati Zoo and helping in October with the Halloween Activities Night at the Ronald McDonald House. Students also participated in the volunteering events that took place the week of Veteran’s Day at the VA hospital, during which the students visited with both the residents living in the community living center and with the admitted patients, and helped to distribute gift boxes and bags. SSHP also held their Residency Showcase in October at the UC Medical Sciences Building, which provided opportunities for residencies in the area, such as UCMC, Kroger, Mercy, and VAMC, to communicate with current UC pharmacy students. In November, we also hosted the Pub Crawl in Mt. Adams, which raised almost $200 for Wounded Warrior Project. Dylan Barth and Craig Furnish were named the winners of our Clinical Skills Competition, were 2nd in the state of Ohio, and will go on to compete nationally at ASHP midyear in December. A big thanks to everyone that helped with our fundraising events for the organization such as the quarter-zip sweatshirts and the event at Chipotle, along with helping with all of our volunteering events. We look forward to an exciting spring semester!
ASCP

We have just capped off another great semester for ASCP!

ASCP finished its favorite event of the year, the Twin Towers Health Fair, last Saturday. ASCP led almost 15 student volunteers to Twin Towers Senior Living Community, a retirement home dedicated to enriching the lives of senior citizens in a variety of healthcare settings. There, we helped seniors and families alike with medication questions, blood pressure checks, glucose checks, and immunizations. It is always a blast working with the seniors at Twin Towers, and look forward to seeing them next year.

ASCP has been busy with other events as well. ASCP members recently spoke to seniors of Colerain Township about the dangers of certain Beers list medications in inducing falls and other harm. Dr. Cluxton also led a group of ASCP students to speak community members about the importance of preventing falls through both medication and non-medication means. Overall, another successful and exciting semester for ASCP!

NCPA

NCPA kicked off the semester by welcoming the P1s to the college, and introducing our organization. During our second meeting of the semester, our legislative chair, Zak Fettman, presented the role of PBMs in pharmacy practice and how we can get involved with advocacy for our profession. The third meeting was a joint meeting with ASCP featuring Joy from Ruwe Family Pharmacy. For our most recent meeting, NCPA welcomed Andrea Kramer from Kroger Pharmacy to discuss the clinical opportunities for pharmacists in a community setting. IPhO and ASCP will join us for the final meeting of the semester, where we will be making blankets for critically ill children through Project Linus. This semester’s trivia night, hosted by NCPA, was a huge success with 17 teams participating. Congrats to the winning team, Let’s Get Quizzical! We hope to see everyone for trivia night again next semester.

CPNP

CPNP had several fundraisers including selling T-shirts and events at Chipotle. In addition, events that they held included the Nami Walk, Warrior Run, several events for Mental Wellness Week and Suicide Awareness Week. At the meetings, members got to here from Stephen Stahl at a webinar as well as the executive director of Nami. Talks included patient suffering from Bipolar disorder and Relaxation Techniques. Other speakers included a PGY2 from the Cincinnati VA and Dr. Bailey who visited from Chicago.
Our chapter had a very eventful semester, culminating in the 2016 Fall Midyear Regional Meeting (MRM). Our immediate past president Rebecca Lahrman was Region 4’s MRM Coordinator (MRMC) and, under her direction, we were able to host this year’s meeting in the Queen City during the Halloween weekend!

Over 70 students from our college and over 300 students from across our region registered for #MRM2016. Student pharmacists attended sessions about provider status, how to become leaders in our profession, GenerationRx, and so much more. We also learned about advocacy, and got to add our thoughts to the collective voice of student pharmacists across the nation by participating in the APhA-ASP House of Delegates.

We got a lot done, but we also had fun along the way! At MRM, our chapter had a strong showing for the casino-night themed social. As a chapter, we have also had events for our members including socials like a cornhole tournament, as well as service opportunities with our Patient Care Projects.

SNPhA

The UC SNPhA Chapter is glad to have had another amazing semester – filled with lots of educational opportunities, outreach events, and professional development – which we couldn't have made possible without the SNPhA. We are happy to ring in 2017 with an awesome membership – including renewing and newly welcomed members! This past semester, we have built a handful of new, incredible, community partners including but not limited to the Bethany House Services, Mt. Healthy Food Pantry Alliance, and Santa Maria Community Services. We continued to host free blood pressure and blood sugar screenings and flu shots while providing health education at the annual Fall Women’s Health Fair in Price Hill, the First Ladies’ Health Day Initiative Event, and our dual-location Bethany House Services Health Day. Our inspiring and engaging guest speakers included Kroger PGY2 Resident, Dr. Katie Johnson, Caracole HIV/AIDS Prevention and Education Coordinator, Adam Reilly, UCMC Clinical Psychiatric Pharmacist, Dr. Krissy Reinstatler, and St. Vincent de Paul Resident, Dr. Laura Kuhn! We hope to ring in the New Year with another exciting semester! Thank you for your support, SNPhA!
This fall we enjoyed hosting the Advocacy Forum in September as well as sending 6 members to attend the ACCP conference in Florida in October where 3 presented their own research. We started launching our Pediatrics PRN, which will begin meeting for topic discussions with practitioners and possibly complete a service project in the spring. We also enjoyed another great series of Lunch and Learn style meetings with local practitioners and professors. We look forward to hosting our Residency Roundtables and Organ Donation Awareness Challenge in the spring!

Phi Lambda Sigma, the National Pharmacy Leadership Society, is an honor society that serves to recognize and promote the development of leadership qualities among the pharmacy community. Members are selected to be inducted into PLS in the spring of their second-year of pharmacy school, following faculty or peer nominations.

Over the past semester, PLS members have been busy. Primarily we hosted new director of the Pharmacy Leadership Program here at the college, Dr. Jenelle Sobotka, as our fall speaker open to all people at the college. Dr. Sobotka brought great ideas about how she has and how we can develop and enrich our own leadership skills. We had student involvement in the BeWellUC faculty and staff biometrics screening, which was an excellent opportunity to get involved with the UC community and other students in health profession fields.

Finally, the bulk of our active members have been successfully representing themselves and the college on their rotations these past few months. Congratulations to these members! In conclusion, thank you to our faculty advisor, Dr. Kelly Epplen, for all of her support for PLS as well as the alumni, faculty, and honorary members of PLS. Thanks everyone for a great semester and looking forward to another one!

This semester has been a very busy one for the Beta Phi chapter of Kappa Psi. We spent the first half of it focusing on our rush events including a cookout at the Kappa Psi house, bowling, volleyball, a Red’s game, and a community service event for Operation Smile. Currently, we have 33 pledges, who we plan to induct into our chapter in January. We have also spent a lot of time on philanthropy and community service events this semester. In September we partnered with Kappa Epsilon to help build a house for Habitat for Humanity. In October we cleaned our spot on 71 for Adopt-A-Highway and donated costumes to Cincinnati Children’s Hospital. In November we made bagged meals for a homeless shelter, and during the month of December we are having an OTC Drive for Drop Inn. Also during this semester, many of our brothers attended the Great Lakes Province meeting for Kappa Psi. Here, Joe Phan was voted Historian of the Great Lakes Province and Dr. Cluxton won the Outstanding Brother of the Year Award for the Graduate Chapters. Although it has been a very busy semester for our chapter, it has been a very successful one, and we look forward to everything we have planned in the spring.
Rho Chi

Over the summer and in the past year, Rho Chi created Top 200 Flashcards to be sold to the whole school. They were a huge hit! Each member of Rho Chi helped out with creating the new cards. We also had 1-2 volunteers to help out at St. Vincent de Paul Charitable Pharmacy every Saturday morning. It is a lot of fun! We also sold over 100 copies of our well known “Brains and Guidelines”. We have been updating them and they will be sold in the spring! We also have been able to help out students both individually as well as during group based tutoring sessions. Each student at the school has the option of being paired with a tutor (Rho Chi Member) for any class. The most popular requests this year were biochemistry, anatomy, drug delivery II, therapeutics I, and therapeutics II. Each Thursday, we have our open “Study Lab” in which students are able to study alongside Rho Chi tutors. This is a more informal format of tutoring. Lastly, we are switching our initiation dinner to Nipper Stadium this year. We are very excited and cannot wait to induct the members from the PharmD Class of 2019.

OPA Updates
New Legislation Proposals and Approvals

House Bill 116: Med Sync

Allows pharmacists to dispense a partial fill for chronic disease states to have all of their maintenance medications be filled on the same day
Signed and will be effective on Jan. 1, 2017

House Bill 421: Administration of Long Acting Meds

Allow pharmacists to administer any of the following:

- Opioid antagonists
- Antipsychotics
- Hydroxyprogesterone
- Medroxyprogesterone
- Cyanocobalamin (Vitamin B12)

Passed in the House, will go onto the Senate but has to be passed before the end of the year, or else it has to be reintroduced.