

YOUR MONTHLY NEWSLETTER ABOUT PITTPHARMACY!

FIND US ON SOCIALS

-  @aphapitt
-  University of Pittsburgh
APhA-ASP Chapter
-  @pittasp
-  pitt.aphaasp.eboard@gmail.com

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

APHA HOPES EVERYONE ENJOYED THEIR WELL DESERVED BREAK AND WISH YOU GOOD LUCK ON FINALS!

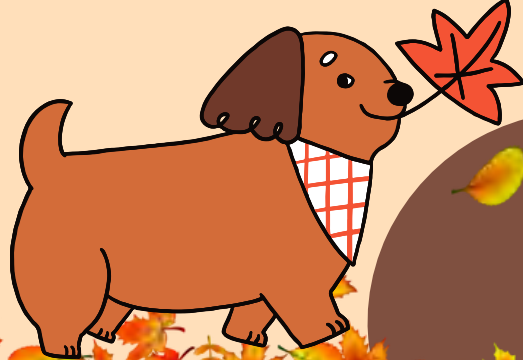
BOARD OF EDITORS

Carina Lew
Likhitha Puttamraju

EDITORIAL BOARD

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
Lydia Nguyen

PUBLICATIONS CHAIR
Yulie Kim



APhA-ASP: American Pharmacists Association Academy of Student Pharmacists

Author: Shannon Osborne (P3) Membership Vice President

We hope everyone is hanging in there as we approach the end of the school year. Classwork can become pretty stressful during this time. We encourage everyone to continue to practice self-care and to remember to take breaks for themselves to avoid burnout. APhA is hosting some exciting events in the upcoming weeks! Use these events to take a break from studying and learn about a new and interesting topic within pharmacy.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to a successful fall membership drive! We welcomed 177 APhA members during our membership drive, and we are so excited to welcome our brand new members from the P1 class. We ended the membership drive positively with all of our pharmacy week celebrations, including pumpkin painting, food, and opportunities to talk to faculty. Our faculty had a wonderful time meeting everyone and hearing about your interests. As you may have known, we held a membership competition to see which student class would have the most members signed up for APhA at the end of the membership drive. Congratulations to our P1 class for having the highest membership total for the fall membership drive! We will reach out to you guys in regards to scheduling a breakfast on behalf of APhA-ASP.

We encourage everyone to attend some of our exciting events for the remainder of the year. We had the Tucci Lecture that occurred on Thursday, November 21st with APhA President Dr. Varkey! Also, we have tons of events happening with the Dean's Theme hosted by many of our project leads and other student organizations. Be sure to attend these events coming up!



ASCP: American Society of Consultant Pharmacists

Author: Camie Schmader (P3) Secretary

ASCP is happy to announce a successful national meeting. Our Eboard and a few P4 members traveled to Aurora, Colorado for the ASCP Annual Exhibition in the beginning of November. Special shoutout to Sophie Stewart for an amazing poster presentation! Around the holidays, remember to visit friends in families in nursing homes! We plan to have a guest speaker in the spring semester so keep an eye out for that. Enjoy the last few weeks of the semester, good luck on finals, and Happy Thanksgiving!



ASOP: Association of Student Oncology Pharmacists

Author: Morgan Faircloth (P3) Secretary

The Association of Student Oncology (ASOP) wishes Pitt Pharmacy a happy November and a relaxing break! Just as a reminder, ASOP is an organization that aims to educate students on various aspects of cancer awareness, treatment, and the roles of healthcare professionals in oncology. If you are considering an oncology career path or just interested in learning more about the role of a pharmacist in oncology, be sure to check out our events.

November was packed with some amazing ASOP events. November was lung cancer awareness month! ASOP hosted an event in the atrium to inform students about the impact of lung cancer. We hosted some events with impressive pharmacists in oncology this month. On November 11th, there was a dinner and dialogue event with Dr. Melissa Bastacky. Dr. Bastacky is a Hematology/Oncology clinical pharmacy specialist from UPMC Shadyside. She shared an overview of the residency process as well as clinically focused career paths in oncology. We had a combined roundtable event with the Student College of Clinical Pharmacy (SCCP). Dr. Marlene Claycomb, a pharmacist at UPMC talked about her journey to becoming an oncology pharmacist. At the end of her session, attendees got to ask questions regarding the field of oncology, residency, and general advice! On November 15th, we hosted a zoom event with Dr. Tristen Maiers from Geisinger Enterprise Pharmacy. He talked about his unique experience in oncology and the opportunities available at Geisinger.

ASOP also had a combined event with PLS and AAPP to educate students on leadership opportunities in the fields of oncology and psychiatric pharmacy. Lastly, ASOP is currently holding a donation drive for patients at UPMC Hillman Cancer Center. Items to donate include lip balm, hand lotion, hard candy, crosswords, hand sanitizer, socks and slippers, playing cards, beanies, and blankets. The box is in the Curran Student Center and will be available for donations until December 6th.

Please consider donating!

Don't forget to follow us on Instagram @asop_pittpharmacy to stay up to date on everything ASOP related! We have some exciting events planned for the spring semester and hope to see you there.

ISPOR: International Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research

Author: Jolie Nguyen (P2) Secretary

On Monday, November 11th, ISPOR held our first guest speaker event, attended by 57 students! Thank you so much for your participation and for supporting our organization! We are very excited about the success of this event and strive to continue hosting future events promoting Health Economics and Outcomes Research.

Our guest speaker was Dr. Tony Okoro, PharmD, MPH, Director of HEOR at Bayer. He shared his journey into the pharmaceutical industry and the world of HEOR and discussed how he conducts research studies related to health economics, epidemiology, quality of care, and market access. Dr. Okoro also presented real-life complex situations that HEOR pharmacists face and explained how they collaborate to navigate these scenarios. At the end of the presentation, students split into individual groups and participated in an interactive case that a HEOR pharmacist would typically encounter. They discussed the implications of the problem and developed creative solutions. This event was Dashboard-approved for Innovation, and it encouraged our students to come up with solutions utilizing their problem-solving skills.

We are planning a guest speaker panel for next semester and would love to see you there! No prior experience, research, or background knowledge is required to attend. All interested students, both undergraduate and graduate, are more than welcome to participate in our organization's meetings!

ISPOR aims to support our students in learning more about pharmacoeconomics and discovering diverse fields that pharmacists can pursue. We offer networking opportunities with HEOR professionals and are creating special topics research opportunities with credit for the spring semester. If you're interested in attending our future events or have any questions, please feel free to reach out to us at isporpitt@gmail.com. We look forward to seeing you at our next meeting!



Kappa Psi: Kappa Psi Pharmaceutical Fraternity, Incorporated

Author: Colin Schurek (P3) Corresponding Secretary

With the weather finally taking a cooler turn, the Brothers of the Beta Kappa Chapter of the Kappa Psi Pharmaceutical Fraternity, Inc., have been working hard inside and outside of Salk Hall as the end of the semester rapidly approaches!

Inside of Salk Hall, Beta Kappa helped with academics and spread seasonal cheer.

Our Academic and Scholarship Chair, Olivia Frey, assisted members of the Fraternity in their academic studies by hosting several review sessions for key content areas in the first and second year curriculum. To spread spooky October cheer and fundraise money for our Fraternity, several of our Brothers participated in a "Halloween caroling program," traveling around the school and singing seasonal tunes to faculty and staff.

Outside of Salk Hall, our Brothers were so excited to attend the Mountain East Province Fall Assembly hosted right here in the city of Pittsburgh at Duquesne University by the Delta Epsilon Chapter! At the Assembly, our Brothers fundraised for our Chapter, participated in professional development workshops, networked with Brothers from across the province, and attended important Fraternity legislation sessions! We are so proud to announce that we had three Brothers, Gabby Sommers (P3), Olivia Frey (P3), and Kayleigh Moyer (P2), be elected to the Province Executive Board! Rounding out a busy day of events was an award ceremony, where our Chapter won the Four Values Chapter Award for our accomplishments and our Brother Lexi Tamburri (P3) won the Four Values Individual Award for her hard work and dedication!



The Beta Kappa Chapter of Kappa Psi Pharmaceutical Fraternity, Inc., looks forward to our upcoming Philanthropy event at the CHS Oakland Food Pantry being held in the very near future and to seeing the success of our Brothers as we continue into the end of the semester!

PLS: Phi Lambda Sigma

Author: Brinn Mancuso (P3) Interim Secretary

Good luck to everyone on finals, and PLS hopes everyone has a great Winter break! Throughout the past month, we have been focusing on expanding our organization and collaborating with other clubs to host events.

What have we been working on?

First, in collaboration with SSCP, we hosted Dr. Terrence McGuire to discuss his innovative work in Cannabis research along with his leadership in the industry. In addition, our event “Exploring Oncology and Psychiatric Pharmacy” with ASOP and AAPP was very successful. Attendees were able to learn about specialized pharmacy fields and leadership opportunities. Looking ahead, we’re accepting applications to PLS until Sunday, December 22nd at 11:59 PM. Joining PLS is a great way to enhance leadership skills and network with students and alumni. Finally, we will be hosting an EBoard Fair on Monday, January 27th during lunch where students can learn about leadership opportunities available in all Pitt Pharmacy clubs.

What is the PLS auction?

Coming in the Spring, we will be hosting the annual PLS Charity Auction to support the Grace Lamsam Pharmacy Program for the underserved. There will be many fun activities and things to bid on in collaboration with Pitt Pharmacy professors and staff. Make sure to stay tuned for more details about this event as it’s super exciting for the entire school!



Leader of the Month:

Congratulations to Mandy Race, P3, for being nominated as October’s PLS Leader of the Month! Use the QR code included to nominate a student leader for November’s Leader of the Month! Make sure to follow us on Instagram @pittpls to stay updated!



PPA: Pennsylvania Pharmacists Association

Author: Alayne Gaghan (P3) Communications Ambassador

Happy Thanksgiving from PPA! PPA focuses on advocating for pharmacists in PA and advancing the profession. We are involved with many pharmacy topics such as policy making and advocacy, industry, community, and hospital. There is a place for everyone in PPA!

Our first event for the month of November was a Narcan Tabling Event held in the Salk Atrium. The event aimed to educate the Pitt Pharmacy community about substance use safety and harm reduction strategies. Participants learned how to properly use Narcan to prevent opioid overdoses and how to utilize xylazine and fentanyl test strips to identify dangerous substances. Attendees received free harm reduction kits that included Narcan, test strips, and valuable informational resources. On the same day, PPA also hosted an event focusing on collaborative practice and state protocols in pharmacy. Students learned about how pharmacists are able to work with other healthcare professionals and expand their own responsibilities. On October 7th, we held another atrium event educating on point-of-care testing in PA. PPA hosted a vaccine practice speaker event where student pharmacists were able to learn about a new policy passed in PA that expanded Pharmacists' ability to immunize pediatric patients as well as the unique intricacies of pediatric vaccinations. They also practiced their immunization skills using the Pitt Vaccination Hub's practice arms. We also hosted an ECAPS letter-writing campaign where participants were able to learn more about the ECAPS bill and how to get involved with advocacy as a student pharmacist. Through the campaign, students were able to send a letter out to their legislators about the ECAPS bill. On November 19th, PPA hosted a fun OTC Family Feud Student vs Faculty event where 5 students and 5 faculty competed in an OTC Family Feud competition to assess their OTC medication knowledge. Others came to cheer their peers and faculty on and enjoyed some pizza. Lastly, November included a patient care event about combating stigma in accessing OTC needles.

We have many more events coming up next month, so stay tuned! Be sure to follow us on Instagram @ppa_pitt to stay up to date on our upcoming events and fundraisers, as well as meet the Eboard! We cannot wait to continue advocating for Pennsylvania pharmacists and spending time together at these entertaining and informative events.



PPIP: Pittsburgh Pharmacy Investment Portfolio

Author: Jolie Nguyen (P2) Director of Communications

PPIP is hoping everyone had a relaxing Thanksgiving break! This month, we were able to welcome four accomplished Pitt Pharmacy alumni to share their current residency and fellowship experiences. During this alumni panel, our members and students were able to gain valuable knowledge on what it takes to get to the positions they hold now and more on what their daily jobs entail. These professionals came from a variety of pharmaceutical organizations, including Johnson and Johnson, Sanofi, Allegheny Health Network, and Bristol Myers Squibb.

Thank you to all of the alumni that took the time to speak with us!

Additionally, we here with PPIP are still all diligently keeping our eyes on the Biotech Investment Fantasy League (BIFL) competition, an annual investment simulation that allows student pharmacists to gain skills in healthcare investing. The competition closed on November 22nd, but we look forward to identifying the top ten highest-earning students! These competitors will have the chance to present their portfolios to a panel of judges for a cash prize of \$100. We look forward to hearing the presentations! We will be announcing more information on the scheduling of the final presentation day for the top ten portfolios soon! Do not forget, this experience is dashboard approved for Innovation on Suitable!

Last but not least, we would like to welcome our newest member and P1 rep, Fatama Shareef! We look forward to working with Fatama on all of our future plans!

If you're interested in attending our future events or have any questions, feel free to reach out to us at pittsburghpharmacyportfolio1@gmail.com to be added to our email list and stay informed about any upcoming events.



Rho Chi: Academic Honor Society in Pharmacy

Author: Alayne Gaghan (P3) Historian

Happy Thanksgiving! Rho Chi hopes you had a restful break filled with relaxation and good food! As a reminder, Rho Chi is the academic honor society at Pitt Pharmacy. We focus on advancing pharmacy through sustained intellectual leadership. We are involved throughout the pharmacy school in many ways and are always trying to help out the classes below us!

November brought more exams for the P1s and P2s, therefore more review sessions were provided by Rho Chi. We held a PDR review for exam 3 on November 8th for the P2s. We also held an anatomy and physiology review for exam 4 on November 12th for the P1s. Lastly, we held a cardiology review for exam 3 on November 15th also for the P2s. We are grateful for the opportunity to help the other classes while they are preparing for exams and hope these review sessions are beneficial to their studying. Rho Chi also held our annual Posters, Professors, and Progress Event where we were able to hear about many of the interesting research ventures of our amazing faculty. November also included our annual business card fundraiser for the pharmacy school. Our November health lecture at the Salvation Army was held on the evening of November 21st and focused on heartburn and GERD, perfect for the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday.

We have plenty to look forward to next month throughout the end of this semester. Be sure to follow us on Instagram @rhochi_alphaomicron to stay up to date on our upcoming events and fundraisers, as well as meet the Eboard! We cannot wait to continue to be intellectual leaders in the School of Pharmacy and assist the P1s and P2s in their pharmacy school journeys.



SIO: Student Industry Organization

Author: Lily Turner (P3) Vice President of Communications

Hello student pharmacists, faculty, and staff! The Student Industry Organization had a great November! On November 11 at 12 PM, SIO hosted Jay Stragand, a Pitt Pharmacy alumni, to speak about his time in pharmaceutical sales. It was an opportunity for students to ask questions about a less traditional career path for a PharmD. Along with this event, SIO has been continually supporting students in searching for internships in the pharmaceutical industry. Stay updated by following @siopitt on Instagram. Use the links in the bio to locate tips about searching for internships and a list of internships to apply for. There will be more events coming up in the spring, including the Annual Student Industry Organization Symposium! If anyone has any questions or ideas, please feel free to reach out at studentindustryorg@gmail.com.

The logo for the Student Industry Organization (SIO) features the letters 'SIO' in a large, bold, yellow serif font with a thin black outline. The letters are centered within a white rectangular box that has a thick blue border.

Student Industry Organization

SSHP: Student Society of Health System Pharmacists

Author: Joya Scibek (P3) Internal Career Development Chair

Hello everyone! Can you believe that it's almost time for finals?

This semester has flown by! During the month of November, we had our annual clinical skills competition. There were a total of 6 teams who participated. All of the teams received a case to make interventions and show off their clinical knowledge. The top 3 teams moved on to present to a panel of judges. The teams were asked questions and had to defend their interventions.

Congratulations to Michelle Gonsalves and Anneliese Harp for securing 1st place in our competition! They will go on to compete at Midyear in New Orleans at the ASHP national competition.

Our second event of the month was Residency 101! This was a Q&A-style event where students could ask various questions about residency. We had PGY1 residents and a residency director from hospitals all around Pittsburgh. We also had a residency showcase in the atrium on November 14th. We hope you were able to network and learn more about various residency programs.

If you ordered a fleece from our fleece sale, thank you for supporting us! They will be delivered soon.

Lastly, thank you to everyone who came to our Oncology Pharmacist Chat! We hope you got your questions answered by Dr. Katie Contestabile. Be sure to look out for more events coming next month. If you are a P3, good luck with your IPPEs!