The Mortar & Pestle
Black Student Pharmacist Organization
Quarterly Newsletter

Why does the COP need BSPO?

Written by: Kyra Leonard

Black Student Pharmacist Organization was created with the intention of providing a social support group for Black and African-American students within the University of Georgia College of Pharmacy. During my second semester of pharmacy school, I noticed that the few programs about Black pharmacists left much to be desired. My classmates and I also noted various mentions of diversity and inclusion from the College but were unable to observe the actual manifestations. Likewise, in classes and engagements specifically designed to expose us to current professionals in the field of pharmacy, there was a notable absence that was painstakingly obvious to us.

In addition to the noted absence of pharmacists who looked like me, there was a lack of unity and comradery amongst the Black students in the College. Seeing this blatant need, I thought it would be worthwhile to create those spaces that we were so noticeably absent from. Inspired by our sister chapter at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Pharmacy, I set out to emulate a similar organization here in the College of Pharmacy.

By providing special programming that is geared towards our unique cultural experience, we aim to not only provide networking opportunities for Black students to connect with pharmacists that resemble themselves but to also expose the COP and Athens community to societal barriers that have historically limited African-American & Black individuals from obtaining access to higher education. This quarterly newsletter will serve as one of the vectors to educate the COP and increase social avenues that are safe in the time of a national pandemic. Enjoy!
We began the new semester with our Spring Semester Kickoff. The Spring Semester Kickoff gave us the opportunity to introduce ourselves and our purpose here at UGA to students who were interested in learning more about the organization.

We also held our first toiletry drive, and it was a huge success! We would like to thank everyone for all of their support and donations. We were able to provide three bins full of toiletries to Family Connections - Communities in Schools Athens. FCCIS is a non-profit that supports at-risk youth and their families. We hope to continue this each year and that it will be more successful in years to come!

Meet Our P1 Liaison

Jessie Edgar Jr.

"...as a P1 student I feel it's important for me to get involved in an organization and this is the organization that is the most compatible with my interests. I would hope that I can learn a lot of things from this position."

*We want to thank everyone that took the time to apply for the P1 liaison position. It was a very competitive process. We want to encourage everyone to stay involved and look out for more opportunities in the near future!
MEDICAL APARTHEID: THE DARK HISTORY OF MEDICAL EXPERIMENTATION ON BLACK AMERICANS FROM COLONIAL TIMES TO THE PRESENT

This book is a detailed account of the atrocities that African Americans have faced at the hands of the medical profession and the scientific community. It does a great job of offering insight as to why there is such distrust among some African American communities with their healthcare providers.

Racial Disparities in Medication Use: Imperatives for Managed Care Pharmacy

Author: Stephen J Kogut, PhD, MBA, RPh


She is the Information and Instructional Technology Client Services Manager. Sarah is the reason you’ll never miss a lecture! While this transition to virtual learning has been challenging, Sarah has been vital in keeping us connected. If you see her in the halls, don’t forget to say thank you!
Restaurants

Punta Cana Latin Grill
367 Prince Ave Ste 1, Athens, GA 30601
Phone: (706) 850-8960

Dawg on Good BBQ
224 W Hancock Ave, Athens, GA 30601
Phone: (706) 613-9799

Weaver D's
1016 E Broad St, Athens, GA 30601
Phone: (706) 353-7797

Food for the Soul
1965 W Broad St, Athens, GA 30606
Phone: (706) 546-0052

Cool World Ice Cream
1040 Gaines School Rd #218, Athens, GA 30605
Phone: (706) 850-8306

Hair Care

Studio 74
145 Epps Bridge Rd, Athens, GA 30606
Phone: (706) 543-9144

Jet's Cuts
400 Hawthorne Ave, Athens, GA 30606
Phone: (706) 850-3379

Businesses

Eric's Tailor Shop
630 Hawthorne Ave, Athens, GA 30606
Phone: (706) 247-6446

Barbara's Alterations
100 Northcrest Dr, Athens, GA 30601
Phone: (706) 548-2440

McRae Family Dental
995 Baxter St, Athens, GA 30606
Phone: (706) 480-9410

STUDY TIPS

- Schedule at least one hour of "me time" for every four hours of studying you do. Don't overwhelm yourself.
- Study lecture materials beforehand so you'll know what questions to ask during class

INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE

“Challenges make you discover things about yourself that you never really knew.”
- Cicely Tyson

Scan the QR code to enjoy a study playlist created by our Treasurer, Stanley Otiwu!