Welcome Back

UPCOMING DATES

- Spooky Mask Decorating Contest
  Deadline - October 31st
- Midyear Regional Meeting - November 2nd-6th
- Organization Hour: Speaker Dr. Bill Asbury from Emory - November 3rd
- Hawthorne Point-of-Care Testing - November 4th
- General Body Meeting - November 12th
Welcome back to APhA-ASP's monthly newsletter! I hope that you all had a pharm-tastic American Pharmacists Month! October has been an exciting month for our chapter and we have so much to celebrate. Everything that we have accomplished this month wouldn't have been possible without the help of our amazing members and dedicated faculty. Adapting our annual Pharmtoberfest event to a virtual format took collaboration between many student organizations, our phenomenal UGA COP faculty, and our generous sponsor, Kroger. Thank you all for making this event another success and helping us educate patients in and around the UGA community once again. We also had some other exciting events in October, such as our annual Step Challenge with Operation Heart, a Vaccine Myths and Misconceptions presentation with Operation Immunization and the Pre-Pharmacy Society, the Breast Cancer Survivor Panel with our Women's Health Initiative and SOAP.org hour with our very own Dr. Norton and addiction specialist, Victoria Cooper, and our current IPSF's spooky mask decorating contest. Thank you all for helping make this year as fun and involved as possible and I can't wait to see what next month has in store!
For the first three years: Your years at the College of Pharmacy will go by fast. Take advantage of the opportunity to learn all you can. Challenge your professors to let you know how the material they are teaching is important to your future practice. While the answer may not be obvious, there is always an important reason for the material. Enjoy the friends you make at the College. Many will be life-long friends and that’s a priceless gift. Be sure to identify a mentor and check in with them regularly. For most professors, mentoring students is one of the most rewarding things we do. I know it is for me.

For fourth year students: Pour yourself into your rotations. They represent phenomenal learning opportunities. There are 2 good paths for you as you finish up your College of Pharmacy time. One choice: do a residency. You have heard all the reasons why this is a good idea. But it is not for everyone for a variety of reasons. So the other path is get a job, but not just any job. Get a great first job. A great first job is one that will allow you to grow as a health care professional. And for both paths, maintain contact with your mentor and identify another one in your residency or job. Remember this…. You will spend the majority of your waking hours at your job. You really need to enjoy it and look forward to each workday.

Rusty May, Pharm.D., FASHP
Clinical Professor
Where are you from? Appling, GA
What year are you? P3
What is your favorite part about APhA?
There are so many ways to get involved! With all of the different operations and events, I can feel like a valued member of the organization all the way from Augusta. I also loved serving as Operation Heart Co-Chair last year as a P2.
What are your plans after pharmacy school? I hope to complete two years of residency, with a PGY-2 focused in oncology, to become a clinical specialist in oncology pharmacy.
What is a fun fact about you? I studied abroad in Russia, and I speak Russian (poorly)!

PHARMTTOBERFEST
PUMPKIN PAINTING
CONTEST WINNERS!!

A HUGE thank you to everyone that took the time to participate in the Pharmtoberfest Pumpkin Painting Contest this year and helped it be another great success!

Congratulations to our winners, Hannah Henderson, Blake Terrell, Kellie Hauck, and Alex Parrish! Their pumpkin reminds us that pharmacists can help assist patients with insulin administration and educate patients on their diabetes.
**Pharmtoberfest 2020**

The first ever hybrid APhA-ASP Pharmtoberfest Week was a huge success! With the support of the CoP community and the hard work of student organizations, **hundreds of people** were reached within and outside the UGA community through virtual patient education, tri-fold displays, point-of-care testing, and flu shots. In honor of **American Pharmacists Month**, many more people now know exactly what their pharmacist can do for them!

**AMSA Presentation with Operation Heart**

Operation Heart recently had the opportunity to give a presentation at a virtual UGA AMSA meeting. Our co-chairs and volunteers provided over **100 pre-med students** an introduction to anticoagulation and to how prescribers and pharmacists can work together to optimize medication therapy.
In Operation OTC, our goal is to educate students and the community about over-the-counter medication safety. The age group we target most are young children, specifically first graders. A game we like to play with the kids is “Candy vs Medicine”. In this game, we show the kids two bags side by side. One bag will have a medication and the other will have a candy that looks very similar to that medication. We then get them to choose which one is the candy and which one is the medicine. By doing this game with the kids, you can tell how easy it is for them to confuse the two. The main thing we try to stress to them is to always ask a parent or guardian before putting anything in your mouth.

Educating kids on the importance of not taking anything without supervision is a great way to reduce the number of accidental overdoses in the US. Parents can also take special precautions when it comes to storing their medications to aid in the decrease. When picking up your prescription or OTC medications, see if the pharmacy offers any medications that have child protective packaging. You can also be sure to keep your medications in a high place, out of sight of children. We all know things can happen fast, so if your child does end up sneaking some pills call Poison Control (1-800-222-1222) so you can take the necessary steps in helping your child.

Sources:
https://nationaltoday.com/national-child-health-day/
https://www.nsc.org/home-safety/safety-topics/child-safety/medicine
APHA-ASP is honored to be hosting Dr. Asbury from Emory University Hospital in Atlanta, coming to talk to us about his position as a Neurocritical Care Pharmacist. He will be discussing how he got into this position and more about Neurocritical Care Pharmacy.

2020 Step Challenge Final Standings

1. Team Steptokinase - 377,354 steps
   a. Ashley Postell, Emily Smith, Emily Wall
2. Team 3 - 335,783 steps
   a. Kelly Gilbert, Lauren Hodgkins, Mark Molinaro
3. Team Atorvasteppin - 228,266 steps
   a. Ashley Odom, Sara Grace Peacock, Savannah Rainey
4. The Runs - 198,195 steps
   a. Emily Queen, Kaitlin Grout, Gelina Sani
5. P1 Struggle Bus - 176,244 steps
   a. Nick Castillo, Victoria Clark, Michaelyn Tapley