Editor’s Note

It’s hard to believe that this semester is almost over! To me, it feels like this fall semester just started! With the holidays approaching, this is the perfect time to take a break and reflect on all the things we have to be thankful for. I’m truly thankful for all the support I get from my friends and family. I’m also very thankful for my pharmily! I’m thankful to not just call you my classmates, or my colleagues, but to call you all my friends! I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving break, and took the time from this stressful semester to reflect on how much you have to be thankful for!

Go Gators!

Jimmy Hayden
Student Council Vice President
jamesahayden@ufl.edu
Hi Pharmily!

It has been a great start to the semester for APhA-ASP with many successful events already completed and even more inspiring events to look forward to! This semester, APhA-ASP hit the ground running, literally, hosting multiple events which were national association walks/5ks! Not only were the events successful, they also took a huge step forward for the organization by looking ahead at the future events that the spring may hold.

APhA-ASP’s Operation Diabetes participated in this year’s American Diabetes Association Step Out walk in hopes of contributing to ADA in their efforts to support research, advocacy, and public awareness activities. The day of the event was a celebration for fundraising accomplishments and an opportunity to promote awareness about diabetes and the American Diabetes Association. This year was more special than ever because it was the 75th Anniversary of the American Diabetes Association; no better way to get some exercise in on a Saturday morning, than joining them to celebrate 75 years of uninterrupted progress working to better the lives of those with diabetes through education, advocacy, and research.

In addition to the American Diabetes Association Step Out Walk, APhA-ASP also collaborated with USF and LECOM’s Operation Heart to participate in the American Heart Association 2015 Tampa Bay Heart Walk! With a total of 36 members combined, the team was able to raise $545 to support American Heart Association projects such as: groundbreaking pediatric heart and stroke research, getting life-saving information to those who need it most, and providing doctors with the most up to date research so they can better serve their patients. Our team participated in the AHA’s Heart Walk to promote physical activity to build healthier lives free of cardiovascular disease and stroke.

Tampa Bay Tech Academy of Health professions invited APhA-ASP to their classrooms on November 19th, 2015 to participate in the Great American Teach In for Hillsborough County. This was a great opportunity to share with future health professionals various roles of pharmacists in the community, entrance requirements for pharmacy school, and life as pharmacy students.

On behalf of the APhA-ASP leadership team, we would like to give a huge thank you to our pediatric awareness chair, Sarah Fawaz, for all her hard work in coordinating the pediatric fundraiser that helped raise $6,000 for the Pediatric Cancer Foundation. Thanks to everyone that helped donate and bring awareness during Childhood Cancer Awareness month. This is truly amazing! We would like to say congratulations to everyone this semester on your accomplishments and thank you for your dedication to the organization. We look forward to hosting more events in the upcoming semester, so be on the lookout for more upcoming events!
With October being breast cancer awareness month, the Alpha Omega chapter got involved with multiple fundraising events. More than 25 members put on their running shoes and participated in the Susan G. Komen Florida Suncoast Race for the Cure on October 3rd. The race raised nearly $70,000 towards breast cancer awareness and research. For the third consecutive year, our chapter was awarded the “Largest Team in the School Division” award for the excellent participation among College of Pharmacy students.

The entire school joined us at our annual Drink for Pink in downtown St. Petersburg to celebrate the end of October and to raise money for breast cancer research. We had a great time raising money with our fellow brothers and classmates. The event raised over $500 for breast cancer research. Kappa Epsilon would like to thank everyone who came out and supported our successful fundraising events this semester.

We would also like to give recognition to our chapter advisor Dr. Childs-Kean for being honored by the Florida Society of Health-System Pharmacists as the recipient of the 2015 FSHP Forerunner Award. We are proud of your dedication and contribution to the practice of Pharmacy.

Alexa Conte
Secretary

Kappa Epsilon
Hello, STP! Hope the semester is going well for everyone. Congratulations on making it through October! It is hard to believe that the holidays are quickly approaching. SNPhA has had some great events so far. The Environmental/Public Service chairs started out the semester with a fun beach cleanup at Madeira Beach, and just recently had the opportunity to help volunteer at the Heart Walk in Tampa. SNPhA had the chance to team up with LECOM at the Tampa Kidney Walk. We both performed blood pressure and blood glucose screenings at this event, and it was a great chance to interact with the community and help counsel patients on blood pressure and blood glucose goals. At our most recent general body meeting, we decided to put a twist on it and have a Middle Eastern theme, complete with some delicious Arabic food, a short presentation about Pharmacy in the Middle East, and topped it off with some belly dancing lessons (let’s just say we should all probably stick to careers in pharmacy). We are also hosting a Metropolitan Ministries Food and Toy Drive. We would appreciate items such as canned fruit, dessert mixes, cereal, bagged or canned vegetables, as well as infant and teen gifts (ages 13-17) and gift cards. We would greatly appreciate the support and would love to be able to give to those in need during this upcoming holiday season.

Since Thanksgiving has just passed, it is only appropriate to give thanks to all the officers and chairs for all the hard work that they have put in this semester. It has been a successful semester for SNPhA, and it could not have been done without them. Hope you all enjoy your Thanksgiving break with your family and friends!

SNPhA

Besan Abdel-Khaleq
President
“She stood in the storm, and when the wind did not blow her way, we adjusted our sails.” – Elizabeth Edwards

Adaptability is much more than the ability to adapt to changes. It’s essential to life. Much like Darwin’s concept of survival of the fittest, those who handle changes well develop characteristics that make them stronger. So what does that have to do with our Chapter? In two short years, Epsilon Sigma will not be the same as the University of Florida College of Pharmacy St. Petersburg campus closes its doors for good. We’re shifting roles and making moves to we anticipate the roadblocks that come with decreasing numbers as the 4th year Brothers graduate and the 3rd years go on rotation. One thing for sure is that our work, dedication, and friendship will precede us to leave an everlasting legacy.

On another note, many of our Brothers were able to attend the Southeast Province Fall Assembly in the beautiful Savannah, Georgia hosted by South University. The Brothers truly enjoyed the southern hospitality in Savannah and had a great weekend spending time with fellow pharmacy students and pharmacists.

This new semester will bring more opportunities for growth and changes that will help our Brothers develop as future pharmacists and leaders. We look forward to participating in annual events like Light the Night Walk and brotherly bonding at Top Golf. As our Chapter gets smaller, we look to reach out and create stronger fellowships with neighboring chapters and as well as the local Tampa Graduate Chapter. We still have a year and a half left and we plan to make the most of it.
FSHP: Fall-ing into the Semester

Sarah Fawaz
Secretary

Just because Florida weather has decided to ignore that it is indeed Fall, doesn’t mean FSHP has done the same! As we transition into the Holiday season, it’s safe to say that FSHP has had yet another successful Fall semester—and we are just getting started. From volunteer work to challenging our clinical minds, members have stepped up and shown what it’s like to be a dedicated FSHP member and student pharmacist!

We kicked off our semester with FSHP’s annual Clinical Skills Competition in October, where students could put their Pharmacotherapy knowledge to the test and pair up to solve a rigorous patient case. From Warfarin dosing to bacterial infections, this year’s case proved to be challenging, but no challenge too big for a Gator Student Pharmacist! Congratulations to our campus winners Chelsea Green and Catherine Collins, as well as our 2nd place winners, Alex Huynh and Shawn Heiney and 3rd place winners Melissa Ramsey and Jayme-Jo TenBieg. A huge thank you to all who participated and made the event possible, including the brave 2PDs who had yet to be exposed to some of the topics encompassed by the case.

Later in October, members were able to set their clinical skills aside and put their cooking skills to the test, as several members showed up to cook breakfast for families staying at the Ronald McDonald House in downtown Saint Petersburg. We traded our white coats for aprons for a day and made pancakes, bacon and eggs, among several other delicious breakfast foods, and served them to families staying at the house.

October’s final event required switching back from aprons to business attire, as students were able to attend a collaborative event with USF’s College of Pharmacy—the mentor dinner. This dinner provided students with the opportunity to network with pharmacists and each other, exposing themselves to residency options whilst making connections along the way.

Throughout the semester, our meetings remained exciting as we learned about “Elevator Speeches” and played jeopardy—it’s never too late to learn about Canada’s government (Thanks, Ally!). We are looking forward to finishing the semester strong and want to thank everyone who has been a part of making this semester so successful! Be sure to stay tuned for more exciting events in the upcoming spring semester!
The AMCP St. Petersburg chapter got off to a great start this fall semester! The 2015 AMCP Nexus meeting took place in Orlando, FL and our chapter was represented well by several St. Petersburg chapter members. The Nexus meeting takes place annually during a four to five day period and is open to student pharmacists, managed care pharmacists, and industry healthcare professionals. Students have the opportunity to network and learn more about different managed care job opportunities and development of specific drug products within the pharmaceutical industry. Five student members from the AMCP St. Petersburg chapter were chosen to present at the student poster symposium corresponding to a specific managed care or drug cost topic. Dr. Patty Taddei-Allen, a Clinical Pharmacist from WellDyne as well as UF faculty member, worked closely in mentoring and guiding students during the course of their project research. The Nexus conference served as a wonderful learning and networking opportunity for student pharmacists!

AMCP also had a wonderful opportunity to collaborate with FSHP during the first Brown Bag Screening of the semester, which took place at the SPC Seminole Community Library. AMCP invited a representative from the Florida Shine program, which is an organization that educates Medicare members about benefits and provides them with valuable information about drug costs. Managed care is a fundamental component in ensuring effective patient adherence and facilitating positive therapeutic outcomes. Students were able to appreciate how the representative from Florida Shine interacted with patients to help them better understand what types of benefits were included in their specific plan as well as answer specific drug cost related questions. AMCP hopes to collaborate again with ASP and FSHP at future screenings to incorporate managed care into optimizing patient care and outcomes! AMCP is wrapping up the fall semester with a Medication Therapy Management (MTM) workshop for students led by a Clinical Pharmacist from Wellcare, a Pharmacy benefit management company in Tampa, FL. We look forward to the exciting opportunities in the upcoming new year!
UPCOMING DATES

Dec 5th: Global Health Travel workshop (in Gainesville)
Dec 6th: Hanukkah begins
Dec 7th: Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
Dec 12th-18th: Final Exams
Dec 22nd: Winter begins
Dec 25th: Christmas day
Dec 26th: Kwanzaa begins
Boxing Day (Canada)

Newsletter Staff

Jimmy Hayden
(2PD) Editor and VP of Student Council