

Therapeutic WINDOW

UCSF School of Pharmacy

ASSP-ASUC | Fall 2013

Remember to bask in your glory

By Mike Yang
ASSP President

It has been a long-standing tradition (since Fall 2013, actually) that the ASSP President gets to be on the front page of the Therapeutic Window. Since the ASSP president doesn't really get much exposure to the student body, I would like to take this time to introduce myself to you. Hello! My name is Mr. Awesome, but people like to call me by my nickname, Mike Yang, and I will rule ASSP for one more quarter (you may buy your "Michael Yang Countdown Clocks" by clicking on [this link](#)).

Even though I still have one quarter left in my reign, it is hard to fathom just how many people I have affected directly or indirectly as ASSP President, or even just as "Michael Yang." One individual I helped is current P2 Uyen "Winnie" Duong.

The class of 2016 had their first OSCE during the fall of 2012. Winnie felt that her OSCE didn't go as well as she had hoped and walked out of the library feeling pretty down and demoralized. It was by chance that I saw her walking out and, with a big smile, I asked her how it went and gave her a big hug when she told me about it. She felt so much better because she realized that, even though she might have felt down at the time, things work out eventually. Seeing me happy made her happy.

Here is the funny part about this story: I don't remember it at all. I've dug deep, searched through my memory banks, and I don't recall any of it. Nothing. Zip. Nada.



ASSP President Mike Yang poses with Winnie Duong, a current P2.

It sounds plausible, however, because it sounds like something I would have done. Nevertheless, I was surprised that this thing I didn't remember doing, a simple act of kindness on my part, meant so much to her.

How many times have you sat down and thought about how many individuals you've affected in a positive way? The times I've stopped and done it number fewer than the fingers on one of my hands. Sometimes, under the stress and pressure of pharmacy school, it is easy for us to forget that we chose this profession in order to help others. It would be a terrible shame for us not to recognize that we are indeed changing lives and helping

others already, in ways however small. Be a little selfish and take the credit that you deserve.

How many times have others done something for you that took little effort for them but meant the world to you? How many times have you told that person how much their actions meant to you? In the next two weeks, I encourage you all to reach out to at least one person, particularly someone you don't know very well, and let him or her know how much his or her words or actions meant to you.

I guarantee you will be returning a favor just by telling your story, because the story Winnie told me was nothing short of amazing.

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Skit Night showcases student talent

By Leann McDowell
ASSP President-Elect

Welcome back all returning students, and welcome class of 2017! Fall quarter is almost over, and it's hard to believe that 2014 is just around the corner. This year, I was able to plan one of my favorite events from last year: Skit Night! It was a huge success, and it wouldn't have been possible without all of the incredibly talented performers.

Mike De Guia and Mike Yang served as hosts for the evening, which included fifteen entertaining acts starring P1s, P2s, and even alumni. The evening had four Wongs playing piano in four different acts (Gabe, Alicia, Daisy, Stephanie). Esther Chung, Daisy Wong, Stephanie Truong and Lauren Louie all showed off their amazing singing talents. Edna Cheung and Niki Arab performed a violin and piano duet, and Song Lee Kim, Uyen Duong, Rjay Delmonte and Vincent Cagonot showed us the pharmacy version of the song "Cups" from the movie *Pitch Perfect*.

We saw two live skits from the P1s and Bollywood dancing from Ronika Kalpage, Riti Gupta, Malini Madhusudhan, Alysha Fahmi and Lilia Aivazyan. Videos from the P2s showed us what can happen when pharmacists say the wrong things ("Pharmacists Gone Bad") and when Vine videos are taken too far ("The Pharm: Bat Pharmacist"). We also saw musical parodies from the P1s ("What Does the Pharm Say?") and from alumni Tony Huynh and Johnny Rau ("Rhymacist"). Finally, Mike and Mike concluded the evening with a medley of songs from past Skit Nights in "The History of Music at UCSF Pharmacy."

ASSP also collected donations for Robby Witt's Cancer Treatment Fund. Robby graduated from UCSF School of Pharmacy in 2013 and was recently diagnosed with a rare form of cancer. Thanks to the generous donations of those who attended Skit Night, ASSP donated over \$1000 to Robby's Give Forward campaign. Fortunately, Robby recently posted that his cancer is in remission! We wish him and his family the best and thank all those who came out to support!



ALL PHOTOS BY NICHOLAS DO, ASSP HISTORIAN



Top: performers from all 15 acts gather after the show. **Left:** Bat Pharmacists strike a pose. **Middle right:** Niki Arab and Edna Cheung. **Lower right:** P1 girls. **Bottom:** hosts Mike and Mike perform a musical tri

STUDENTS OF THE QUARTER

Compiled by Shannon McCabe
ASSP Vice President of Student Affairs

Ashley Aqueche
Class of 2014

“Ashley Aqueche consistently exhibits an optimistic and ‘can-do’ attitude. She has displayed strong determination by being on a challenging in-patient rotation despite her set-backs from a car accident. Her positive and out-going nature in the face of personal challenges is an example we can all learn from.”

Molly Steen
Class of 2015

“Molly is the perfect example of how one doesn’t have to be vocal or in the spotlight yet can contribute significantly to the class. She keeps the entire class organized with her amazing Dropbox and it saves us all the frustration from looking for those hard-to-find past exams. She absolutely

deserves to be Student of the Quarter for life.”

Rjay Delmonte
Class of 2016

“RJ’s spirit and talent have contributed to many activities by our class, making events functional and creating a fun and happy atmosphere. From PUSO and VSA to Skit Night, Mr. Pharmacy and Phamily and much much more, RJ has given so much to our class and school.”

“Before school even started, RJay took the lead on recording and editing the welcome video for the Class of 2017. In addition, as president of PUSO, he took the lead in organizing a fundraiser to benefit the survivors of Typhoon Haiyan. The fundraiser was a joint effort between PUSO and VSA, and it was highly successful - over \$3000 of donations were raised for the victims in the Philippines.”

Gabe Wong
Class of 2017

“Gabe created and has maintained a Drop-Box to help our class TREMENDOUSLY over the quarter. You can always count on him to upload tips on homework, difficult lecture notes, previous class exams, and more! In addition to that, he’s super outgoing and friendly and is usually present at most of the P1 class’ social outings. He’s a well rounded guy and I think he’d be a great representative for the P1 class as Student of the Quarter!”

Students of the Quarter are nominated by their classmates. Quotes are taken from those who submitted nominations. On behalf of the entire ASSP Cabinet, congratulations to all of the students of the quarter for Fall 2013 and thanks to everyone who sent in nominations!

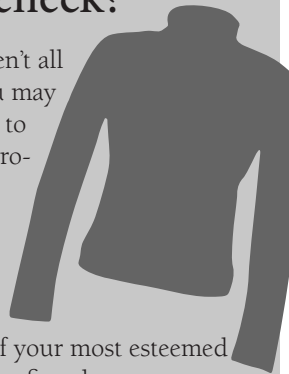
Tales from the PHARMACY

Are you seriously wearing a turtleneck?

By Shannon McCabe

Flu shot season: every pharmacy intern’s nightmare. At the retail pharmacy, flu shots rule, and as pharmacy interns, we are typically administering, sometimes back-to-back, all day. Beats counting by fives, right? At first, I loved giving flu shots, but then the weather began to change, and colder temperatures meant more people wearing turtlenecks. It baffles me at how many people show up wanting a flu shot while wearing a turtleneck. It has become my ultimate pet peeve. As much as I love having a 65-year-old man take off his shirt in the middle of the store, I could do without it.

Flu shots aren’t all bad, though. You may be lucky enough to get the anxiety-producing privilege of administering flu shots to your pharmacy supervisor or even the wife of one of your most esteemed professors on your first day, so try not to mess that up. And when patients ask you if you have gotten your flu shot, always say yes. During flu shot season, anything goes, so don’t be surprised if a family of five shows up, all wanting flu shots, with a movie to catch in 10 minutes, all wearing turtlenecks.



Fall welcomes old and new to UCSF

By Kevin Le & Ashley Wong
ASSP Vice Presidents of Social Affairs

Congratulations on making it through yet another quarter of pharmacy school! To the P1’s, congratulations on finishing your first quarter at the best pharmacy school in the world! Fall quarter is a personal favorite of ours—it marks the beginning of the academic year and the welcoming of new faces to our beautiful pharmily. During the first week of school, ASSP hosted the annual Welcome Back clubbing event at The Grand and greeted the Class of 2017 with style and excitement. Through the Fall Leadership Fair, students learned about the numerous extracurricular and leadership activities in which they could partake, ranging from outreach projects to registered campus organizations. It has truly been an enjoyable quarter meeting and welcoming our new pharmily!

Class UPDATES

Class of 2014: Almost at the finish line

By Maggie La
Class of 2014 President

With less than half a year left, the class of 2014 cabinet is happy to announce that the graduation dinner will be held at the Westin St. Francis Hotel on May 13, 2014. Located in the heart of the city, the venue is on the 32nd floor and offers a splendid view of San Francisco. In preparation for graduation, the class of 2014 has chosen Ryan Beechinor and Gary Lau as Student Speakers for the ceremony. Our graduation ceremony will be on May 15, 2014 at the Davies Symphony Hall.

Besides graduation, what has our class been up to? Our Vice President, Luong Thai, led a successful Cirque du Soleil fundraiser in collaboration with the class of 2015. In October, many of our classmates attended CSHP Seminar in Anaheim. Since our class parted in March,



UCSF's Quiz Bowl team of knowledgeable P4s placed third at CSHP Seminar at Disneyland in Anaheim in October.

Seminar was like a mini reunion. Many students from the class of 2014 will be attending and presenting at the ASHP's Midyear Clinical Meeting this month in Orlando, Florida. Currently, we are

preparing our applications for residency, fellowships, and job positions.

The class cabinet has plans for another fundraiser in the winter. We'll keep you updated!

Class of 2015: Looking to the future

By Nadya Hristeva
Class of 2015 President

The class of 2015 is at a bittersweet point in our UCSF careers with only one didactic quarter left. Most of us have been busy staying on top of classes, working hard at our internships or side projects, and planning for APPEs and post-graduation. We started the quarter off with eighty hours at our various community IPPE sites. I hope it was a true learning experience for all of us, whether it refreshed your knowledge from P1 year or helped shape your future goals. For me, it was a chance to get comfortable with giving flu shots, something I never got to practice, since I poked Randal Du and got certified.

Nevertheless, we are P3s now, and soon we will be able to apply our mastery



Big thanks to the Class of 2015 cabinet for their hard work on the Amaluna fundraiser! From left: Katherine Gruenberg, Paul Mello, Laurie Wright, Nadya Hristeva.

of therapeutics during rotations. I want to share with you some words from upper Ps regarding selecting APPEs: think of what topics you've enjoyed the most so far, think of your future goals, and talk to as many students and preceptors as possible! I hope you were able to take advantage of

the APPE Information Fair or site meeting, and don't forget to check out the APPE page on CLE. With winter break ahead of us, take time to think things through, relax, and be ready to seize our last quarter as P3s! Good luck on final exams and see you in 2014!

New year, new life, new experiences

By Maurice Horton
Class of 2016 President

P2 year doesn't start on the first day of school. With students taking on leadership roles, many hours of work are put in during the summer to prepare for the upcoming year's events. Fraternities prepare for an incoming pledge class, organizations schedule their events, and students work to make a dent in the 1500 required intern hours. Others spend their summers catching up on much-needed sleep that was missed during the P1 year.

Lisa Wells began her P2 year a bit differently than other students in the class. At the beginning of the summer, she married Ozzie Alvarez. The excitement didn't stop there. She and her new husband relocated from Los Angeles to South San Francisco to prepare to start a family. On October 4, 2013, Olivia Alvarez entered this world at a healthy 8 pounds, 13 ounces. Congrat-



New mom Lisa Wells and baby Olivia sport matching zebra print.

ulations to her and her family! We wish them all the best.

Dor Keyvani had the vision of bringing together future and current health professionals to discuss the importance of

precision medicine with leaders from Industry. He said that the Precision Medicine Discussions "were designed to familiarize students with the most up-to-date and innovative research, tools, and practices that allow healthcare providers to personalize patients' experience." These discussions are not limited to pharmacy students. Faculty, residents and students from other schools are also in attendance. If you haven't done so already, I highly recommend attending them in the future and watching past discussions on CLE.

Although I would love to highlight every student from the class of 2016, there is just not enough space in this narrow Therapeutic Window. (BPS anyone?) I am truly proud and humbled to be a part of this class. It is filled with wonderful people who are going to do great things in the pharmacy world. Our main focus right now, however, is to make it through this next week of finals. Good Luck!

Growing up on a pharm: fall as a P1

By Leo Savage-Low
Class of 2017 President

I doubt any of my P1 colleagues knew what to expect from a UCSF doctorate program. Personally, I never anticipated that my UCSF welcome would include an intense camping trip in the wilderness, a week of orientation that felt more akin to a full-time job, or a giant bonfire the size of Mount Vesuvius along a warm, windless beach, but WE MADE IT! We conquered our orientation as well as our first several weeks of the fall quarter along with our first midterms.

There have been two definite highlights this quarter. The first was our White Coat Ceremony, the significance of which is beyond questioning. This "rite of passage" marked our formal transition from a mundane class into the ranks of the Student Pharmacist. There wasn't any ceremonial dancing or paint, but there was live music and an abundance of red carnations, which may as well have been the same thing.

The second highlight has been attending all of the rush events for our SOP fraternities. Frankly, I went to every single rush event, because I wanted to win the nonexistent award for "most parties attended." In truth, though, I have to thank both Kappa Psi and Phi Delta Chi for providing my class with so many fun and enriching experiences such as Night at the Academy, bar-



From left: Daniel Bunag, Phong Ho, Kimberly Lau, Iris Chen, Thien Nguyen, Christine Ly, Dang Tran, Grace Kim and Esther Yi are all smiles at the White Coat Reception.

becue, and other social events that made our transition to UCSF an awesome undertaking.

In closing, this quarter has been a fantastic adventure and my hope is that my colleagues have had just as much fun as I have. We have a long road ahead of us, but I'm certain that the time will fly by just as fast you usually run when you've just missed the bus.

By Cindy Tse and Lauren Louie
Therapeutic Window Editors

Most students know Dr. Marcus Ferrone from *Pharmacy Calculations and Law and Ethics*. Dr. Ferrone was kind enough to share with us his journey through pharmacy and his never-ending zest for learning. The opinions expressed here are those of Dr. Ferrone, and do not necessarily reflect the views of the UCSF School of Pharmacy.

Can you tell us a little bit about your education before pharmacy school?

I graduated high school early, so I started my chemistry degree while I was a sophomore in high school. Then I moved on to my master's. I had planned to work on my Ph.D., but I don't like benchtop research. Since I was doing organic chemistry and a lot of the stuff was pharmaceutically related, I did a fellowship with Pfizer, and then I thought, "maybe I need to go into pharmacy because now I'm beginning to see the value of what I was doing in the lab and how it could be applicable."

I went to pharmacy school at Mercer University in Georgia, and I was taking pharmaceutical calculations as a P1 and bored out of my mind. (laughs) So I dropped out of school. I taught a year of chemistry at an all-girls' school in Memphis, and I loved it and would probably still be there, were it not for the parents that drove me away.

So I returned to pharmacy school at the University of Tennessee. After graduation, I started a residency and then literally was saying to myself, "I don't like this either. I want to go to medical school." Following my residency training in nutrition support, I started medical school but was immediately courted by a physician at the Mayo Clinic who wanted me to work for their gastroenterology team. The deal was for me to spend one year with the physicians as their pharmacist and if I didn't enjoy the work, they would see to it that I could return to medical school at Mayo Clinic. Also at the time, a friend of mine who was an anesthesiologist at Mayo Clinic was going to law school at night. She suggested that I join her. I didn't have anything else to do, so we would go to work during the day and we would go to law school at night. (laughs) I didn't take it that seri-

UCSF Faculty Spotlight:

DR. MARCUS FERRONE



ously. I failed my contracts final, but we were learning something together that we wanted to. It was learning for learning's sake and very intellectually stimulating nonetheless, and it has definitely led to more professional opportunities.

What were you like as a student?

I never went to class, I just showed up to exams. The way I would study for exams is to go on road trips with a bunch of friends. (laughs) Very much like you have podcasts, all of our lectures at the time were on transcripts and audio tapes, so for every exam, we would pop in the tapes and

drive off for a long road trip and quiz each other all day long en route. We went to the Jack Daniels Brewery in Tennessee (laughs) and we would watch them make whiskey and then study therapeutics on the way back. I was not fully engaged as a pharmacy student, just because to me, pharmacy was sort of a secondary profession, and I had already gone through graduate school once, and now I had the perspective that, "I'm here to intellectually enjoy myself." I didn't need to be top of the class. I made a D in therapeutics. (laughs) I simply wanted to graduate and really enjoyed and embraced the process of learning.

Right. So, would you suggest that for any of us? (laughs)

Well, it depends! (laughs) What I tell students [is] that you should be here because you really enjoy the study of pharmacy, so you should be able to absorb the material organically, rather than spend your entire time writing notes and trying to have the top GPA. I always say this... and I think a lot of professors will say this as well... but once you're in practice, nobody cares where you graduated from, nobody cares what your GPA was, nobody cares where you did your residency. They care about whether you passed the board exam and have an active pharmacy license. They care about if there has been professional disciplinary action taken against you. But outside of that, professional life is composed of a lot of networking, and job experience in general. Not only did I work as a student-hospital during the week and retail on the weekends--but I attended all the pharmacy conferences. Your ability to network, meet other pharmacists, meet other pharmacy students, go to continuing education courses, go to demonstrations, attend the expo, pick up all the free stuff (laughs), that is all part of your educational experience, and it is so very valuable. I tell people that we as professors are here to facilitate your learning, introduce you to professional networking experiences and supply you with opportunities that you as a student could not do on your own. Every student is going to learn differently--and at the graduate and professional school level, it's a student's responsibility to have identified the most efficient learning modality for themselves. If you don't want to come to class, don't come to class. I couldn't sit through my own lectures. (laughs) But I know for my personal learning process, sitting in a classroom listening to someone speak is not how I absorb and process information. If you [as a student] need help, I'm here to facilitate that learning process--not only is it my job, but it's what I thoroughly enjoying doing as a professor.

Which aspect of your career do you find the most rewarding?

My teaching. I could be completely happy teaching high school, or kindergarten, even. It's the idea of being with students

and being able to pass along information, serving as a mentor, and then being there when a student actually masters the concept that I'm trying to teach them. The value of doing what I'm doing now is that it's higher-level education. It keeps me very intellectually stimulated. It requires me to remain up-to-date on everything, so I'm actually functioning as a "professional student." Honestly, I'm really upset that I lost the calculations course, because both calculations and law fundamentally comprise a large chunk of your board exams, and I really enjoyed teaching those two courses every year. I'm really nervous for when things come around in January 2014 because I'm like, "I have nothing to do [teaching-wise]." I'm kind of hoping that I can take over the pharmacokinetics course or something. (laughs)

How have your personal experiences informed your understanding of the human condition?

"What does that even mean?" Dr. Ferrone asks. "Who writes questions like that?" We tell him this was part of our admission application and he thinks for a minute. I'm not certain that anyone really understands the human condition, because we're living it right now. It's like quantum mechanics--the mere fact you're measuring it will flaw the data. Anything we say about the human condition as a living human being is postulative since we're actually living life and it has not come to a close. But if I have to give you a response, I think that there have been 3 fundamental personal experiences that really have shaped me as a person and have affected my understanding of humanity-- for better and/or worse, and that would be 1) would be coming out as a gay male. 2) Subsequently to that, I was diagnosed and still suffer from major depression. 3) and subsequent to that, the depression was actually so severe that I contemplated suicide a number of times-- even while I was

here at UCSF. However, what has come out of all that in my treatment for depression was really a better understanding of myself. I think the ability for someone to understand themselves-- becoming deeply self-aware-- and how they interact with the people around them, really begins to elucidate what the human condition is, if that makes any sense. You have a better appreciation of life because your personal values come to the surface which steer you along in life and that's what's important.



Dr. Ferrone shows off his new drug.

Can you tell us about your new drug?

Sure. I have developed a new contrast agent for MRI which allows imaging of the patient to occur at a much faster rate and higher resolution. MRI imaging usually takes anywhere from 60 and 90 minutes. And the image quality for a

solid tumor is very poor. This new investigational contrast agent decreases the acquisition time to a matter of seconds. The image quality is 10,000 times greater than it currently is in standard practice. In addition, we were able to show and correlate the pharmacokinetics of the agent with the stage of the tumor. A more advanced tumor will metabolize and pharmacokinetically process the contrast agent at a faster rate than one that's in an earlier stage. And that, from a patient standpoint, will allow healthcare providers a non-invasive way to get information on the patient's cancer. So we've knocked out 3 major challenges right now with respect to solid tumor imaging. The drug is being manufactured by my facility at Laurel Heights and being shipped to 11 other sites around the world for Phase II testing. The purpose of these Phase II trials are to first image patients then actually intervene with therapy and image again following therapy to show the value of the agent before and after--without having to do anything invasive. It'll help the clinician decide whether or not a particular chemotherapy regimen was effective or if they need to change treatments. The

Continued on page 11, FERRONE

Campus

ORGANIZATIONS

Digital health meets UCSF AMCP Chapter

By Benjamin Parcher
AMCP President

Technological innovation in health-care is accelerating at an unprecedented rate. Both Apple and Google Play stores can attest to an exponential increase in the publication of health-related mobile applications. The world is also aging rapidly. A recent global study released by the United Nations showed that the world is aging so rapidly that most countries are unprepared to support their growing numbers of elderly people. In under ten years, according to the report, the number of people aged 60 years or over in the world will reach one billion and double to two billion by 2050, accounting for 22 percent of the global population.

Welcome to a world of opportunity! UCSF AMCP is reaching out to areas of growth and technology never before tra-



Laurie Wright, Linda Chen and Ben Parcher represent AMCP at TechCrunch Disrupt in September.

versed by our chapter. This September, we were invited as a health partner in a popular code contest known as TechCrunch Disrupt. Over 500 of the Silicon Valley's brightest computer language programmers came out to create or "hack" different apps, algorithms, and games, presenting

their ideas to a set of venture capitalists in the audience. Our chapter had the pleasure of discussing with programmers what kind of user interfaces could work to solve real-life problems in pharmacy and in healthcare as a whole.

Following the success of our partnership with TechCrunch, we hope to host our own code contest at UCSF. We aim to give students from neighboring computer science programs at SFSU, UC Berkeley, Stanford, and others a "dose" of what it's like to work in pharmacy. Together, the idea of a patient-centered medical home is truly made interprofessional. We need team members who speak all languages, even the digital ones.

If you have an idea for an app, or are interested in digital health innovation, please feel free to reach out to me at benjamin.parcher@ucsf.edu or Lucille at lucille.sun@ucsf.edu for more information!

APhA-ASP: Calling movers and shakers in pharmacy

By Anh Doan
APhA-ASP President

APhA-ASP invites you to be an active member of your profession and offers opportunities to develop your leadership and professional skills now. At our information session and general body meeting, Dr. Jeff Wong and APhA-ASP National Member-at-large Joshua Cahill inspired students to step outside their comfort zone and get involved in professional associations. From chapter events to state and national conferences, APhA-ASP presents many avenues to do just that.

The National Patient Counseling Competition kicked off on November 19, offering students a chance to develop and showcase their aptitude in this core skill. At the APhA-ASP Midyear Regional Meeting in Denver, Nathan Matsubara and Clint Owens proposed a resolution to support greater oversight into foreign-pro-



APhA-ASP's 2013-2014 Board (clockwise from left): Nicholas Do, David Yu, Valdy Tjong, Kathryn Salvador, Nathan Matsubara, Calvin Diep, Cheree Jones, Latonia Luu, Ashley Wong, Mariko Yokokura, Sukhi Kaur, Anh Doan, and Clint Owens (not pictured).

duced drugs. Eslie Gutierrez and Jennifer Tran ran for Regional Delegate and Member-at-large, respectively, and learned a lot from the experience, although they were ultimately not elected.

Professional development opportunities were plentiful, including a networking skills lunch talk and resume review clinics, co-sponsored by the OCPD and Phi Lamb-

da Sigma. Students developed their professional network at Around the World Wine and Cheese Night, which was expanded to include pharmacists practicing in diverse settings such as community, clinical, industry, managed care, and academia.

Stay tuned for more great APhA-ASP events and leadership opportunities in 2014!

COSA concludes a successful fall quarter

By Roger Wu
COSA Senior Director

Fall quarter 2013 has certainly been exciting for COSA and our fifteen projects. We have organized and participated in many health fairs and outreaches, none of which would be feasible without everyone's participation and generous support. We would like to thank our amazing and dedicated project coordinators, advisors and preceptors for devoting their time and effort to making this quarter successful.

The quarter kicked off with the Talk With a Pharmacist Day health fair at Hillsdale Shopping Center in San Mateo in collaboration with the San Mateo Pharmacist Association. With the participation of seven COSA projects in conjunction with San Mateo pharmacists, we were able to serve more than 200 patients in the San Mateo community.

Midway through the quarter, we collaborated with the Asian Health Institute and the Chinese Community Development Center to hold our first interprofessional health fair in Chinatown at the Gordon J. Lau Elementary School. We invited not only eight of our own projects but also Hep B, Asian Health Caucus, SRO-CHIP, and UCSF Dental School's CPHA and CHPSA. This was a great way to provide many free educational and screening services to low income families in the Chinatown community, while also exposing the medical, dental and pharmacy volunteers to what services each school provides.

The last COSA-sponsored health fair of the fall quarter was the Heart of the City's Farmer's Market Health Fair at the UN Plaza in San Francisco on November 24th. Eleven COSA projects attended this health fair, and we are grateful to have had this opportunity to serve San Francisco's



P2 Krizia Del Rosario educates visitors at the Chinatown health fair about the Geriatric and Medication Awareness Project.

low-income urban community.

We are excited to start the new year and to host the annual Training Extravaganza in January 2014. Through Training Extravaganza, licensed pharmacy interns/students can not only apply what they've learned from their didactic training, but also give back to under-served communities across the Bay Area!

A fall full of professional events for CSHP

By Stephanie Hsia
CSHP President

Fall quarter is typically a busy time for organizations, and this year has been no different. This year, CSHP-UCSF is focusing on promoting educational and professional development of clinical skills throughout all four years of pharmacy school. In addition to holding our traditional events, we are also planning new events and workshops to prepare UCSF students to be the best clinicians possible.

We started off the year by hosting our annual local Clinical Skills Competition. Congratulations to our local winners, Tina Dinh and Tina Tran! We wish them the best of luck as they represent UCSF at ASHP Midyear. Our first event for the school year was Info Night. Thank you to our guest speakers: Megan Blackwell from CSHP, Dr. Elaine Law, and Dr. Allison Pollock from the Golden-Gate CSHP chapter (GGSHP). Our professional events this quarter were our Residency Roundtable, where students were able to network with residency directors from around the



Students network with residents and residency directors at CSHP's Residency Roundtable in October.

Bay Area, and our joint event with APhA, AMCP, NCPA, OCPD, and PLS: How to Network at a Professional Conference.

At the end of October, we had CSHP's annual conference, CSHP Seminar, which was held this year at Disneyland in Anaheim, CA. This year was an exciting year for CSHP with the passing of SB 493. At Seminar, there were many interesting educational talks about its implementation, including a closing session panel facilitated by our very own Dean Joe Guglielmo.

Congratulations to the UCSF Quiz Bowl team for placing 3rd in the competition!

This quarter, we also had two additions to our CSHP Cabinet, our P1 Representatives, Candice Kwark and Stephanie Truong. Welcome, Candice and Stephanie!

Our upcoming events for next quarter include the Hospital Internship Panel, Clinical Skills Workshop, Mentor Night, and many, many more. Be sure to keep your eyes peeled for more information!

!Bienvenidos! LAPS bids you welcome

By Adrienne Mekoba
LAPS Vice President

To start off the school year, the Latino Association of Pharmacy Students welcomed new members into the LAPS familia with our Welcome Back Fiesta! While enjoying a delicious meal, members had a chance to mingle with new and returning LAPS members. This year, as a part of our fiesta, we hosted our first ever "Piñata Making Workshop." With the help of our Cultural and Social Enrichment Chair, Debbie Torres, members decorated and learned about the history of piñatas.

LAPS stayed busy throughout the quarter with a mix of community outreach and interprofessional events. Through coordination with our counterparts in the schools of Medicine, Dentistry and Nursing, LAPS participated in the Día de los Muertos Pre-health/Pre-med Conference.

LAPS also continued our quarterly Spanish Conversation lunch talks to help



LAPS members pose with the piñatas they made at the Welcome Back Fiesta, where they also learned about the tradition's history.

the UCSF community break the language barrier when serving patients who speak only Spanish. For the first talk of the year, our lunch talk coordinators put together an engaging session during which students learned basic vocabulary and phrases to discuss using medications wisely.

As the fall quarter comes to a close, LAPS is looking forward to holding our last lunch talk for the quarter. Although

this quarter may have flown by quickly, we enjoyed reaching out to the underserved Latino communities in addition to bringing a taste of Latino cultures to UCSF. We look forward to continuing our traditions and promoting the mission of LAPS in the quarters to come!

!La familia de LAPS les deseo suerte en sus exámenes! !Tenga un buen descanso de invierno!

NCPA thinks big for 2013-2014 school year

By Christopher Shaheen & I-Chen Fong
NCPA President and President-Elect

NCPA welcomes back all students and congratulates the class of 2017 on finishing up their first quarter! Our chapter has had new additions including faculty adviser Dr. Brian Komoto, a 2012 UCSF Distinguished Alumni Awardee and the 2013 CPhA Pharmacist of the Year. We are also excited to have our P1 representatives, Richard Duong and Jay Barcelon, join our board to help us plan our educational projects and networking events.

This quarter we recruited the business plan competition team. We are confident this year's team will bring many innovative ideas and look forward to their presentation at the NCPA Spring Banquet. If you were not selected, please apply again for next year! Please support the current team through their year-long project to represent UCSF in the national competition.

This winter, NCPA is excited to offer the Business Skills & Entrepreneurship



NCPA Adviser Brian Komoto met with students at the first talk of the Pharmacy Entrepreneurship Series. You can read about his pharmacy business on his company's website, www.komotohealthcare.com.

elective again with faculty member Dr. Kevin Rodondi. The elective is designed to teach business management and leadership skills in an interactive environment. We have exciting sessions hosted by subject matter experts for experiences in personal finance, conflict management, sales/pitching, marketing, digital health, the global health landscape, and more! We are excited to offer this course again which will be expanded from last year.

In addition, we are in the midst of planning our annual NCPA Winter Roundtable. Please join us to network with independent pharmacy owners over dinner. This is a chance to explore niches in community pharmacy as well as how to incorporate the clinical training you receive in school in community practice.

Keep an eye out for announcements regarding the elective and the winter roundtable. Thanks!

Hello from UCSF's SNPhA chapter!

By Amy Hassenberg
SNPhA President

As we move past the Fall and get closer to Thanksgiving, SNPhA certainly has a lot to be thankful for. We have had a great quarter, starting off with a SNPhA social at which we got to know everyone a little bit better, including the past P3 cabinet and prospective P1 members. We had our first site visit to Dr. Cocohoba's HIV clinic, where she, as a pharmacist in specialty care, spoke about issues of access and service. We also had a mental health awareness joint lunch talk with speakers from two perspectives: psychiatric pharmacist Dr. Patrick Finley and patient Kimanh Duong. It was a very moving session that shed some light on a disease that is so often kept in the dark.



Left: Timothy Hall, Valerie Vu, Michelle Ho, Niki Arab, Helen Kay and Sierra Young sign in at SNPhA's info session. Right: James Go, Eric Dressler, Malini Madhusudhan and Jeffrey Morimune smile at the SNPhA social.



We look forward to our next lunch talk, with social worker Mary Cabales, who will talk to us about CMS Center for Aging and the Elderly and opportunities to volunteer and get involved. Finally, we welcome the start of our annual canned food drive. It is a friendly competition between the P1, P2, and P3 classes to see

who can raise the most food (in weight) for our local food bank! Please participate if you are interested. There is a cash prize for the winning class that goes to your bank account to be used for graduation.

Thank you for supporting SNPhA and we look forward to seeing you at our next events!

FERRONE

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interesting thing about the drug is that the half-life is about 90 seconds. It's not radioactive, it's a hyperpolarized molecule. So it is an entirely new class of drugs. The USP has contacted me and wants a chapter for this new class of pharmaceuticals. General Electric, who has been instrumental in terms of funding and engineering support, saw the value of this agent and developed an automated compounding device, which we call SpinLab. It'll take the raw, unfinished pharmaceutical, you press a couple buttons, a syringe will pop out containing the final and sterile, finished contrast agent. All the radiology tech will have to do is administer it to the patient. We helped design the drug here at UCSF. UCSF Radiology assisted in the design of the MR acquisitions, scans and programming, and probes. GE helped design the polarizer.

It really shows the value of translational research. The science of hyperpolarization has been around for decades, but nobody's ever taken it off the bench top and applied it directly to patients. It shows the benefits of academia and industry working together. [With] the funding [that's provided] at a university, we're able to efficiently use

that money and create results in a very rapid time frame. But then, what resources we don't have, the industry can provide. So there's a very nice marriage between the two. This particular research endeavor demonstrates the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration. Because this is a joint effort between the School of Medicine and the School of Pharmacy--School of Medicine does all the radiology issues and I take care of all the drug issues. Other international sites – Oxford, Cambridge, Copenhagen – all these other sites around the world including NIH and a number of them in the US, are seeing the potential of this drug and where it could go and there's already a number of other analogs that are being tested. So it could hit the market in 7 years or so.

What is your greatest accomplishment?

Raising my cat, Chaucer, of twenty-one years. (laughs) I actually had to put him down this year, but I think for a feline to be alive and healthy for twenty-one years is a big accomplishment! He was happy and content, and had a very fulfilling and enjoyable life, and I'm very proud of myself that I was able to provide that for him.



How do you feel about students dressing up as you?

(Laughs) I'm very flattered. I don't think students would do that if they didn't respect me and see value in what I'm doing. That, to me, is the epitome of appreciation, so I love it. A lot of the reason I was wearing bowties was [when I started] in pharmacy school, we were told when you're on psych rotation, not to wear a neck-tie – patients can grab it, so if you're on pediatrics or if

you're on psych rotation you should wear [a] bowtie or you should dress down. So I just ran with that and thought, "Well okay, this will separate me and develop a name for myself," but also since I was a young instructor and professional, I felt like it gave me validity if I dressed up a bit more than just the frumpy professor. But now that I've moved on and I've had my tenure here, I'm getting much more lax in my dress and appearance. (laughs)

Fraternity NEWS

Kappa Psi celebrates a successful rush

By Lauren Louie
Kappa Psi Corresponding Secretary

With another season of rush complete, Kappa Psi is thrilled to welcome its newest pledge class of 65 student pharmacists! Fall quarter has been seemingly jam-packed with brotherhood, rush and, now, pledge activities. During the busy week of orientation, many brothers found time to start the year off with Kappa Psi at the annual Light the Night Walk and raised nearly \$1400 in support of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Orientation drew to a close with the official kickoff of rush activities at Bi-Frat. The Giants game and tailgate soon followed, complete with beautiful weather and a DJ booth right next door, and in quick succession came “Night Life” at the Academy of Sciences, Grill and Chill in Golden Gate Park and clubbing at Ruby Skye.

Amid all the fun, KY still made plenty of time for academic and professional development. Rush continued with the Internship Lunch Talk and with CP Cram Night, at which brothers helped prepare P1s for their first CP midterm with a variety of study exercises covering every topic on the exam. Halloween at the KY house came next, and the brothers were delighted to invite the P1s over for a much-needed study break and night of merriment, accompanied, of course, by Jenn Koike’s beautiful and delicious cupcakes.

Finally, many P2s, P3s and even a few P4 brothers gathered at the KY house to open the pledge box. The night was a joyous celebration of all that we accomplished as a chapter throughout rush, and of teamwork and brotherhood. We look forward to the exciting and memorable experiences that the rest of pledge will no doubt bring in winter!



Kappa Psi Rush Coordinators Marlina Mansour and Vincent Cagonot celebrate at BiFrat with their predecessors, Randal Du and Lexy Reynolds.

Phi Delta Chi: Whose birthday is it, anyway?

By Mike De Guia
PDC Worthy Vice Counselor

For Phi Delta Chi, our fall quarter is jam-packed with rush season. When asked what my favorite rush event is, I always answer without hesitation: Birthday Bash! I mean, what’s there not to like – costumes, games, and music courtesy of DJ Owa (Jeffrey Kim)? The follow-up question I often receive, however, is “Whose birthday is it, anyway?” That answer is not as concrete. Last year, it was Stephanie Wong’s birthday. This year, the honor belongs to Dorie Wang’s parents (the event was sandwiched in between their birthdays). But in all seriousness, Birthday Bash celebrates the birth of so much more.

This rush season, we saw the birth of a wonderful class of 36 pledges, which can be attributed to the amazing rush put on by our chapter’s brothers, especially Worthy Inner Guards Peter Truong and



Many Phi Delta Chi brothers gathered at the PDC house to open their pledge box and witness the birth of a new pledge class.

Yuumi Miyazawa. We witnessed how our brothers’ culinary talents gave birth to the wonderful meals served at Bi-frat Dinner, Taco Night, and Progressive Dinner. At Alumni Night, we observed the birth of new connections between our alumni brothers and UCSF’s newest student pharmacists. On Facebook, Garrett Foo and Raymond Ngo gave birth to hashtags such as #teamdorie, #wongmamas, and #jsmoothie, which provided laughter – the best medicine.

Reflecting upon our rush season, it is clear that Birthday Bash does not celebrate just one person’s birthday. Rather, we celebrate the birth of several things, such as our new pledge class, delicious meals, and new friendships and connections. Celebrating these births reminds us all of what PDC ultimately represents: brotherhood. As we push onward through pharmacy school, it is this brotherhood that will always be there to provide help and support whenever one of our brothers is in need.