The AMCP Mercer Chapter Student Symposium is a premier opportunity for first year and returning students to explore the facets and opportunities within managed care pharmacy, complete with invaluable networking experiences with like-minded students and professionals. Each year, the AMCP chapter at Mercer University, located in Atlanta, hosts their symposium with intent to provide students with a wealth of connections and resources to prepare the next generation of pharmacy’s decision makers. This it was a blessing for eleven first year students, the St. Petersburg AMCP chapter, and one of eight of AMCP’s founders, Dr. Robert Navarro – Gainesville Campus’s Professor of Pharmaceutical Outcomes and Policy, to represent our college at this symposium.

The symposium included six speakers, who spoke on his or her unique experience within managed care and the pharmaceutical industry as a whole. There was a wide array of topics discussed, each constructed to spark curiosity in newcomers and incite discussion between experts. Once the lectures were concluded, a Q & A panel was conducted to address holistic questions best answered by the collective. Closing remarks were made by Dr. Navarro, who spoke on preparing oneself for the future trends and opportunities within the industry.

It was very rewarding to hear beginners and professionals alike opine on what they took away from this marvelous experience. The UF AMCP chapters highly anticipate returning in 2015.

AMCP 5th Annual Mercer Symposium
By Derek Hettinger, AMCP President-elect
FSHP-KE Residency Forum
By Zainab Khatoon, KE Residency Forum Coordinator

On September 18th, 2014, the University of Florida College of Pharmacy hosted the 26th Annual KE-FSHP Residency Forum. Brandon DeLucca of FSHP and Zainab Khatoon, Akil Hiruy, Jacqueline Schaefer, and Erica Bobb of Kappa Epsilon worked to organize this event throughout the summer and the beginning of the school year to ensure an enjoyable event for attendees. Dr. Klinker worked with students to ensure that the event ran smoothly as the faculty advisor for the event. This year, things were organized a little differently, with a round table discussion was added to the program so that residency programs and fellowships could educate students on particular topics and offer a more intimate setting for everyone. Topics included: how to become a competitive candidate for residency programs, fellowships, PGY 1, and PGY 2. Students were also able to individually approach each program during the forum so that they could learn about the mission and goals of each residency and fellowship program that they were interested in. A total of 103 students and 14 programs attended the forum. This forum was a wonderful networking opportunity for students as well as programs to express their mutual interest for residency, fellowship, and employment.

Wine, Cheese, and ChitChat
By Angela Boyd, Student Council President

Student Council kicked off the Fall semester by hosting COP’s first annual Wine, Cheese, and ChitChat reception on September 4th!!! Attended by COP students, administration, faculty, and staff, the event provided the opportunity to spend the evening together with the sole purpose of enjoying getting to know one another through the simple process of having a conversation.

The idea for this event was inspired by Dr. Diana Boxer’s book *The Lost Art of the Good Schmooze*. In the book, Boxer explains that schmoozing plays a vital, but underappreciated role as a life and leadership skill. Everybody schmoozes nowadays, but often it is the networking sort of schmoozing rather than the kind of schmoozing that creates good interational feelings. Her book is full of insights that will prove useful at work, at home, with friends and just about everywhere else.

Student Council was fortunate to have Target as a sponsor, and thanks them for assisting in turning the concept into reality. Additionally, Student Council would like to extend a huge thank you to Sarah Carswell and Dean McKenzie for their support in organizing the social. After the great success and positive feedback received, Student Council hopes to continue this tradition in the upcoming years!
Student Spotlight: Rich Royster

By Rich Royster, iMuscleUp Leader

I have always been physically inclined. I competed all throughout middle and high school winning all of my 12th grade matches in weightlifting and becoming a part of a professional FMX team (Team FMX) that went around and jumped dirt bikes at shows. Soon after high school with Team FMX, I ended up breaking my neck during practice one day. This changed my life and through 6 months of a bed-bound recovery followed by getting back on to jump again, changed my prospective on my career. I started into intense undergrad studies for pharmacy right after. It was after my two years of undergrad that I was in a Christmas parade pharmacy float that I found Calisthenics. Calisthenics is what iMuscleUp is! It is a movement: it is working out with your body weight in any form aka street workout. The float beside us was the “iMuscleUp” crew. They were flying around and above the bars like they weighed only 20 pounds and it blew my mind. I walked over literally thinking to myself “I am about to impress these guys with my strength” and I couldn’t even lift myself above the bar. While they were throwing their bodies several feet above the bars, I realized the joke was on me. They invited me out to their workout place and I fell in love instantly! I went out and practiced street workout with them every night until pharmacy school started! Through Zach Ruffo’s leadership and friendship, I had learned so much and went on life changing trips with them to other bar communities that I became familiarized with and known in the sport. This inspired me to start #iMuscleUpGainesville to spread my passion for these workouts. To teach people one at a time that with their body weight and some monkey bars, they can achieve any fitness level they want. And most importantly through Zach, iMuscleUp, and pharmacy school, I am going to be able to leverage this sport, my knowledge as a pharmacist, and my faith in Jesus, to go around the world and spread this iMuscleUp Movement, one country at a time!

KE Rush and Pinning

By Irene Capistrano, KE New Member Educator

Some things are worth the wait, others are worth the RUSH! These are the all too familiar words that the members of Kappa Epsilon hear during the beginning of Fall semester. A busy time nonetheless, to plan a week full of fun activities to promote the organization, welcome back the upper-classmen, and most importantly, meet the incoming new member class! This year’s Rush Week started on Tuesday, September 2nd, with the Kappa Epsilon tradition of Kappa Kappaccino. This event allowed all current and potential members to come out and meet one another while enjoying coffee, desserts and lively conversation. Waffle Wednesday was the following day and just as the name suggests it was an evening spent having breakfast for dinner with delectable toppings to choose from. Thursday turned out to be a night full of “selfies” as the Photo Scavenger Hunt took place, followed by Game Night, our closing event.

Attending two of the four Rush Week events is the requirement to become a new member of Kappa Epsilon. This year, we had over 33 exceptional women eligible to become New Members. These ladies joined the current members during the Pinning Ceremony held the following...
PhD Spotlight: Juan Hincapie Castillo, PharmD

By Juan Hincapie, PharmD

Born in Colombia, Juan moved to the United States in 2007 and received his Associate in Arts degree from the Florida State College at Jacksonville in 2009. Juan graduated from the UF Doctor of Pharmacy program in 2013. During his time as a pharmacy student, he served the College of Pharmacy as a student ambassador for the Jacksonville campus and held several leadership positions in professional organizations. Juan joined the PhD program in the College of Pharmacy’s Department of Pharmaceutical Outcomes and Policy in August 2013. He is currently part of a pharmacoepidemiology research group led by Dr. Almut Winterstein and he is a teaching assistant for the PharmD program. Juan’s research interests include pain management and substance abuse as well as medication safety with focus on controlled substances policy and regulations. He is currently serving as a member for the College of Pharmacy Alumni Association Committee, President of the student chapter for the International Society of Pharmacoepidemiology, and President of the COP graduate students. Juan enjoys running in his free time and he has participated in multiple races in distances ranging from 5k to full marathons. He recently ran in the Chicago Marathon and continues training towards qualifying for the Boston Marathon.

Global Health Outreach Trip: London

By Natalie Eick, 4PD

In May 2015, seven other student pharmacists and I, along with preceptor Dr. Sven Normann, headed out on a one month adventure across Ireland, Scotland, and England called PharmUK and Ireland. This was such a valuable learning experience and allowed us to see the role of pharmacists in another part of the world and to contrast our health system with the varying nationalized systems of these countries. We started in Ireland where over the course of a week we visited Trinity College of Pharmacy, Boot’s community pharmacy (which has recently been acquired by Walgreens), the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, and made a cultural visit to the west coast of Ireland to the treacherous Cliffs of Moher. We then headed across the Irish Sea to the United Kingdom where we had the opportunity to meet with the Royal Pharmaceutical Societies of both Scotland and England, give presentations to fellow student pharmacists from the University of Strathclyde in Glasgow, Scotland, and visit a variety of local community pharmacies and hospitals. I will forever cherish this experience and would highly recommend it to any global student pharmacist.
Dash Against Addiction 5K

By Lori Mor, APhA-ASP Generation Rx Chair

On September 20th, GenerationRx held an event called “Dash against Addiction 5K,” for which all proceeds benefited the Mothers’ Intensive Supportive Treatment (MIST) program under Meridian Behavioral Healthcare, Inc. This program offers pregnant and postpartum women, who are currently or have recently abused alcohol or other drugs, the chance to receive treatment and remain drug free during pregnancy and nursing. Through this program, mothers are able to learn new coping strategies and develop the life skills needed to live sober and self-sufficiently, which will not only serve to better her life but also her child’s.

GenerationRx is excited to say that with 90 people registered, we were able to raise $2,000! Through this event, we were not only able to support those mothers in need of assistance, but we were also able to spread awareness within the Gainesville community of the reality that addiction to drugs is a problem we must try to resolve.

Meet Your Mentor-Mentee Ice Cream Social

By Karina Criscio, APhA-ASP VP of Internal Affairs

Nothing is more exciting than the first month back to school. All of our returning students and faculty felt the incoming 1PDs’ anticipation and enthusiasm for the year ahead. With this enthusiasm, however, comes a bundle of nerves as all of the 1PDs embark on their 4-year journeys to their PharmD degree. In efforts to make this transition easier, UF College of Pharmacy has founded a peer-advising program where each 1PD will be paired with a 2PD or 3PD, who would become ‘mentee’ and ‘mentor’, respectively. The mentor-mentee relationship is designed to provide words of wisdom, tips to a successful year, how to stay grounded through all of the stressful exam weeks, and most importantly, a friend when times are tough. All of the 1, 2 and 3 PDs filled out a survey that helped the Office of Student Affairs match every 1PD with an upperclassman.

After the surveys were completed, a “Meet your Mentor Ice Cream Social” night was held on Tuesday, September 23rd in the HPNP atrium. All of the mentors and mentees were finally able to meet in person and get to know one another over delicious bowls of ice cream and unlimited toppings. The atrium was buzzing with conversation and lots of laughter from meeting and greeting one another and beginning a relationship with their mentors and mentees.

Speaking from personal experience, I have had nothing but positive experiences with my mentor and my two mentees. I have been inspired to push myself further in class and have passed along my advice and words of encouragement to my mentees. Having these relationships has served as an outlet for me when I have been stressed out or have wisdom to pass on. It has truly been a unique opportunity to have these relationships grow into friendships, and I was thrilled to be a part of the planning of this event.

The heart of this event is truly within the Office of Student Affairs, including Mary Beth Yokomi and Sarah Carswell as well as a Joshua Levine (2PD), who also helped deliver the ice cream and organize the advertisements of the event. The event would have not been possible without all of the collaboration and teamwork. In the future, I hope to plan another mentor-mentee social event involving a night with food and fun and hopefully some catching up after our busy October semester. I cannot wait to see the mentees form bonds with their mentors, and watch the mentors pass along their encouragement and knowledge as the year progresses.
**Professor Spotlight:**

**Dr. Robin Moorman Li, PharmD, BCACP**

By Jason Li, 2PD

*If you could choose any career in life besides being an academic professor, what would you be?*

In the world of pharmacy: I would be practicing in the hospice environment. Outside of pharmacy: I would be in law enforcement. I love solving any type of mystery and I think investigating crimes would be fascinating.

*What are some of your favorite hobbies?*

I love to garden. I have found this is a place you can just experiment and have fun. I also love to read murder mystery and action books and spend as much time with my kids as possible.

*How many children do you have and what are they doing now/where are they now?*

I have twin boys: Nathan and Christopher who are now 6 years old. They just started kindergarten and are loving every minute of it.

*What was the make and model of your first car?*

Some little Isuzu that my grandfather named the “red dragon”. It should have been named the red rust bucket.

*Describe one embarrassing childhood/past moment.*

I decided to help my brother mow the lawn with the riding lawn mower. I hopped on, started driving it, but didn’t know how to stop it. I ran right into my dad’s truck and dented the entire door. Let’s just say my dad was not very happy.

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**FSHP Clinical Skills Competition (CSC)**

By Kenneth Tran, FSHP Clinical Skills Competition Coordinator

As coordinator of this year’s local competition, it was very exciting to see everything come together and watch our teams compete. FSHP’s annual Clinical Skills Competition is a preliminary competition where the first-place teams will have an opportunity to represent their respective college of pharmacy at the National ASHP CSC. Teams receive a patient case and are given the opportunity to develop a Pharmacist’s Care Plan which they will also orally present and defend to a panel of judges. Each team is given 2 hours for the written portion and then immediately afterwards have a 10 minute oral question and answer session. This year’s panel of judges for our Gainesville campus competition was: Dr. Katie Vogel-Anderson, Dr. Stacy Voils, Dr. Michelle Knight, and Dr. Caitlin Dowd.

The top 2 teams that won our local competition went on to compete in our all-campus competition to compete against the other top teams from each campus.

The two teams that represented Gainesville were: Bradley Figgins and Karen Fong, Melissa Berman and Melissa John. The all-campus competition took place on October 3rd and this year’s all-campus competition winners were Randi Searcy and Patrick Leffers. We will be wishing them good luck in representing UF at this year’s national competition! I would once again like to thank all participants, volunteers, and judges for making this year’s competition so successful and hope to see many more team’s participate next year!
SNPhA x Theatre Strike Force: Hilarity for Charity

By Jessica Yung, SNPhA Community Service Chair

What do you get when you cross comedian Seth Rogen with Alzheimer’s Association? A humorous way to raise awareness and support for Alzheimer’s disease (AD). Started in 2012, Seth and Lauren Rogen, along with a few of their friends, co-founded the non-profit organization tastefully coined as Hilarity for Charity (HFC). Each founder’s life had come in close contact with AD (through a parent or grandparent) and all realized that the millennial generation often did not understand AD or the consequences it had on the lives of patients or their families. Therefore, HFC was born! Whether hosting variety shows or benefit events, HFC donates its proceeds to awareness efforts and research projects focusing on prevention, detection, and ultimately the cure of Alzheimer’s. Best stated by Seth Rogen, “I want young people to know that Alzheimer’s isn’t something to worry about just when you get old... And that we can tell a few jokes along the way to finding a cure.”

Taking place on September 26, 2014, the evening began with ticket check-ins by SNPhA’s new Community Service chair Alan Auyeung and Vice President Danielle Megano and plenty of refreshments for attendees to enjoy pre-show. The show began with brief introductions and AD awareness by main host Jessica, and before long, the much-anticipated performance by TSF began! Laughter filled the HPNP Auditorium, as the audience played an interactive role with providing suggestions to TSF in their games-themed short improvs and skits. The enjoyable evening was completed with an exciting ticket-draw by Alan and Danielle for Lollicup card prizes, and a final total of $205 of the evening’s proceeds!

If you are interested in finding out ways you can support Alzheimer’s Association, join UF College of Pharmacy at Walk to End Alz’s 2014 on October 25, 2014 or donate to Alzheimer’s Association today!

Much thanks to the UF Lollicup and TSF for their generous contributions of time and gift cards, and for SNPhA for their support in the Gainesville community. Special recognition to SNPhA’s President-elect Taylor and Community Service chair Alan for their hard work, encouragement, and help—without you two, HFC would never have been possible!
Rotation Spotlight:
FDA The National Side of Pharmacy
By Stephanie Keo, 4PD

Besides having Pharmacy in common, APhA, ASHP, NIH and USP are similar in that they also are national organizations you will be exposed to while on the Food and Drug Administration APPE rotation. The FDA rotation does exactly what it states on their website – “provides an opportunity to learn about the FDA’s multidisciplinary processes for addressing public health issues involving drugs, biologics, and medical devices.” It provides 4 weeks of presentation and opportunities that give students direct, hands-on experience about the responsibilities and duties of one of our nation’s oldest agencies. However, what you won’t get from their website is the personal experience you gain through meeting other students from Pharmacy schools across the country. You will work on your own project with your preceptor and attend the scheduled presentations, but one of the best opportunities I found during the rotation was the opportunity to network with fellow pharmacy students and to learn about nontraditional career paths for Pharmacists. Each Pharmacist I encountered during my FDA rotation had a different story to tell about their career. Every FDA rotation student will also have a different story to tell you, and that is part of what makes the FDA rotation so unique. You also have the freedom to make it what you want. Whether it is attending an advisory committee, learning more about an FDA department of interest to you, gaining knowledge about other national organizations, or just developing a better idea of how the FDA fits into our profession, one thing will be the same: you will come away with a broader sense of what our profession does for our country.

Click here to learn more about the FDA Experiential Program Website

AMCP Mercer Symposium: From a 1PD Perspective
By Tina Nguyen and Oliver Ruiz, 1PDs

As 1PD students trying to find our niche in pharmacy school, we attended every club meeting and event offered since the day we stepped foot on campus. We were eager to learn about various career opportunities in the field of pharmacy and network with students and professionals. Our first opportunity to expand our perspective of pharmacy was provided by AMCP. At the first meeting, the president, Arielle Gabarda, informed us about the Mercer Symposium in Atlanta, and she highly encouraged us to attend. Adding to her statement, the president-elect, Derek Hettiger, passionately spoke about his life-changing experience at the symposium the previous year. Our enthusiasm for gaining experience in our profession was amplified by Arielle and Derek’s influential words and pushed us to register for the event.

Registering for the Mercer Symposium was one of the best decisions we have made so far. At the symposium, we learned about managed care pharmacy from notable speakers including Dr. Adrian Washington who gave an insightful introduction to managed care and Dr. Matt Nguyen who spoke about pharmacy job roles in the managed care arena. We heard an impactful presentation from the co-founder and first president of AMCP, Dr. Robert Navarro, who is a clinical professor at UF COP, and we also heard an informative speech from his wife, Ms. Polly Tertocha. The speakers opened our eyes to the wide range of managed care career opportunities in pharmacy. The symposium also gave us the opportunity to network with students and professionals through a speed networking event and a social event at Fado Irish Pub. We met many students from different pharmacy schools including Mercer, FAMU, and UGA, and we became closer with our own classmates.

We appreciate the time and effort Mercer AMCP put into organizing and hosting this year’s symposium, and we are grateful for our own AMCP chapter for inspiring our involvement and organizing an unforgettable trip. We highly encourage pharmacy students to attend the Mercer Symposium next year.
Walks to End Alzheimer’s 2014

By Jessica Yung, SNPhA Community Service Chair

A sea of multi-colored windmill flowers, purple t-shirts and athletic shorts filled the lawn of Albert ‘Ray’ Massey Westside Park on the chilly morning of October 25, 2014. Amongst informational tables for Alz’s Place and reunions of Sigma Kappa sisters, members and friends of UF College of Pharmacy gathered together to share warm coffee and donuts while warming up for the walk. Representatives from the local North and Central Florida chapters of the Alzheimer’s Association shared warm anecdotes and memories about loved ones who suffered from Alzheimer’s disease (AD) and expressed gratitude at how much the local Gainesville community has impacted efforts for AD research. One by one, each color of the ‘promise flowers’ was raised to commemorate a different reason for walking: to support the vision of a world without AD, to represent taking care of a loved one with AD, to honor a loved one who has been lost to AD, and to represent current individuals suffering from AD. With the conclusion of a sky full of flowers, participants made their way to the start line, and thus the walk began!

Each year, Alzheimer’s Association hosts ‘Walk to End Alz’, a nationwide charity walk event that occurs through September and October, to gather financial support and raise public awareness about Alzheimer’s. This year, Gainesville Campus’ SNPhA and APhA-ASP’s Geriatric Awareness teamed up to gather support from colleagues and faculty, in the form of volunteer walkers and financial contributions. The UF COP team consisted of: Carla Figura (1PD), Olivia Thomas (1PD), Tracy Vu (1PD), Taylor Schenley and her family (2PD), Alan Au yeung (2PD), Jessica Yung (2PD), Brandon DeLucca (2PD), and Elaine Lee (3PD). Together, as a team, they were able to raise a total of $380 to donate towards research efforts to determine genetic markers for early diagnosis of AD and other projects.

The walk was a wonderful experience. The weather was warm enough for us to show off our brand-new purple ‘Remember for Those Who Can’t’ shirts, designed especially for the walk. As a second-time walker for Walk to End Alz, I personally enjoyed being able to talk to others and share about how we can make a difference in the world of those suffering with such a life-threatening disease. It’s inspiring to see how the local Gainesville community has such commitment and passion to support those with AD and know that we, as a whole, are working together, step by step, towards one day, a world without Alzheimer’s.