

# Pharmacy Council

## Spring 2009

### President's Report



This year we had a great atmosphere at council- it was definitely a democratic gathering of friends. Saadia put it best when she told me she felt like "we went all out this year." I couldn't have put it better.

Next year I expect no less from members of Council,

whether you're here at the College in person, or in spirit as you attend class on our off-site campuses or are on rotations. "Go all out" in your endeavors and keep a smile on your face. Do what you can to be as willing to help next year's Executive Council as much as you did the previous one. This year would have been a disaster without everyone working together!

Our events this year were wildly successful, and the committee chairs were exceptional. From my experience on the President's Committee in the Senate of College Councils, we are doing things at are College that are unparalleled across the University. Congratulations to all of you, and thank you sincerely for a job well done this year. I'm not one for quotes, but I hope the spirit of this year's Council is enough to inspire and motivate us all to continue to demand excellence of ourselves and one another in the coming year.

*Megan Shearrer, Pharm.D. Candidate 2010*

### Advisor's Report



It is hard to believe we are approaching the end of the spring semester. It seems like only yesterday the new P1 class was starting their orientation to our program and getting better acquainted with the pharmacy profession. What an incredible

year this has been!!

I am thankful for the incredibly talented and dedicated group of students who serve in Pharmacy Council. I realize that your time is valuable and as students you have many priorities. We are fortunate to have your commitment to this organization, our College and the profession. Thank you to each of you who have served as a chair of a committee or as a volunteer on the many events that have been held this year.

I would be remiss if I didn't take this opportunity to give special thanks to the leadership of Pharmacy Council. Thank you to our executive committee members, Megan Shearrer, Bonnie Whittington, Adolph Novosad, Saadia Ali, Alessandra Ochoa, and Trista Askins. Each of you has provided tremendous leadership to Pharmacy Council. All of you should look back at this year and take pride in what Pharmacy Council has been able to accomplish.

Again, to those of you who have served during this year, thank you for your commitment and dedication to Pharmacy Council, the College and University. To those of you who will be beginning your new role with Pharmacy Council, I encourage you to make the most out of this experience. When you have the opportunity to serve in a leadership capacity in any organization, you should leave it a little better than how you got it. You will always get more out of your efforts than what you put in. Enjoy this opportunity and think about your impact and the opportunity before you.

*Diane B. Ginsburg, M.S., R.Ph., FASHP  
Clinical Professor and Assistant Dean for Student Affairs*

### President-Elect's Report



This has been a great year and spring semester for Pharmacy Council. I blame it all on the amazing committees and pharmacy student organizations that make up Pharmacy Council! None of the events could have been great successes without the help of Dean Ginsburg, Ms. Kay Jamison, and the rest of

the wonderful 5<sup>th</sup> floor staff. Thank you so much for all that you do.

The committees put on a plethora of fun events for pharmacy students, faculty, and the community. I am so proud of all of the things we have accomplished as an organization. We are truly role models for other organizations within the University.

This past semester I had the honor to tack on another title in addition to secretary of PC- President-Elect. As President-Elect, I took advantage of the opportunity to learn from Megan. I learned a lot just by observing the way she conducted meetings and interacted with the Deans and student body. I am so grateful to have such an inspirational predecessor.

I will truly miss part of the 2008-2009 executive committee- Adolph, Ali, Bonnie, and Megan. I enjoyed working with you all and getting to know your unique personalities. However, I look forward to working again with Trista and Dean Ginsburg and getting to know the rest of my new executive committee- Eric, Laura, Leigh, and Rajesh. I can already tell that we will be a happy and hardworking family. Corny, but true. Please do not hesitate to stop any of us in the hallway if you have any questions, comments, concerns, or compliments ☺. Next year will be great!

*Saadia Ali, Pharm.D. Candidate 2011*

## Vice President's Report



We have had lots of fun at the College of Pharmacy this spring semester with great events coordinated by our Committee Chairs.

The semester began with Student Interviews in January, and our co-chairs, Teisha Daniels and Rene Gonzalez, kept the interviews running smoothly. Their efforts in preparing for each round, coordinating all of the tours and Q&A sessions, as well as recruiting

volunteers was impeccable. They ensured that all candidates were welcomed and made to feel at home while they were here.

Kate Parker and Danielle Bailey made Faculty Appreciation Week excellent! Each Thank You card sent to our professors was given to every class to sign. Faculty and staff were then invited to the Faculty Appreciation Breakfast where students could personally thank them for all they do to make our college the best. The co-chairs also have a great Faculty Appreciation Ice Cream Sundae reception and Spring Social planned during the month of April.

In March, Laura Porter and Derek Templet led the safari as our college was transformed into a jungle for Explore UT. Through activities at the Kid's Corner, the Pharmacy Jungle Bazaar, and Hogwart's Potion Class visitors and families were able to learn about pharmacy in a fun and interactive way. The co-chairs also assisted hosting our guests from UTEP and Pan Am for the day, as they learned about life as a pharmacy student at UT.

The Planner design is underway with Jenny Peng leading the committee. She has been involved in getting the planner funded by the CO-OP this year and will get us all organized by next fall with her creation.

Lauren Biales and Misbah Moten, the Fundraising Co-chairs, have designed a new polo for Pharmacy Council this spring in addition to diligently submitting the final orders for business cards and thank you notes for the year.

Lilalyn Punsalan, while serving as the Disease State Awareness Chair, has informed students about a variety of important disease states this year, and is planning a final talk regarding AIDS/HIV awareness for the end of the semester.

For Student Affairs, Melissa Dempsey Miller and her committee have been instrumental in creating a survey to assess student involvement in organizations as well as informing the Dean regarding current issues facing each class.

The newly formed Philanthropy Committee has send out over 200 thank you notes to donors of the college just this semester! We look forward to the great things that this committee will do in the future, and sincerely thank all of the students who have made this committee such a success.

Finally, as my term as Vice President ends, I would like to sincerely thank the Executive Committee for their help and encouragement, all of the committee chairs for their enthusiasm and persistence, and Dean Ginsburg and Ms. Kay Jamison for their continued support and advice. I have thoroughly enjoyed serving with each of you, and I anticipate seeing even more accomplishments in the future with our new executive team!

*Bonnie Whittington, Pharm.D. Candidate 2010*



## Financial Director's Report

Greetings pharmacy students, faculty, and staff! I cannot begin to express how honored I am to have served as the Financial Director of our Pharmacy Council (PC) this

past year. I also want to wish our new PC Financial Director, Trista Askins, the best of luck next year. I know she will do great.

Acting as Financial Director has been a unique learning experience that has taught me tools for the rest of my days. But I could not have done it without all the help I received from the College of Pharmacy. So I want to extend a huge thank you to all the PC members, officers, committee chairs, Dean Ginsburg, and Kay Jamison for keeping PC running so smoothly. I want to extend a special thanks to our Fundraising Chairs, Lauren Biales and Misbah Moten, for all their time and hard work. I also want to thank the whole COP student body. Your support and encouragement of PC has been truly appreciated.

*Adolph Novosad III, Pharm.D. Candidate 2010*

## Student Government Representative's Report



Hi Everyone! I served as the College of Pharmacy Student Government representative for the 2008-2009 school year. Over the past year, many important pieces of legislation were passed that impacted the university as a whole. Every Tuesday

evening, Student Government meetings were held to discuss various issues and make decisions that would benefit our university. My job as a representative was to relay this information onto the college and make decisions that were in the best interest of our pharmacy students. This past year, I had the privilege of working alongside with stellar members of Pharmacy Council. The members of the executive committee have worked extremely hard this year and have done a great job at tackling student issues within the College and improving quality of life within the College. I would like to thank the College of Pharmacy for allowing me to serve as a representative. This has been a great year and it has been an honor to represent the College of Pharmacy. I would like to extend my congratulations to the newly elected Pharmacy Council officers. Best of luck to you all!

*Alessandra Ochoa, Pharm.D. Candidate 2011*

## Senate Representative's Report



This semester was another exciting and productive session for the Senate of College Councils! The Senate of College Councils is the student government body who represents students in academic affairs. It is made up of representatives and presidents from councils of all colleges at the university, as well as at-large members who represent the entire student body. My job duties consisted of introducing legislation resolutions and bills from the Student Senate to Pharmacy Council and taking our vote back to the Senate.

This spring was a legislative year for the Texas Congress, so many of our resolutions were brought up at the state-wide level. Students from Senate were even asked to testify at congressional hearings about our resolutions and how the students feel about issues. As a Senate, we addressed several controversial issues, such as maintaining the gun ban on university campuses and continuing deregulation of tuition. Senate also hosted events for students and faculty, including Faculty Appreciation Week and Undergraduate Research Week. It has been an honor representing Pharmacy Council and the students of this college at the university level. I look forward to what Senate will do in the future and the impact they will make on the university. Hook'em horns!

*Trista Askins, Pharm.D. Candidate 2011*

## Explore UT Chairs' Report

Explore UT this year was a huge success for the College of Pharmacy. Over a hundred student volunteers and staff came out largest open house Austin and the Pharmacy. We had activities for both



to make the for UT-College of lots of kids and adults including the Junior Bevo Safari where kids explored the jungle of



pharmacy through picture frame decorating, coloring books and other jungle activities, and information sessions where visitors could learn about drug

importation or careers in pharmacy, just to name a few. The big excitement though came from Hogwarts the performance, where student volunteers put on a Harry Potter inspired skit to inspire kids about the profession of pharmacy and let them get hands on in the compounding lab making “poly-juice potion” and “mandrake extract.” All of the student professional organizations came out as well to fundraise, educate, and provide health care screenings for the visitors. In the end we all had a great time and were happy to be able to give something back to the community while showing them what the UT College of Pharmacy is all about. Thanks to all of our volunteers for your help, we could never have done this without you!

*Laura Porter, Pharm.D. Candidate 2011*

*Derek Templet, Pharm.D. Candidate 2011*

## Faculty Relations Chairs' Report

This spring, the faculty relations/social committee has been extremely busy planning three major



events for both the faculty and the students. The annual Faculty

Appreciation Breakfast was held on Thursday, March 5<sup>th</sup> in Austin. We had a large turnout from both the students

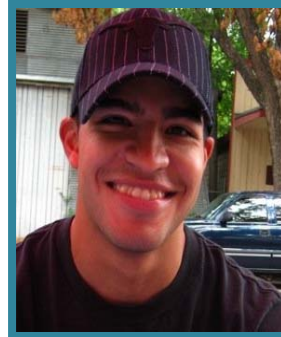
and faculty, but it may have been because of the amazing breakfast tacos that were served this year. Students from both Austin and San Antonio also signed and personalized Thank You cards for faculty members during pharmacy week, which seemed to be greatly appreciated. We also held an Ice Cream Social to further recognize our faculty and celebrate the end of an amazing year. Faculty, students, and staff were able to come out to the patio between the pharmacy buildings to make their own ice cream sundaes! Finally, we will be serving up sun, fun, and barbeque at the Spring Social on Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup> from 12-4pm at Mary Moore Searight Metro Park. Please join us for volleyball, basketball and an afternoon away from the books! Families are invited as well. We've worked really hard this year to recognize our amazing faculty and keep the socials fun and interesting. It has been a blast, and we would really like to give a special thanks to everyone that helped us along!

*Danielle Bailey, Pharm.D. Candidate 2010*

*Kate Parker, Pharm.D. Candidate 2011*

## Student Interview Chairs' Report

We had three outstanding rounds of interviews in January, February, and April. We have had several compliments from applicants, faculty and about how exceptional interview process went semester. There are so



staff the this many people to thank for making the

interviews a success this year: tour guides, hospitality room volunteers, the student

interviewers, the administration office, the practitioners and professors that helped interview, and many more. We appreciate all of your hard work, dedication, and time you put into this process. We could not have done it without you. Thank you for representing the College of Pharmacy and for helping make this year's round of interviews a success!

*Teisha Daniels, Pharm.D. Candidate 2011*

*Rene Gonzalez, Pharm.D. Candidate 2011*



## UTSSHP President's Report

UTSSHP had a very busy year thus far and this semester just flew by. We have had great speakers this

semester. In February, we had the TSHP President-elect for next year (a UT professor!), Dr. Jim Wilson, speak with UTSSHP about the TSHP Annual Seminar. This past weekend, April 17-19, UTSSHP sent 35 students to the TSHP Annual Seminar. Complete Rx also came to speak with members of UTSSHP about how CompleteRx functions. Dr. Nguyen, a NICU clinical pharmacist, will speak at our last UTSSHP meeting of Spring 2009. Our Asthma Committee is continuing to work with the American Lung Association and will be volunteering at the Asthma Walk in Austin as well as participating in health fairs around town. The San Antonio Smoke-Out Committee is continuing to raise awareness to the San

Antonio community about the dangers of smoking and how to quit. We had time to blow off pharmacy stress also at our annual Broomball Game versus UT-ASP. Although, we didn't win, we had a blast playing on the ice! We just elected our leadership for next year and I know that they are going to do a great job. Good luck next year!

*Dana Sharp, Pharm.D. Candidate 2010*

## P4 Student's Report



What an exciting year it has been! After spending three years in the classroom, the opportunity to apply our knowledge to actual patients has been a privilege. Venturing across the entire state, we have found the profession in a great state. Physicians heed our advice and recommendations due to the profound efforts of our preceding pharmacy

colleagues. Our rotation preceptors place us in situations where our participation in screenings and patient counseling competitions during pharmacy school has allowed us to impact the profession at the point of care. The skills instilled in us by our professors have enabled us to maintain the reputation of the University of Texas College of Pharmacy. However, despite being off the main campus, we have strived to leave our mark on and improve the future of the College. By initiating the P3-P4 Rotation Connection Program, where P3's can contact current P4's in their assigned region, we have hopefully improved the transition into the final year. As graduation nears and we move forward to the start of our careers, we will look fondly back upon our years in Austin. We have been changed; now let us go change the world!

*Steven Knight, Pharm.D. Candidate 2009  
Houston/Galveston Region*



## Graduate Student's Report

Having been asked to write about graduate studies and graduate student life in the College, I began by making a list of the major fields of study: medicinal chemistry, pharmaceuticals,

pharmacology & toxicology, pharmacotherapy, pharmacy administration, and pharmacy practice. The next step was to try to summarize what each of these encompasses. This proved more difficult than expected, because the scope of

research at the College is too great to sum up in a few sentences. I, nonetheless, tried by first dividing the Divisions into two categories: the basic sciences and the pharmacy research fields. Medicinal chemistry, pharmaceuticals, and pharmacology & toxicology are all basic science disciplines that design compounds for the development of drugs, make drugs more bioavailable, and study what drugs do and how they act in living systems, respectively. The pharmacotherapy, pharmacy administration, and pharmacy practice divisions make up the pharmacy research fields; specifically, they train and educate pharmacists and pharmaceutical scientists, study the economic aspects of pharmacy practice and health care systems, and provide teaching that prepares students for all areas of professional practice, respectively.

As you can imagine based on the descriptions above, the research and subsequently, the graduate student experiences for CoP graduate students varies greatly. I would be lying if I said that I knew how students from every division spent their days. That being said, there are some commonalities between all CoP graduate students. First, we are all passionate about our respective fields. You have to be in order to willingly sign up for at least two, but up to seven or eight years studying essentially one thing the entire time. We also love to talk about our research, so please don't hesitate to ask any graduate student about what they do. Second, we are all, in some manner, teachers. Some of us TA for classes in the College, as well as, other classes at the University (some of us may have been your TA). Others like, myself, engage in one-on-one teaching every semester by mentoring undergraduate or Pharm.D. students in the lab. Finally, we all have lives outside of the lab. I think when most people think of graduate students, they envision a kind of indentured servitude way of life. This is not the case. Though, we do work hard and sometimes spend long hours and weekends in the lab, we do have lives and enjoy probably all of the same things that other students do, so don't hesitate to approach or contact any graduate student with questions about our research, our studies, or graduate school in general.

*Armando Salinas  
UT College of Pharmacy Graduate Student*