



PHARMA SCRIPT

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Membership Marvels: Reflecting on Success, Forging Ahead with Purpose

As the Membership Committee, at the beginning of this academic year we hosted multiple successful engagement events that fostered a sense of community and camaraderie among our members. To cap off pharmacy week, we hosted a lively bowling event, providing an enjoyable atmosphere for members to connect and unwind. Additionally, our commitment to social responsibility was demonstrated through our volunteer initiative in collaboration with the ambulatory care and outpatient pharmacy committee at Moveable Feast. Together we collectively packed over 800 meal kits for individuals battling chronic illnesses, showcasing our dedication to making a positive impact.

Looking ahead to the second half of the year, the Membership Committee is excited to announce upcoming events designed to enhance the overall member experience. In January, we will host a Winter Wellness Event, focusing on the health and well-being of our members during the colder months. This event aims to provide valuable insights and resources, emphasizing our dedication to the holistic wellness of our members.

Further, in March, we are thrilled to present the Women in Pharmacy Leadership Forum, a significant event that aligns with our mission to support and empower all members. This forum will provide a platform for inspiring discussions, networking opportunities, and the exchange of ideas to foster the professional development of women in the pharmacy field.

The Membership Committee is committed to creating a vibrant and supportive community for our members, and we look forward to the continued success and engagement at the upcoming events.

If you are looking to get involved with the Membership Committee, please reach out to Michael Singel or Katie Goodell. We have a standing monthly meeting on the last Tuesday of every month at 3:30pm





University of Maryland School of Pharmacy SSHP Chapter Update

As a student organization, we strive to organize programming that allows our members opportunities not only to learn, but to lead. Through a busy fall semester of events for the UMSOP SSHP chapter, we were able to host two in particular that illustrate this dual goal and what it means to reframe ourselves not just as students, but as emerging practitioners.

On a Saturday in October, UMSOP opened its doors to local students from the Baltimore community, along with their parents, for a special Halloween event. The annual “Healthy Halloween” features presentations by nearly every School of Pharmacy student organization, with the goal of engaging and educating young people and their parents on relevant health topics. In the spirit of community outreach, pharmacy students become the teachers. This year, our SSHP chapter presented “Rethink Your Drink,” a visualization of the sugar content in various beverages. Participants tried to rank beverages according to their sugar content by matching the bottles to measured bags of sugar representing the amount in each, with SSHP volunteers present to explain the results. The game was popular with teenagers eager to show off their competitive sides, many of whom were surprised by what they learned about just how much sugar is in some familiar beverages. Other presentation topics included hand hygiene, healthy relationships, and household medication safety. The event aimed to impart the message that there’s a lot we can do every day to be healthier, and that health doesn’t mean never eating candy!



Only a few weeks later, for our next event, we welcomed a very different group of visitors to Pharmacy Hall. This time, our guests were pharmacists practicing throughout the realm of Health-System pharmacy, graciously volunteering their time and wisdom for a roundtable event. The event provided a valuable opportunity for pharmacy students to hear about the reality of the profession outside the school walls, from managed care to inpatient practice to federal employment. The roundtable facilitated discussions on career trajectories, patient interactions, and the evolving landscape of healthcare. Our students aimed to pick up wisdom from experienced pharmacists by asking thoughtful questions and absorbing practical advice. As part of a comprehensive education, events like this one serve as a bridge between the classroom and the nuanced realities of the profession.

These events underscored our goals as a student chapter of ASHP. By acting as both teachers and learners, we as student pharmacists can both contribute to the well-being of the local community and enrich our own understanding of the pharmacy profession. For participating student members, we hope

that events like these illustrate that no matter where you are in your career journey, there is always something you can teach someone else, and there is always more to learn.

Introduction

The American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) recently hosted a dynamic General Body Meeting at UMES school of Pharmacy on Monday (10/16/2023), where pharmacy students and professionals gathered to gain valuable insights on the complex world of pharmacy residency programs. The event featured a special guest, Dr. Saley Traore, a renowned expert in the field, who shared invaluable information about the application process, interview tips, and other essential requirements for securing a coveted spot in a pharmacy residency program.

Residency Programs: A Gateway to Specialization

Pharmacy residency programs offer graduates an opportunity to delve deeper into a specific area of pharmacy practice, whether it's clinical, ambulatory care, or administration. These programs provide a structured learning environment that fosters personal and professional growth. However, the competition for these limited spots is fierce, making it crucial for aspiring pharmacy residents to be well-informed.

The Application Process

Dr. Saley Traore began the discussion by emphasizing the importance of a well-crafted application. A successful application should include a well-detailed CV, a personalized letter of intent, letters of recommendation, and a strong academic record. Traore also highlighted the significance of demonstrating a genuine passion for the chosen area of practice and explaining how a specific program aligns with personal career goals.

The Interview

Once the application is accepted, the next hurdle is the interview. Dr. Saley Traore shared key insights into preparing for a residency interview. She encouraged candidates to thoroughly research the residency program, prepare for common interview questions, and develop thoughtful questions to ask the interviewers. Traore also emphasized the importance of professionalism, including punctuality, appropriate attire, and respectful behavior during the interview.

Competitive Edge

To stand out among a competitive pool of applicants, Dr. Saley Traore advised potential residents to engage in extracurricular activities, demonstrate leadership, and pursue research opportunities. She also stressed the significance of networking with current residents and attending conferences and workshops to gain valuable experience and insight.

GPA and Extracurricular Activities

During the meeting, the discussion also revolved around the significance of maintaining a competitive GPA. While it's not the only factor in the application process, a strong academic record can open doors. Dr. Traore also encouraged attendees to participate in extracurricular activities related to pharmacy, as this demonstrates a commitment to the profession and a willingness to go the extra mile.

Residency Match Day

The residency matching process, a nerve-wracking experience for aspiring residents, was another topic of discussion. Dr. Saley Traore explained how the National Resident Matching Program (NRMP) plays a pivotal role in this process. She emphasized the importance of ranking programs in order of preference and the need for a solid backup plan in case the desired program is not matched.

Conclusion

The ASHP General Body Meeting featuring Dr. Saley Traore shed light on the intricate journey toward securing pharmacy residency. Her insights on the application, interview, and other requirements provided attendees with a roadmap for success in a highly competitive field. Pharmacy students and professionals left the meeting armed with valuable knowledge to help them navigate the challenging path to residency and further their careers in healthcare.

In conclusion, aspiring pharmacy residents were reminded that persistence, dedication, and a commitment to lifelong learning are key to success in securing a pharmacy residency and making a meaningful impact in the field.

MSHP Education and Programing Committee (EPC) Events and Opportunities

Crystal Lu, PharmD BCOP
Neourang Singh (Jay) PharmD,dPLA

Hello, thank you all for making the Spring MSHP Fall Seminar a roaring success along with the Residency Showcase and the ever-popular Happy Hour and Networking. As we look forward to the MSHP Spring Seminar coming up very soon on Friday April 19th at The Hotel at Arundel Preserves where our target audience will be pharmacist, pharmacy students and pharmacy technicians. This seminar will not disappoint as it will offer captivating and informative topics related to pharmacy along with CE credits, some of the topics include Pros and Cons of Marijuana Use, Obesity, Diabetes, Ozempic, The latest information on USP 797 and Health Equity and Race-Based Algorithm. A business meeting and installation of new officers will take place along with an excellent opportunity to interact and learn from a variety of drug company representatives showcasing their products and latest updates. There will also be a research poster presentation at the end of the day where you can share and learn about practice impact across health systems in Maryland. Breakfast and lunch will be included along with our Happy Hour and Networking featuring drink and appetizers.

Member technicians can register and attend at no cost!

Registration and schedule for the Fall Seminar can be found using the link below:

[Maryland Society of Health-System Pharmacy \(site-ym.com\)](https://www.msphp.org/site-ym.com)

We want to hear from you! Want to get involved? Have ideas for future seminar topics? Interested in serving as faculty? Reach out the MSHP EPC now!

- To inquire about joining our committee, please reach out to Crystal Lu (Crystal.Lu@nih.gov),
- Neourang (Jay) Singh (nsingh1@umm.edu)
- To submit topics for future educational presentations, fill out the form here: <https://forms.gle/VSB2r5kgesQjbxKm8>
- If you're interested in speaking at an upcoming seminar, fill out the form here: <https://forms.gle/wKizj6K2RL7hocKH8>

MSHP Fall Seminar! Stay tuned for more information forthcoming on the next fabulous opportunity to attend an MSHP seminar.

House of Delegates Update

The ASHP House of Delegates (HOD) celebrated 75 years last year! The HOD contains over 200 ASHP Leaders from across the country. The HOD plays a key role in ASHP's professional policies that support ASHP advocacy efforts and help shape present and future health-system practice. Maryland has four delegates and two alternate delegates.

The HOD recently conducted a virtual session in November. Delegates were invited to vote on several policy recommendations proposed by ASHP Councils and Forums following Policy Week in September. A summary of the results are below:

- Approved four policies:
 - End-Of-Life treatment and Care
 - Pharmacist Leadership of Pharmacy Practice
 - Pharmaceutical Distribution System
 - Promotion of the Pharmacy Profession
- Discontinued three policies:
 - Standardization of Oral Liquid Medication Concentrations
 - Pharmacist's Role in Providing Care for an Aging Population
 - Licensure of Pharmacy Graduates
- The following policy did not achieve the 85% threshold so will be further considered by the House in 2024:
 - Documentation of Patient-Care Services in the Permanent Health Record

All four policies approved were reviewed as part of a sunset review and the applicable council voted to recommend amending the language. Policy Positions approved by the 2023 House of Delegates can be found here and all ASHP policy positions and rationale can be found here: [Policy Positions - ASHP](#).

The Maryland Delegates for 2024 are:

- Janet Lee
- Marybeth Kazanas
- John Hill
- Terri Jorgenson
- Justin Hare, Alternate
- Molly Wascher, Alternate

As we look forward to upcoming HOD activities in 2024, we will be providing an update of ASHP policy positions and proposed new policy at the MSHP Spring Seminar in April 2024. We need your input as we prepare for the ASHP Summer Meeting and HOD activities and hope to hear from you at the Spring Meeting. We are also excited to host a MSHP HOD virtual open forum for all members in May 2024 – stay tuned for the save the date. This will be another opportunity to give us feedback on pending policy positions and new policy ideas.

We're looking forward to another great year for the ASHP House Delegates and representing you, the MSHP members, next up is the Virtual House of Delegates in March!



2024 MSHP

SPRING SEMINAR & POSTER SESSION

Friday, April 19th, 2024
The Hotel at Arundel Preserve
Hanover, Maryland
7:15 AM – 5:00 PM

REGISTER TODAY!

FREE registration
for member
pharmacy
technicians



WHY SHOULD YOU ATTEND THE SPRING SEMINAR & POSTER SESSION?

- 5 hours of live, accredited continuing education
- CE topics: Medical Marijuana, Ozempic, USP 797, Health Equity, and 2024 Pharmacy Forecast Report
- Face-to-face networking with pharmacy colleagues across Maryland
- Complimentary breakfast, lunch, and snacks
- Social/happy hour immediately following CE sessions
- **Poster Session** is an excellent opportunity to share and learn about practice impact work across Maryland health systems

FOR QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT MSHPRX@GMAIL.COM



2024 MSHP Spring Seminar & Poster Session

Friday, April 19, 2024
7:15AM - 5:00PM
The Hotel at Arundel Preserve
Hanover, MD

Don't miss out on the Spring Seminar Poster Session! This is an excellent opportunity to share and learn about research or practice impact work with Maryland Pharmacy colleagues.

The poster abstract submission portal is open to all MSHP members including pharmacy technicians, pharmacists, residents, and students.



Submission Requirements

- Research must have taken place in Maryland or be relevant to a Maryland hospital, health system, or regulatory body.
 - The primary author (who must be an MSHP member) should submit the abstract submission form.
 - If accepted, the primary author and/or co-author **MUST** attend the Spring Seminar on April 19st.
 - The presenter(s) should set up the poster at 7:30AM and be available for questions from 4:00-5:00PM
- The presenter(s) is/are responsible for registration of Spring Seminar

How to submit?

- Submit your abstract using this link [here](#) by **March 1st, 2024 at 11:59PM**
- Please contact mshprxeducation@gmail.com for additional questions.

Why Should You Submit?

- Presenters of accepted posters will receive a BIG discount on Spring Seminar registration.
- Posters will be judged for best research award and receive a **prize!**
- Original, research-in-progress and encore presentations are all welcome.
- Results are not required in abstract submission! We encourage research-in-progress submissions as long as research in progress can provide results by April 5th, 2024.
- You can also have your abstract published in the research supplement in Pharmascrypt
- This is an excellent CV building opportunity!



Calendar of Events

2023-2024

APR
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2024 MSHP Reverse Expo – Industry Registration

Thursday, April 18, 2024, 5:30-7:30 PM
The Hotel at Arundel Preserve
Hanover, MD

APR
18

2024 MSHP Reverse Expo – Director Registration

Thursday, April 18, 2024, 5:30-7:30 PM
The Hotel at Arundel Preserve
Hanover, MD

APR
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2024 MSHP Spring Seminar & Poster Session

Friday, April 19, 2024, 7:15 – 5:00 PM
The Hotel at Arundel Preserve
Hanover, MD

MAY

Spring ID Webinar

Registration: TBD