

Pre-S.C.R.I.P.T.
UNM's Pre-Pharmacy Society
Meeting Minutes

Date: March 5, 2008

Location: UNM College of Pharmacy, Room 135

Presiding: Amina Akhil

Recorder: Emily Goulding

5:35pm

Amina Akhil, Pre-Script President, began the Pre-Pharmacy Society meeting. She introduced Charles Byrnes, a representative from Kaplan Test Prep.

5:36pm

Charles announced there will be a PCAT prep class from March 29 to May 10. The class will be Saturdays, Mondays, and Wednesdays (times are TBA). Also, there are additional test dates for the PCAT. They are as follows:

- Saturday, June 21, 2008
- Saturday, August 23, 2008
- Saturday, October 18, 2008
- Saturday, January 24, 2008

5:37pm

Troy Russell, APhA-Member-at-large, spoke about upcoming events:

- There will be a free flu shot clinic tomorrow (March 6, 2008) in SUB Luminaria Room. He encouraged Pre-Script members to tell friends and family.
- The House of Delegates for APhA will have a policy meeting Tuesday, March 11, 2008, from 12:00-1:00pm at the College of Pharmacy room 135. Pre-pharmacy students are welcome to come.

5:38pm

Dr. Megan Thompson, Director of Student Services, gave information on upcoming events.

- The College of Pharmacy is looking for work study qualified students to work in research labs. Students must be enrolled in a minimum of 6 credit hours. The job includes running forms between the BMSB, the medical school, as well as the dental hygiene school. They are looking to hire around 3 people. The number of hours you work per week is flexible.
- Wednesday March 26 is the Annual Pfizer Molecules to Medicine Workshop. There are only 30 spots/session, so sign up as soon as possible. The session times are from 8:00-12:00 and 1:00-5:00. Contact Penny Hogan at phogan@salud.unm.edu or by phone 272-3660. The workshop is free of charge.

- The UNM College of Pharmacy career fair will be Friday April 4 from 10:30-1:30, in the student lounge at the College of Pharmacy. You will have a chance to meet potential employers. Bring your resume and dress professionally (no jeans, shorts, etc.). There are also possible volunteer/shadowing opportunities.
- Saturday April 5 there will be a Pre Health Day workshop. It will take place in the Domenici Center. If you are interested in setting up a table, email Dr. Thompson.

5:48pm

Robert Rangel is a 4th year pharmacy student. He spoke about the Rho Chi Honor Society. The top 20% of the 3rd year pharmacy class, based on GPA through the fall of your 3rd year, will be inducted into the honor society. UNM is part of the Gamma Beta chapter, which was established 1968. Membership is by invitation only. There were 17 new members initiated in spring 2007. It is a nationally recognized honor society. There are scholarship opportunities for graduate programs after pharmacy school. For further information, email Robert at rrangel@salud.unm.edu.

6:07pm

David Padilla, a pre-pharmacy student, spoke about this past summer went. He traveled to Spain and shadowed a pharmacist. David had to give a presentation to the Honors Department at UNM and offered to give a condensed version to members, and is as follows:

- The practice in Spain is much different than in the US. They have the 2nd highest density of pharmacists in Europe. The country is approximately the size of New Mexico, yet it has 12 pharmacy schools!
- The degree program in Spain includes 4 ½ years of course work, and 6 months of community or hospital pharmacy practice under a pharmacist. Their degree is called *la Licenciatura en farmacia* and it is about equivalent to the United States' Master's degree. They do not need a doctorate of pharmacy.
- There is an emphasis on rural health care. There is a minimum of one pharmacy required for every 4000 inhabitants. Also, pharmacies cannot be within 250 meters of each other. All pharmacies are privately owned. Only pharmacists can dispense medication, including Tylenol.
- Spain has a nationalized health care system, so that everyone can get medication. The country even publishes the phone numbers of on-call pharmacists in the newspaper for after-hours assistance. Citizens can call the pharmacist, and, under law, they have to help them.
- Pharmacists are highly trained. They are often the only health care provider. They offer advice on common ailments.
- Laws on dispensing are more lax than they are in the US. In Spain, patients can talk to a pharmacist, tell them their symptoms and the

pharmacist can prescribe antibiotics. There is not currently a cause for concern about antibiotic resistance.

6:31pm

Kate Johnson, another pre-pharmacy student, gave a presentation on a project she did for her Interviewing 344 class. She passed out plastic vials containing contact information about the people she interviewed. Kate called them “vials of success.” She interviewed students and faculty, wanting to know why they have a desire to give back to the profession. She interviewed Kim Neff, APhA-ASP President, Michelle Disco, Assistant Dean for External Programs, Dr. Megan Thompson, and Dr. Joe Anderson. Kate discussed the process by which she interviewed the faculty as well as what she learned from each person.

6:38pm

Meeting adjourned.