

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

Date: September 5, 2007
Location: SUB Ballroom A
Presiding: Amina Akhil
Recorder: Emily Goulding

7:01pm

Amina Akhil, Pre-Pharmacy Society President for 2007-2008, began the first Pre-Pharmacy Society meeting by introducing herself as well as the other new officers.

President:	Amina Akhil
Vice President:	Bernadette Aragon
Secretary:	Emily Goulding
Treasurer:	Chris Chavez
Historian:	Trung Bui
APhA Member-at-Large	Emily Goulding (temporary)

7:02 pm

Amina announced the introduction of our new website: <http://unmprepharm.com/>

Check the website for:

- Future meeting dates, times, and locations
- Important deadlines
- Miscellaneous updates

7:03pm

Icebreaker activity

7:11pm

End of Icebreaker; winner of \$10 gift certificate to Satellite: Briana Duncan

7:12pm

Amina discussed her goals for the year.

- Changing how the meetings were run compared to last year
- Will be more beneficial to students
- More resume building and tips
- Trung and Bernadette will be giving tips of the day/current events at the end of each meeting to keep pre-pharmacy students up to date on pharmacy news
- Interviewing practice offered

7:13pm

Dr. Megan Thompson, PharmD, was introduced. She is the advisor for Pre-Script. She is also the Director of Student Services, a member of the admissions

committee, and a professor at the UNM College of Pharmacy. She graduated from the UNM CoP in 2001 and has practiced in a community pharmacy setting as well as a hospital setting.

Dr. Thompson urged students to visit her and/or the other Student Services staff members for guidance or assistance.

Facts:

- Approximately 1100 applicants for the 2007 admissions cycles
- 85 available spots
- 9 out-of-state, 76 in-state accepted
- 200 New Mexico residents applied

Dr. Thompson encouraged students to get involved. Being a member of Pre-Script will help; it shows interest. She also offered assistance to help people who are looking to job shadow.

7:18pm

Introduction of Student Services staff (not present at meeting)

Krystal Weaver (was Krystal McCutchen) is the coordinator for student advisement. She advises students about transcripts, retaking classes, and planning classes to take each semester.

Beth Rowe is another advisor and can help students with transcripts, etc.

Diane Perea is the financial aid officer for the UNM College of Pharmacy.

Dr. Thompson recommended visiting the UNM CoP advisors. Students have been given poor advice from the University main campus advisors. The pre-pharmacy curriculum is much different than other majors. It is best to make an appointment at the CoP or go to walk in hours.

7:20pm

PCAT information

- Average composite score 70% for entering 2007 class
- Admissions committee looks at each section
- Specifically at the quantitative ability and chemistry sections
- If taken more than once, the committee will look at all of your scores, but will take into consideration the highest scores
- It is now required to apply
- Accepting the January PCAT, but it will delay your file. You may get an interview later in the semester, but it does not affect your chances

7:24pm

The process of sending out acceptance letters might change. In the past, rolling admissions let some people know ~1 week after the interview if they were

accepted. However, this has caused a lot of stress for students. It creates a “gossip mill.” The admissions committee would like to send out all letters at once to alleviate stress on students.

7:27pm

The new pharmacy curriculum is still being tweaked. Administrators at the UNM CoP looked at all of the Colleges of Pharmacy in the country and took the best parts from each one. Last year was the first year it was implemented. The new curriculum is more hands-on and integrated starting in the first year of pharmacy school. There are more compounding labs, patient cases, etc.

7:29pm

Summer Schroeder, Vice President of APhA-ASP, UNM Chapter and Christian Sanchez, Member Elect of APhA-ASP were introduced. They encouraged students to join and get involved in APhA-ASP.

Christian briefly described APhA-ASP. It is the American Pharmacists Association-Academy of Student Pharmacists and their goal is to get pharmacy students involved in the professional pharmacy setting. As pre-pharmacy students, Christian encouraged us to volunteer at health screenings and to help raise awareness on health issues in the community.

Summer informed students of a health screening this Saturday September 8 at Casa del Rey from 9:00am to 2:00pm. Also, there will be an APhA meeting on Thursday September 15 at 12:15pm at the CoP Room 135. Everyone is welcome to come.

7:39pm

Dr. Thompson spoke about a career fair that will be held Wednesday September 26 from 10:30am to 1:30pm in the Domenici Center on North Campus. If anyone is looking to apply for a pharmacy technician job or is interested in job shadowing, they are highly encouraged to attend. Dress professionally and bring a resume. If you need assistance with your resume, go to Career Services.

7:41pm

Charles Byrnes was introduced as the Kaplan Test Prep Representative. He will be attending all of the Pre-Script meetings.

Facts:

- Pre-Script members receive a discount on Kaplan PCAT classes
- Financial aid assistance is available
- Practice tests offered
- Next free practice PCAT is October 20 in DSH, time TBA
- Grad School Giveaway- enter to win \$25,000 on Kaplan’s website
- Contact Charles with any questions you have regarding the PCAT

7:45pm

Bernadette gave updates on volunteering opportunities. Fall Frenzy will be held Friday September 29. Help clean up the UNM campus by planting trees, picking up trash, covering pot holes, etc.

7:47pm

Dr. Thompson gave a current event stating that the FDA is considering making Lipitor, a cholesterol medication, OTC (over-the-counter drug). This could have serious consequences because cholesterol medication can have serious side effects.

7:51pm

Amina urged students to check the pharmacy website for information. She also announced the next meeting will be Wednesday October 3 at 7:00pm in the SUB, Acoma Room A.

7:52pm

Meeting adjourned.