Dear NYSCHP Members,

Happy Spring! At least, we hope Spring is coming, though you wouldn’t know it by the temperature or snow that we got this past weekend. But, soon we will see the buds on the trees and the flowers blooming. Speaking of new growth, at the Annual Assembly in April, we will be installing new Chapter Presidents and individuals to the Council’s Board of Directors. This is a perfect time for you to also get more involved. You can contact your Chapter’s Board of Directors and learn about their various committees, current projects and how you can help out. There are also a number of committees at the Council that are always looking for volunteers. You can learn more about the activities of these committees by reviewing the NYSCHP Board of Directors reports on the House of Delegates page on the website. Help make a difference and get involved!

Stephanie Seyse, Pharm.D, BCPS, FASHP, CACP
President-Elect, NYSCHP
Leatherstocking Chapter Spotlight

Greetings from frozen Central New York. Many members of the Leatherstocking Chapter defied the cold weather to attend our quarterly meeting in January. Even one of the chapter’s founding members, Frank Capristo, Jr., R.Ph. was in attendance. The meeting was held at the Farmhouse at Emmons, a quaint house turned restaurant in Oneonta, N.Y. We were especially delighted to welcome NYSCHP President Elizabeth Shlom. Liz reviewed recent and future council activities including lobbying efforts in Albany, the Annual Assembly, and upcoming C.E. events. (Our delegates at the Annual Assembly this year will be Maia Decker, Pharm.D.,BCPS and Kyle Marks, Pharm.D.). Chapter members enthusiastically shared their thoughts and ideas with Liz on growing opportunities within our small chapter.

Following much discussion, we enjoyed a presentation entitled "An Introduction to Biosimilars: Considerations for Clinical Practice", presented by Joyce M. D'Imperio, Pharm.D. Senior Medical Science Liaison, AbbVie. It was a very enlightening and interesting discussion about a quickly growing area of pharmacy, where government guidance is seemingly lagging behind, and posing new challenges to providers.

Our next dinner meeting will be held on March 26th followed by the presentation "Hepatitis C Virus: A Disease State Overview" by Patrick Cantwell, Pharm.D., MBA, MHA, a Senior Medical Science Liaison, AbbVie. This will be a timely review based on recent advances in hepatitis C treatment.

Maia Decker  
President-Leatherstocking Chapter

“Chapter members enthusiastically shared their thoughts and ideas with Liz on growing opportunities within our small chapter.”
SUNY Buffalo Update

The University at Buffalo School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences’ SSHP chapter is wrapping up a very active year of residency preparation, professional mentoring, legislative action, and community outreach.

**Mentorship Program:**
At the start of the fall semester, we offered a new program that linked SSHP members with current practicing pharmacists in the Western New York area to establish a mentoring relationship. 22 students were successfully matched to WNYSHP pharmacists based on class-year and clinical interests. Mentoring can and has occurred in a variety of ways, including monthly phone calls, meetings over coffee, and IPPE/shadowing opportunities. The relationship is intended to last for 1 year, though each mentor-mentee partnership will have the opportunity to extend beyond the 1 year if they both choose to do so. We look forward to hearing about how our students benefited from this program!

**PGY1 Residency Roundtable:**
This annual event’s goal is to provide students an opportunity to speak with PGY1 residents and directors on a more one-on-one basis about their programs and experience. The event was structured in a “round-robin” fashion, where students were broken up into small groups and were given approximately 15 minutes to speak a resident/director. They then rotated through each “station,” allowing each student to speak with each resident/director that was present.

**Reach Your Pinnacle: Let’s Get Clinical!**
New this year, “Reach Your Pinnacle: Let’s Get Clinical!” is a series of seminars each focusing on a different clinical pharmacy specialty. We’re currently in the middle of the series, with the seminars taking place throughout the spring semester. Presenters that we have invited to speak at these seminars are pharmacists that are either current PGY2s or current practicing pharmacists in that specialty. The focus of the seminars is career-based, talking about day-to-day activities and their role in the healthcare team. We currently have 8 scheduled seminars focusing on the following specialties: oncology, psychiatry, community, transplant, infectious disease, HIV/AIDS, pediatrics, and cardiology.

**Interprofessional Policy Forum:**
Upcoming is our annual “Interprofessional Forum” which is an opportunity for students of the various health professions to meet and talk policy. This year we hope to have attendance from the pharmacy, medical, nursing, and public health schools. Each profession will bring 1-2 policies that their respective profession is currently taking legislative action on and will present it for discussion. This is a great opportunity to spread awareness of policies, spark discussion, and ultimately gain support of the rest of the healthcare team. For the pharmacy students, this event will also act as an excellent preparation for Albany Day on April 21st.
Community Outreach:
UB SSHP had the opportunity to provide 4 wellness clinics to our community and to participate in 3 different health fairs. At each of these events, students partnered with a local pharmacist preceptor to provide blood pressure readings, the Vial of L.I.F.E. program, and medication counseling. Through these events, we were able to reach out to more than 100 patients directly, talking with each of them about at least one of these various initiatives.

Networking:
During the fall semester we organized our annual Buffalo Wild Wings Student-Pharmacist Mixer. We had approximately 30 student members and 10 WNYSHP pharmacists in attendance. This event was an excellent opportunity for students to network with local pharmacists on an informal level. We’re excited to host another mixer this semester at a different local Buffalo restaurant.

ASHP Involvement:
Involvement with ASHP has been on the rise this year. We participated in the ASHP PPMI Video Competition during the fall semester, and were selected as a top finalist (To view our video, click here: http://www.ashp.org/ppmvideocompetition). We also had approximately 60 SSHP members attend the ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting this past December. At the meeting, two of our members (Ryan Dillon and Wesley Kufel) represented the UB SSHP chapter in the Clinical Skills Competition. We will also be hosting our annual “practice” clinical skills competition this spring in hopes to prepare future competitors for next year’s competition.

Our chapter is excited about all the things we were able to accomplish this year, and is determined to keep this trend going throughout the years to come. To learn more about the things UB SSHP has planned, check out our website: http://ubsshp.wix.com/ubsshp

Ciera Patzke PharmD Candidate, Class of 2016
University at Buffalo School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences

Mandatory Electronic Prescribing Delay

On Friday, March 13, 2015, Governor Cuomo signed the law delaying implementation of mandatory electronic prescribing until March 27, 2016. The overwhelming majority of pharmacies were ready, but it appears that most prescribers were not. It is being reported that there were/are significant delays in the DEA/BNE certification of encrypted software and e-prescribing systems. Although it is not yet mandatory, we encourage those prescribers who are technologically ready to do so to embrace e-prescribing now. Prescribers in NYS shouldn’t wait until 2016 and further delay the benefits of e-prescribing as envisioned by the I-STOP law passed in 2012.

Christopher Jadoch, R.Ph., J.D.
Vice President for Public Policy, NYSCHP
NYSCHP Upcoming Events

2015

- April 9: Open Hearing Conference call
- April 21: Albany Day to meet with our legislators in their Albany offices.
- April 24th - 26th: 54th Annual Assembly, “Taking it to the top: Practicing at the Top of your License”. The Sagamore, Bolton Landing, NY