



The Pitt Capsule

University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy

Professor's Life Lessons More than Exam Material

By Svetlana Goldman



As students, we often take for granted the world renowned faculty that we share the same halls and classrooms with every day.

Although, we spend endless hours of class time with these individuals we seldom really take the time to appreciate the genius surrounding us and the numerous cutting edge developments in medicine that resulted from the integral research of these faculty members. This past week I had the pleasure of chatting with Dr. Venkataramanan about his life and contributions to medicine which make him a pioneer in his field.

Dr. Venkataramanan, or as we know him as Venkat, has a rich background filled with many unique travels, stories, and achievements. He was born in a southern state of India called Tamil Nadu. He spent a majority of his childhood near the city of Chennai and completed his B.Pharm degree from the University of Madras. He elaborated that during those years the pharmacy school curriculum was much more product based, hands-on, and involved many labs in pharmaceutical chemistry and pharmaceuticals. His enthusiasm for teaching began in these undergraduate years where

he led several group study sessions.

Dr. Venkat exhibited an extreme passion for higher education. He continued to pursue his dreams and received a Masters degree in Pharmaceutics at Birla Institute of Technology and Sciences (BITS) in Pilani, India. During this masters program he met Dr. Mathur who gave lectures in pharmacokinetics based on fresh research ideas from journals. There were no textbooks for this class. Instead a piece of chalk was the sole tool of communicating concepts. Dr. Mathur derived elaborate equations on the blackboard and Dr. Venkat became fascinated with these concepts. By witnessing the power of teaching from Dr. Mathur, and having enjoyed his work as a teaching assistant, Dr. Venkat further solidified his dream to pursue his education and become a professor by obtaining a Ph.D. at the University of British Columbia and completing a fellowship at the University of Washington. It was Dr. Milo Gibaldi at the University of Washington who further molded him to become an academician.

He joined the faculty of the University of Pittsburgh in 1980. Here he worked with Dr. Starzl, known as the "Father of Liver Transplantation", to help develop tacrolimus, one of the most widely used immunosuppressive drugs in the world. Across one of his file cabinets there is a strange assortment of letters and numbers which reads FK506.

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The Pitt Capsule

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Kappa Psi Updates

By Julie Styche

The Brothers of Kappa Psi kicked off the new year with their annual ski trip to Seven Springs at the beginning of the semester. Over 60 Brothers gathered under one roof for a weekend full of skiing, snowboarding, tubing and playing in 24 inches of freshly fallen snow. The trip also included family-style meals, socializing and relaxing by the fire.



The Brothers would like to recognize Rebecca Crooks for her hard work with the “No-Talent Talent Show” and congratulate Michelle Bert, Alexa Ray, Dana Riether, Julie Styche and Elizabeth McCartney for their winning act, a parody performance to Miley Cyrus’s “Party in the USA.”

Upon returning from Seven Springs, the Brothers elected the 2010 executive board. Congratulations and good luck to the following Brothers as they step up to fill their new positions:

Dan Yarabinec, Regent

Kristina Sucic, Vice Regent

Luke Berenbrok, Recording Secretary

Julie Styche, Corresponding Secretary

Lindsay McCartney, Treasurer

Rebecca Crooks, Chaplain

Caroline Burggaller, Historian

Jessica Janda, Sergeant-at-Arms

Elyse Weitzman, ASP Representative

Chelsea Fitzgerald and

Josh Titus, IFC Representatives.

With the month of January also came Pharmacy Weeks. The Brothers of Kappa Psi always look forward to this time of year and are more than eager to participate in all of the planned events.

Many of the Brothers participated in the Patient Counseling Competition as well as the Rho Chi scavenger hunt. Kappa Psi was also well-represented at the PLS auction and the School of Pharmacy social event at Garage Door.

In addition, although the KY guys fell short of a win, they definitely put up a fight against PDC in the annual football game.



Top: KY Brothers enjoy their time at the annual ski trip to Seven Springs. Above: KY Brothers having a ball at the ASP Formal.

We would like to further congratulate Alexa Ray for winning the Patient Counseling Competition as well as Student of the Year Award. Many Kappa Psi Brothers celebrated the end of two successful Pharmacy Weeks by attending the ASP Formal, where they ate, drank, and danced the night away.

Venkat, Continued from Page 1

This is the original name, before FDA approval, of what is now known as tacrolimus (Prograf). Dr. Venkat recalls the day when Dr. Starzl came into his office with a small container of FK506 and said “this container is worth more than its weight in gold”. He has been an integral member of the research team and had the opportunity of overseeing several aspects of this research including in vitro, animal, and clinical studies. He will never forget March 1st, 1989 since this was the first time a human being was given tacrolimus. Dr. Venkat recalls how nervous he was to watch this drug being administered to this patient since no one really knew what to expect. But all this hard work and dedication paid off in the end and established him as “one of the world’s foremost experts in the pharmacology of immunosuppressive drugs” as mentioned by Dr. Starzl in an award nomination.

Furthermore, he designed a therapeutic monitoring program that helped uncover how to switch patients from IV to oral cyclosporine therapy using an understanding of cyclosporine pharmacokinetics. The studies he embarked in established the safety and efficacy of immunosuppressive drugs. His drive and motivation in research has allowed many to obtain “a second chance at life”. When I asked him how he accomplished all this ground breaking research, Dr. Venkat modestly replies “I have been fortunate and I was merely at the right place at the right time.”

Finally, not only is Dr. Venkat’s research focused on giving a “second chance for life” but another focus involves “first time in life”. He explained the research his team is working on to understand the mechanism and optimization of drug use in pregnancy and development of a drug to prevent pre-term labor. Not much research looks into the use of drugs in a pregnant population so his team is evaluating various drug metabolizing enzymes and their changes in activity during pregnancy.

Outside of class, Dr. Venkat enjoys photography and writing. He shared with me an article he wrote for a local magazine including photographs he took, during his travel to Machu Picchu, where he was blown away and overwhelmed by the awesome beauty of his surroundings and the incredible accomplishments of the Incas. Although, both his parents have passed away recently, he still keeps the life lessons he has learned from them close to heart. When I asked him who his role model was, he responded that it was his grandfather, who was the dean of the school of education and who inspired him to pursue an academic life. However, it was his mother who was the greatest mentor in his personal life.

As for the infamous question of what sparked his desire to teach us life lessons, Dr. Venkat recalled a sad time in his life. His mother passed away in India due to heart complications and there were many things he wishes he had the chance to tell her. Unfortunately, life does not have a rewind button. This tragic event pushed him to want to motivate us to make a difference in this

world, recognize that we are fortunate for everything that we have, and be thankful for all the love and care that our family and friends provide. Thus, he stresses the need for us to tell our loved ones that we appreciate their kindness and support not only on national holidays, but on every ordinary day. Although, it is tough to pick his most favorite life lesson he says “most importantly we should pursue our passion and recognize that we are blessed and need to extend a helpful hand to those who are less fortunate”. So take these lessons to heart and the next time you walk the halls or sit in class remember what a privilege it is to be among such ground breaking pioneers and thank them for all their hard work and dedication!

Phi Lambda Sigma would like to thank everyone who donated, participated and bought items at the auction! This year we raised a record amount of money for the Grace Lamsam Pharmacy Program for the Underserved and for PLS to continue to operate through the next year- over \$8,000! We would also like to extend an extra special “thank you” to Becca Crooks and Taylor Miller!

Northern Exposure: A Pharmacy Experience in Alaska

By Yardlee Kauffman

During the fall of 2009, I completed a hospital and an acute care rotation in Alaska with the Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium (SEARHC). SEARHC is a non-profit tribal health consortium, which serves 18 native communities within southeast Alaska.

I had a unique opportunity to understand the health problems that are ubiquitous among the Alaskan Native population as well as recognize the challenges that patients may encounter while attempting to obtain medical care. For example, Alaskan natives have a high prevalence of substance abuse and chronic diseases such as diabetes and rheumatoid arthritis.

In addition, many patients are required to travel long distances by air or sea to acquire tertiary care that cannot be provided in many of the remote villages of southeast Alaska.

My experience took place at the Mt. Edgecumbe Hospital, which is located in Sitka on Japonski Island. The facility is a 25-bed hospital that emphasizes family medi-

cine, but also specializes in OB/GYN, pediatrics, anesthesiology, radiology, and internal medicine.

The hospital pharmacy is comprised of an inpatient and outpatient department. In the inpatient department, the pharmacist engages in activities such as prescription order processing and supervision of therapeutic drug monitoring.

The pharmacists in the outpatient department serve patients in multifaceted ways including chart review and patient counseling. A unique aspect of the Mt. Edgecumbe Hospital is the provision of telepharmacy services; telepharmacy allows pharmacists to counsel patients living in remote villages through real time, face-to-face audio and video computer links.

My rotation responsibilities were divided between the inpatient and outpatient pharmacy departments. I prepared intravenous drugs for inpatient use, attended interdisciplinary meetings, and presented cases and pharmacotherapy updates to pharmacy and nursing staff.

Although the rotation was structured, my preceptor encouraged me to investigate my areas of interest. For example, I observed procedures in the operating room and shadowed a rheumatologist and a neurologist during their clinic hours.

I also had numerous opportunities to refine my patient counseling skills and expand my pharmaceutical knowledge base by answering drug information requests and monitoring inpatient drug therapy.

As I am especially interested in community outreach, I organized a medication review for community members at a local senior center. This experience allowed me to contribute as a valued and trusted member of the health care team, thereby increasing my accountability to patients.

I highly recommend that any student with a desire to learn more about the American Indian/Alaskan native populations consider a site affiliated with these patient populations.

SNPhA Updates

By Julia Schnippert

We're well into another fun-filled semester! SNPhA held its first meeting of the semester on January 14 and new officers for the year were elected. Congratulations to all those elected to this chapter's executive board especially the new president, longtime active SNPhA member Adam Martin.

SNPhA is preparing for the regional meeting taking place February 26-28 in Baltimore. A number of us are attending and we encourage more of you to attend. Anyone interested in attending is more than welcome. Please let any board member know of your interest and we'll help you to make arrangements.

Congratulations to the new executive board:

President – Adam Martin
President –Elect – Samantha Holliday
Vice President – Kaitlyn You
Business Manager – Elsa Tchakoute
Secretary – Julia Schnippert
Lower Campus Liason – Jerry Mascara
Historian – Beth Petrik

Hurley Associates Presents: Avoiding Identity Theft

According to the Federal Trade Commission, more than a half-million Americans will have their identities stolen this year.

The most common types of identity theft are:

- using or opening a credit card account fraudulently
- opening cell phone or utility accounts fraudulently
- passing bad checks or opening a new bank account
- getting loans in another person's name

The fallout from ID theft are annoying, at best, and extremely costly and really annoying, at worst.

How to avoid ID theft

Victims spend on average 175 hours and \$800 to clear their names. In the interest of saving you time, money and several sleepless nights, here are some tips on how to avoid identity theft:

- Actually look at your credit card and bank account statements, instead of just glancing over them quickly or passing them along to your spouse to pay off. This is usually the first place unauthorized activity will show up.
- Call your credit card company or bank if an account statement is late. A missing bill may mean someone called the company using your name, and changed the billing address to prevent you from catching their shopping spree.
- Don't give out personal information on the phone, through the mail, or online unless you initiate the contact or know the caller. Thieves will pose as bank representatives, Internet service providers and government agents to get you to reveal personal information.
- Tear or shred any documents that contain personal information. These include credit card receipts, insurance forms, physician and bank statements, and even credit card offers.
- Deposit outgoing mail directly into post office boxes, not in your own mailbox. A shocking number of thieves troll mailboxes for your personal information. If you're going on vacation, place a hold

on your mail at the post office.

- If you're one of the few people who actually knows where your Social Security card is located, don't carry it with you! Stash it away in a safe place, and only carry a minimum number of ID and credit cards with you.
- Consider having your address removed from the phone book. In some instances a thief needs only your name, address and phone number to commit fraud.
- Cancel any credit cards you don't need or use. Be sure to tell the lender to note the card as "cancelled at the cardholder's request."
- Don't pre-print your Social Security or driver's license numbers on your checks.
- Give out your Social Security number only when absolutely necessary. Ask to use other identifiers whenever possible.
- If you suspect that you may be a victim of fraud, or are simply concerned, order a copy of your credit reports once a year to verify their accuracy.

If you are really paranoid, then you can subscribe to a credit watch program, like the credit monitoring service offered by TrueCredit that sends regular updates on any credit activity done in your good name.

How to remedy ID theft

If you find that your good name and impeccable credit rating are being dragged through the mud, here's what to do.

1. Report the theft with each of the three major credit bureaus (they all have fraud centers). Ask that a "fraud alert" be placed on your file. Also request that no new lines of credit be granted without first seeking your approval. You'll be asked to record the incident(s) in writing, and include copies of any documents (e.g., a police report, correspondence with your bank or other creditors) to be used as evidence. Here's contact information for each major credit bureau:

Equifax (<http://www.equifax.com/>), P.O. Box 740241, Atlanta, GA 30374-0241; report fraud by calling (800) 525-6285

Experian (formerly TRW, <http://www.experian.com/>), P.O. Box 1017,

Allen, TX 75013; report fraud by calling (800) 301-7195

TransUnion (<http://www.transunion.com/>), Fraud Victim Assistance Division, P.O. Box 6790, Fullerton, CA 92634; report fraud by calling (800) 680-7289

2. Close accounts that have been fraudulently accessed or opened. To do so, contact the security departments of the appropriate creditors or financial institutions. If you open any new accounts, put passwords on them (and don't use the obvious ones like your mother's maiden name, your Social Security number, or the first six digits of your phone number).

3. File a report with local police or the police where the identity theft took place. Be sure to get a copy of the report (or report number) in case the bank, credit card companies, or others need proof of the crime.

4. Be a tattletale. The FTC provides an Identity Theft *Complaint* Form that can help you organize and accurately record your complaint. All three major credit bureaus and most of the large lenders accept this form as notice from you. You can also call the ID Theft Clearinghouse toll-free at (877) ID-THEFT (438-4338) to report the theft. For more information on how to deal with credit-related ID theft, check out the FTC Identity Theft ID website. If the crime involves your Social Security number, call (800) 269-0271 or visit the Social Security Administration's website.

While ID theft is a major issue in our society, it is something that might be prevented with some foresight and specific action steps. Protect yourself and your family by implementing some of these suggestions.

Hurley Associates is a full service financial services firm located at 3508 Fifth Avenue in Oakland. Their representatives are frequent contributors to the Pitt Capsule and frequent lunch and learn presenters. They invite you to participate in their presentations and to contact them with your comments, concerns and questions. Please call 412-682-6100 or email at info@hurley2.com. Also, visit their websites at www.hurley2.com and www.hurleybrokers.com.

Lambda Kappa Sigma Kicks Off Spring Semester

By Hoi Yee Lung

With the start of a new semester, the sisters of LKS are also in full swing with a packed calendar of events for the spring semester. From a white coat and clothing sale, to a whole host of service projects and Project HOPE bake sales – next one on February 3rd – it should be another exciting and successful semester!

First of all, we would like to extend our appreciation and congratulations to one of our own, Natalie Pappas, on organizing the most attended formal along with other Pharmacy Weeks events! Also, we would like to recognize the new members, Justine Parker and Lauren Fischer on their performances at the “No Talent” Talent Show.

We are proud to announce that LKS will be participating in the American Cancer Society Relay for Life as part of the School of Pharmacy team. Our service co-chairs, Elizabeth van Olden and

Tracy Sparkes (P3’s), along with one representative from each the P1 and P2 class will represent LKS on the official team. In order to raise money for the walk, which is on April 9-10th, the sisters will be holding several fundraising events. The first fundraising event will be a coffee/bagel bar on Monday, February 15th – help out an amazing cause while getting your caffeine fix! As February is Heart Disease Awareness month, please join us by wearing red every Friday to bring attention to the #1 killer of women today.

In other news, the Delta Chapter is busy planning for the biennial convention as we recently discussed



LKS Sisters Pose before the ASP Formal

event locations, fundraising ideas, centerpiece designs and favors with Tau Chapter. Besides being anxious to finalize convention details, we are looking forward to an upcoming sister movie night on Tuesday, February 9th and the LKS/PDC black and pink Valentine’s Day party on Saturday, February 13th.

Best of luck on the upcoming exams, and we promise to keep you up-

PSHP News

By Morgan Adams

PSHP is looking forward to planning March’s Poison Prevention Week this month. We will be looking for volunteers to go to area elementary schools during the week of March 22nd to have interactive discussions and activities about household poisons. This year, we are also looking to expand our Poison Prevention week activities to high school students to discuss OTC drug abuse. Contact Taylor

(tjm33@pitt.edu) or Morgan (mba13@pitt.edu) for more information.

This semester, PSHP will also be looking forward to offering students more interactive experiences with pharmacists in the UPMC health care system. Look for more information to come this semester about unique opportunities to shadow health care professionals.

PSHP will be selling Sanford Guides to Antimicrobial Therapy for a discounted rate this semester.

Order forms will be passed around in class in the next month, look for more information in class and in the weekly e-mails!

Our next meeting will be held on February 9th from 12-1 PM in the PCLC. Although the speaker has yet to be named, it will feature an emerging issue in pharmacy. See the weekly e-mails for updates about this meeting!

IPSF Updates

By Alexa Ray

IPSF celebrated Pharmacy Weeks with a lunch presentation about Kiva, a microfinancing organization that helps connect individuals in developed countries with entrepreneurs in developing countries in need of loans to start or grow their businesses.

Using the www.kiva.org website, anybody can go online, browse profiles of entrepreneurs around the world requesting loans for varying amounts and for a myriad of businesses, and make a loan of any amount to help that entrepreneur reach their goal. Pretty amazing!

I want to extend a special thank-

you to Garrett Sipes, Lara Siminerio, Karen Nenzo, and Svetlana Goldman who very generously donated to Kiva after the presentation. Along with funds from IPSF, their donations made it possible for us to donate \$125 to Arouna Sékinatou Koukou, a saleswoman from Togo in West Africa, and \$25 to the Kiva organization itself. If you'd like to learn more about this amazing organization, visit their website at <http://www.kiva.org>!

IPSF will host its second annual celebration of World Water Day with an entire week's worth of events and fundraisers, March 22-

26th, 2010. Last year, we raised over \$500 for UNICEF's Tap Project, a campaign to help secure clean water sources in developing countries, by holding a lunch lecture, a Happy Hour at Peter's Pub, two bake sales, a breakfast bar in Salk Hall, and more!

We've just started planning for this year's World Water Week, so if you want to get involved and help us live up to last year's success, e-mail me at alexajray@gmail.com and/or attend our next IPSF meeting.

Our next IPSF General Body Meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 24th from 12-1 p.m. in the PCLC. I hope you'll join us!

APhA-ASP News

By Alexa Ray

The APhA Annual Meeting and Exposition is rapidly approaching! If you have not attended this exciting and educational conference in past years, this year is the year to go. The meeting will be held March 12-15, 2010 in Washington D.C. and is sure to be a great opportunity to learn more about APhA, the profession of pharmacy, your ASP chapter, and students from all over the country.

Our APhA-ASP Chapter is sponsoring a charter bus to transport Pitt students to and from the meeting absolutely FREE! The bus will leave Pittsburgh Friday, March 12th and return on Tuesday, March 16th. Arrangements will be made with professors to make up for any missed classes. We have also reserved a block of rooms at the Four Points

Sheraton, just a couple of blocks away from the meeting headquarters. If you would like to reserve a spot on our charter bus and/or request a hotel room in our block, please e-mail Shailly Shah at skshah@pitt.edu by February 10th.

You must also register for the conference by February 10th in order to receive the discounted student registration rate (prices increase by \$40 after this date). The proximity of the meeting this year translates into big savings for students...no need to worry about airfare! ASP also has a limited amount of funding to distribute to students based on level of APhA-ASP involvement, so you may be reimbursed for a portion of your expenses. If you have specific financial concerns, feel free to speak

to an ASP Exec Board member regarding funding for the meeting.

If you are unfamiliar with the APhA Annual Meeting & Exposition, I encourage you to visit www.aphameeting.org and find more information including a tentative schedule of events. You can also e-mail me (alexajray@gmail.com) or President-Elect Shailly Shah (skshah@pitt.edu) if you have any questions or concerns.

Our next ASP General Body Meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 3rd from 12-1 p.m. in 402 Salk. We will be holding our Elections for next year's Exec Board so make sure you come to the meeting to vote on your officers for next year!

And the Rho Chi Challenge Winner Is...

By Morgan Adams

Rho Chi would like to congratulate "Team F+" (Becca Crooks, Mike White, Brendan Dimond, and Dan Yarabinec) for winning the first annual Rho Chi Challenge Scavenger Hunt during Pharmacy Weeks! Look for their engraved mortar and pestle trophy to be displayed in Salk Hall soon. Rho Chi would also like to congratulate Dr. Corey for winning the Rho Chi Mexican-themed lunch at the PLS Auction!

Lab cards made by Rho Chi were distributed last month. If you're still interested in purchasing a set, please contact Jerry (gpm12@pitt.edu).

In addition to our monthly health talks at the Salvation Army, this semester, Rho Chi will be hosting health talks to undergradu-

ate students January 28th with SNPhA and February 10th with RxPrep. We will also be hosting a Blood Drive in conjunction with the Dental School on Thursday, April 8th.

On Wednesday, February 17th from 12-1 in room 402, the Rho Chi/PLS Professional Lecture Series will feature speakers from Cigna Managed Care. All students are welcome to attend, and lunch will be provided.

New inductees for Rho Chi will be notified in the next few weeks before class. The Rho Chi/PLS induction ceremony will be held on Tuesday, March 23rd, and the Koch Lecture, featuring Dr. Julie Johnson of the University of Florida, will be on March 24, 2010 at noon. Look for more information to come!



BJ Conklyn hoists the mortar and pestle for the first annual Rho Chi Challenge Scavenger Hunt during Pharmacy Weeks.

Rho Chi Student of the Month

Natalie Pappas - P3

Rho Chi would like to congratulate Natalie Pappas for being selected as the January Student of the Month. Natalie was nominated by her peers because she did an outstanding job organizing Pharmacy Weeks and the School of Pharmacy Formal.

Natalie belongs to APhA-ASP, where she is the current Chair to the Council of Social Activities. She is also a member of LKS, holding the position of Treasurer and she is the former new membership and fund-raising co-chairs. As the Chair to the Council of Social Activities, Natalie worked with all of the school organizations to plan each of their activities during Pharmacy Weeks. Even though planning the formal was a lot of hard work, Natalie and her fellow council members were able to pull it off with great success. All of their efforts paid off when a record 264 people bought tickets to go to Station Square for a night of food, fun, and dancing.

Outside of the classroom, Natalie works at Giant Eagle and loves spending time with family and friends. As her time in Pharmacy School nears its end, she is excited to start her P4 rotations in order to get more first-hand experience, but she definitely will miss all of her friends and good old Salk Hall. If you see Natalie, be sure to thank her for planning very successful Pharmacy Weeks and Formal. Congratulations Natalie!

To nominate a fellow student or for questions about the SotM, please e-mail wecl5@pitt.edu or use the



Class Updates

P1 Class Updates By Alicia Lichvar

“The P1 class has survived their first semester! The fall semester proved extremely successful for our class. First, we were able to fundraise \$1,651 towards our class account by selling class clothing and working at a Steelers game (the Green Bay game, none the less). Additionally, as of Friday, the P1 class has finally received their white coats. Now that the first semester is out of the way, we are ready to roll! Between Operation Diabetes, the PLS Auction, and the remaining school activities, our class has stepped out of their shells and have started to participate within the Salk to a considerable degree. The P1 class is also selling fleece half-zips that are embroidered with the School of Pharmacy logo! They are \$35 and range from XS to XXL, and the fleeces follow men's sizing (so they are made big for women, so order I size smaller than normal). Order yours by February 12th!”

P2 Class Updates By Adam Martin

“After a successful month of Pharmacy Weeks, and another round of ID examination, the P2 class is excited to continue with the semester and looking forward to the warm weather to come (?). After the Tucci Lecture with Tom Menighan, many have taken the advice that “you are in a profession where you don’t have to worry about making a living, so worry about making a difference.” This will be implemented through upcoming initiative collaboration with the various SOP organizations to come together as one to make a difference toward a major health issue- to be announced. The P2 class would like to congratulate the Class of 2013 on their White Coat Ceremony, marking their official symbolic entrance into the Pharmacy family!”

P3 Class Updates By Mike Smith

“1 month down, and 3 to go. Some highlights for the month of February: rotation selection, class party planning (PCafe April 29th- for all classes, be there), Jerry finally winning a competition and heading to PPA to lose another one, the last PPD for the year, learning how to save lives via CPR, and last, but certainly not least, Valentine's Day. Instead of spending your lovely Valentine's Day by yourself, why not spend it with Taylor Miller. The first 5 females to text the words "Be My Valentine" to 814-931-5788 will be entered to win a date with Taylor. I will personally be donating a box of chocolates, eight candles, Herding Cats Wine, and a gift certificate to the movies all in a basket so you will have the day of your life with Taylor. Hurry, and remember its "Be My Valentine" to 814-931-5788, that's "Be My Valentine" to 814-931-5788. Please identify yourself in the text so we are able to notify the winner.”

Fun and Games!

Brand/Generic Word Search



Find the Brand Name in the Puzzle that corresponds to the generic names listed here:

Rabeprazole
Mometasone
Eszopiclone
Etanercept
Risendronate
Varenicline
Anastrozole
Tadalafil
Atomoxetine
Imatinib
Moxifloxacin

Ritonavir
Oseltamivir
Linezolid
Paliperidone
Capecitabine
Raltegravir
Desvenlafaxine
Zolmitriptana
Valganciclovir
Lubiprostone
Temozolomide
Colesevelam
Pramipexole
Infliximab



APhA-ASP
AMERICAN PHARMACISTS ASSOCIATION
ACADEMY OF STUDENT PHARMACISTS



APhA Annual Meeting & Exposition - March 12-16, 2010 in Washington, D.C.

The APhA Annual Meeting is a great opportunity for students to network with pharmacists and pharmacy students from across the country, learn more about the profession of pharmacy and the APhA organization, and get more involved with our ASP chapter. To read more about the conference and see a schedule of events, visit: www.aphameeting.org.

Registration

-The deadline for the discounted student registration rate is Wednesday, February 10th. After this date, registration prices increase by \$40. You may be eligible for reimbursement of your registration fee dependent upon your involvement in our ASP chapter. However, exact amounts of reimbursement will not be known until the exact number of student attending is determined.

- To register, visit <http://www.aphameeting.org>. You may need to create a guest account (free) at www.pharmacist.com to register online – this only takes a few minutes.
- Once you register, e-mail President-Elect Shailly Shah at skshah@pitt.edu to let her know you've registered and will be attending the conference.

Transportation

-Transportation to the meeting will be offered to students via deluxe charter coach bus leaving Pittsburgh on Friday, March 12 and returning to Pittsburgh Tuesday, March 16 at no charge to APhA-ASP members! If you wish to reserve a spot on the charter bus, you must e-mail Shailly at skshah@pitt.edu to let her know.
(Accommodations will be made with each class's professors to make up for any missed class time)

Hotel Accommodations

-Our chapter has booked a block of hotel rooms at the Four Points Sheraton near the conference. Hotel costs for each student will be around \$200 for the weekend.

(May be offset by some level of reimbursement from the chapter, depending on your level of involvement in ASP)

-If you are interested in staying in one of the hotel rooms in our chapter's block, you must contact Shailly (skshah@pitt.edu) and let her know by Friday, February 5th. Depending on the level of interest, there may or may not be space still available.

-You may of course pursue your own transportation and hotel arrangements, but we have taken steps to secure the most cost-effective accommodations and transportation, so we encourage you to take advantage of this and make your planning for the conference easier!

-If you have any questions about the conference, travel arrangements, or ASP funding, feel free to e-mail Alexa Ray (alexajray@gmail.com) and/or Shailly Shah (shaillykshah@gmail.com)!