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Advanced Compounding: Creating a New Brand of Pharmacists

Did you know:

In 1888, pharmacist John S. Pemberton developed "Esteemed Brain Toxic and Intellectual Beverage," which contained: caffeine, "secret" ingredients, and cocaine. Modified for today's taste (and laws), the product is a stable, billion-dollar seller. What was Pemberton's concoction? None other than Coca-Cola.

www.michiganpharmacists.org/consumers/funfacts.html



After taking Dr. Dunn's Pharmaceuticals II Lab my first year of pharmacy school, I have been interested and excited about the wonderful field of compounding! This summer I decided to dive into the Advanced Compounding online course through Professional Compounding Centers of America. I had previously attended the two day Boot Camp last summer in Houston, TX. After attending the course and learning how to make a variety a dosage forms (from troches to suppositories), I developed a different perspective of pharmacy in general.

Online class participation was fast and furious as I tumbled my way through the 10-week course! The course provided me with advanced training in the art, science, and technology of pharmaceutical compounding. Multiple reading assignments including research articles, textbook chapters, and supplemental course material. There was a discussion forum that we were required to participate in each week. We were required to research the assigned topic and post a reply related to the topic. Our reply had to be different and unique from the others! Topics ranged from inventing a new compounded dosage form to analyzing "real world" case studies. There were also weekly quizzes that were designed to test our knowledge after completing the homework essays and assignments.

In addition to the online component, there was a two day lab portion to the course. It was awesome to work in the state-of-the-art labs at PCCA. I felt like a professional as I compounded! This included 4 four-hour hands-on lab exercises. These exercises gave me the opportunity to compound dosage forms such as suppositories, troches, tablet triturates, sustained-release capsules, creams, gel, topical foams, rapid dissolve tablets, effervescent powders, and medicated sticks. Best of all, we were able to bring home everything that we made! I think my favorite was the effervescent powders since I actually tasted my passion-fruit flavored product.



To be honest, the course was no walk in the park! It was tough, fast, and fun all at the same time. I would typically spend six to eight hours on the didactic work per week. However, I would really encourage every student to consider the PCCA Boot Camp and then progressing to the Advanced Compounding course! I have satisfaction in knowing that I walked away with a wealth of information in a specialized and unique field of pharmacy. This is an opportunity that will only be available to pharmacy students (as opposed to practicing pharmacists), so don't miss out! PCCA also offers a Veterinary Compounding training program that I plan to enroll in next summer. I have no regrets about the course and hope that you will consider the compounding path as well during your pharmacy career.

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-Catherine Hill, ASP member

Events to look forward to:

- September 15th— Asbury Health Fair
- September 18th— Walgreens Screening for P3 (EPE)
- September 19th— APhA-ASP Chapter Meeting
- September 20th— USA Drug Screening for P3 (EPE)
- September 25th— Kroger Screening for P3 (EPE)
- September 27th— APhA-ASP Bowling Night
- November 1st - 4th— APhA-ASP Mid-Year Regional Meeting: Houston, Texas



We're on the web!
<http://cop.uams.edu/asp/>

September 2007						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15 Asbury Health Fair
16	17	18 Walgreens P3 EPE Screening	19 APhA-ASP Chapter Meeting	20 USA Drug P3 EPE Screening	21	22
23	24	25 Kroger P3 EPE Screening	26	27 APhA-ASP Bowling Night	28	29
30						

Financial Rewards

According to a recent salary survey, out of 80 UAMS College of Pharmacy 2007 graduates, 76 had accepted positions prior to graduation. The average annual salary reported for the 2007 graduating class was \$97,552 (excluding students who had accepted residencies/ fellowships). This was a \$3,967 increase compared to the 2006 graduating class.



www.correctcoverageinsurance.com

Source: *The Arkansas Pharmacist* "UAMS College of Pharmacy 2007 Salary Survey Results" by Donna West, Ph.D.

-Heather Wells, Vice Chair of Communications

Jonesboro Health Fair: A great success

In June, fifteen chapter members and two faculty members traveled to Jonesboro for a health fair at the Turtle Creek Mall. The health fair was a joint effort between ASP and St. Bernard's hospital in Jonesboro. We met at the Holiday Inn for a training session Friday afternoon. Then we enjoyed dinner as a group at Fat City. The health fair was Saturday from 10-3 in the center court of the mall. We screened for diabetes, hypertension, cholesterol, and bone density. Patients were also able to test their BMI and learn more about heartburn and immunizations. We also administered a health literacy quiz, to see how much people knew about cardiovascular health. Throughout the day we screened over 130 patients. ASP would like to thank Dr. Crader for the help in organizing and planning this event in Jonesboro.

-Erin Beth Hays, VP of Professional Projects