What is the Residency Club?

The Residency Club is a sub-committee of the School of Pharmacy Phi Lambda Sigma student chapter. The mission of the Residency Club is to inform current student pharmacists about post-graduate opportunities. Through monthly meetings and newsletters, we hope to increase awareness about the various residency programs available and to help prepare you to be successful in securing these positions.

Kalynn Rohde – Chair, Brian Buss, Christopher Frye, Karrie Radovich, Mary Roth
Upcoming Meetings and Updates:

March Meeting – Thursday, March 21\(^{st}\) from 7:00-8:00pm
Rennebohm Room 2006

Post-graduate Opportunities that Supplement the PharmD degree: MS, MPH, PhD, Fellowship, and Board Certifications

Ways to become a standout candidate through student involvement

April Meeting – Monday, April 15\(^{th}\) from 7:00-8:00pm
Room TBD

Residency Roundtables:

- Come speak with current residents specializing in different areas of pharmacy practice
- Finalized list of participants will be posted closer to the meeting date

American College of Clinical Pharmacy Presents...

Emerge from the Crowd: How to Become a Standout Resident

The Peppermill Resort
Reno, Nevada
April 20-12, 2013

Meeting Overview:

This is a meeting meant for first, second, or third year student pharmacists planning to apply for residency programs after graduation. Some of the sessions during this meeting include: Getting Involved and Expanding Your Network, Maximizing Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experiences, Engaging in Scholarly Activity, and Navigating the Residency Application Process. A complete schedule of events and registration information can be found at http://www.accp.com/meetings/ec13/
Do you ever feel overwhelmed with all of the professional pharmacy organizations that you can join, or are you unsure which ones would be beneficial for you based on your career goals? Then you should definitely keep reading this article.

The usual professional pharmacy organization suspects are AACP, ACCP, APhA, APhA-ASP, ASHP, and PSW for those of us in the dairy state. Each organization is described briefly below, but if interested, the websites for each group are outstanding and contain quite a bit of good and relevant information.

**American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP):**

American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) is an organization that is oriented towards supporting the leadership and interests of the academic pharmacist or academic pharmacy administrator. This is accomplished through an organization infrastructure that promotes advocacy, support, educational resources, and networking to foster the professional development of those involved with pharmacy academia.

- Website: [http://www.aacp.org/Pages/Default.aspx](http://www.aacp.org/Pages/Default.aspx)
- Annual Meeting Date: July 13-17 - Hyatt Regency Chicago, Chicago, Illinois.

**American College of Clinical Pharmacy (ACCP):**

American College of Clinical Pharmacy (ACCP) advocates for the development and practice of the clinical pharmacist by supporting the research, education and training of those within the field. This focus of this organization is to advance the practice of clinical pharmacy while promoting the development of its members. For the pharmacy student, this organization sponsors a national clinical pharmacy challenge, advice on CV writing and the chance to have your CV reviewed...

- Website: [http://www.accp.com/index.aspx](http://www.accp.com/index.aspx)
- Annual Meeting Date: October 13-16 - Albuquerque, New Mexico.

**American Pharmacist Association (APhA):**

American Pharmacist Association (APhA) is an overarching organization that welcomes pharmacists, student pharmacists, pharmaceutical scientists and pharmacy technicians under its umbrella. It is an organization focused on the health and direction pharmacy in the most broad sense of the word is heading. It’s the whole enchilada.

- Website: [http://www.pharmacist.com](http://www.pharmacist.com)
- Annual Meeting Date: March 1-4 - Los Angeles, California.
American Pharmacist Association – Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP):

American Pharmacist Association – Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP) is to no-one’s surprise the student pharmacist chapter of APhA. Among other things, it offers leadership opportunities, scholarships, and community program ideas for student pharmacy outreach organizations (read: WSPS).

- Annual Meeting Date: same as APhA, but there is a regional midyear meeting for students: (Dates announced in March) - Chicago, Illinois.

American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP):

American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) is the leadership organization for health-system or hospital pharmacists by providing educational opportunities, updated drug information, publications, residency accreditation services and organized communications to government bodies. For the pharmacy student there is a wealth of information regarding professional development, CV writing, and especially residency information. If interested, the most comprehensive residency search tool is contained in their website.

- Website: [http://www.ashp.org](http://www.ashp.org)
- Annual Meeting (midyear) Date: December 8-12 - Orlando, Florida.
- Annual Meeting (summer) Date: June 1-5 - Minneapolis, Minnesota.

National Community Pharmacists Association (NCPA):

National Community Pharmacists Association (NCPA) supports the independent pharmacy by advocating as a unified voice for these pharmacies to defend their clinical and entrepreneurial interests. For the pharmacy student interested in independent pharmacy there is a chapter designated for this with resources, internship materials, leadership opportunities as well as scholarships.

- Website: [https://www.ncpanet.org](https://www.ncpanet.org)
- Annual Meeting: October 12-16 - Orlando, Florida.

Pharmacy Society of Wisconsin (PSW):

Pharmacy Society of Wisconsin (PSW) is a nationally recognized pharmacy leadership organization that advocates for the growth of the profession while helping to define standards of practice for the state. PSW also advocates for us as practitioners to the legislative branch, provides professional resources, networking and development. Their annual meeting is pretty fun too.

- Website: [http://www.pswi.org](http://www.pswi.org)
- Annual Meeting: September 5-7 – Green Bay, Wisconsin.
American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) Midyear Meeting Overview:
Written By: Karrie Radovich, DPH-2

When? Annually in early December

Who? Nearly 20,000 students, residents, and pharmacists from the US and International locations

What? Chance for student, residents, and fellows to network with potential employers

Residency Showcase:
• Open session, that doesn’t require registration
• Scheduled over multiple days of Midyear with 3 total sessions
  o Each residency program attends 1 of 3 sessions of the Residency Showcase
• Setup similar to a career fair with various booths around the perimeter
• Use this time to explore the pros/cons of each residency program you are interested in
• Tends to be more PGY-1 focused

Personnel Placement Service (PPS):
• Requires registration and appointments
• More time is devoted to you as an individual through 30 – 60 minutes one-on-one interviews
• Can be compared to a preliminary interview
• More PGY-2/fellowship/pharmacist position focused
• May also include non-residency positions & employers

Before Attending:
• Brainstorm specific criteria of your ideal program
• Come up with questions that you have for each program you are interested in
• Send an email to the residency program directors and let them know your interest in their program and that you look forward to meeting them during the Residency Showcase

During the Meeting:
• Speak to 8 – 10 programs each day
• Introduce yourself, ask questions specific to their programs, ask for a business card so you are able to write thank you cards later
• Take quick, but legible notes about your interaction with each program so you can include conversation pieces in your thank you card
• Possible questions to ask:
  o Flexibility of rotation opportunities
  o How much time residents spend with preceptors
  o How much time residents spend staffing
• Questions to not ask:
  o Information that can already be found on the online residency directory or program-specific websites
It is a daunting idea that residency is right around the corner for most of us. With the increasing competition for residency programs, most students must start thinking about their interests way earlier in their careers in order to better prepare for the road ahead. One thing that you can do now is to start thinking about what you are looking for in a program, such as: available rotations at the site, potential to pursue a PGY-2 spot within the same institution, geographic location, total staffing hours, amount of their stipend, and potential for your residency position to turn in to a job afterwards. A great way to start this process is to visit the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists website and explore their Residency Directory (http://accred.ashp.org/aps/pages/directory/residencyProgramSearch.aspx). This database allows you to separate out programs based on specialty and location. After sorting through these two factors, you can get general information about the programs you may be interested in right from this website. They provide the main contacts, institution website, number of positions available, and a small description of the position. If a site catches your eye from this search, I encourage you to visit the program’s website to gather even more information.

After your general search, the best thing you can do is organize all of the information. One way to do this is to start your own database that you can easily access and edit. Example columns to include would be the program name, main contact information, website, pros and cons of the program, and questions that you have (see sample below). This database will be very helpful if you plan to attend the Residency Showcase during ASHP Midyear Meeting. You will have a complete list of the programs you would like to target during the Showcase and you have already thought of questions you would like to ask them during your encounter at their booth. After meeting with them during the Showcase, you can update the pros and cons in the database and sort out your overall thoughts of each program. This will be helpful later in the residency application process. You will have a better idea of which programs you would like to submit applications for and which ones no longer fit with your career goals and expectations.

Overall, it is important to determine your residency interests early. You can start to narrow them down as you continue through pharmacy school and be ready to hit the ground running once application season rolls around. A database can be a very helpful tool. It will help keep all of the programs you have looked at straight and can help sort out your interests later.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Program of Interest</th>
<th>No. Positions</th>
<th>Stipend</th>
<th>Application Deadline</th>
<th>Website</th>
<th>Pros</th>
<th>Cons</th>
<th>Questions</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UW Hospital and Clinics</td>
<td>Madison, WI</td>
<td>PGY-1 Pharmacy</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>$39,500</td>
<td>1/4/13</td>
<td><a href="http://www.uwhealth.org/pharmacy">http://www.uwhealth.org/pharmacy</a></td>
<td>Location is great</td>
<td>Location is great, staffing hours are flexible</td>
<td>Location is great, staffing hours are flexible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UW Medicine</td>
<td>Seattle, WA</td>
<td>PGY-1 Pharmacy</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>1/4/13</td>
<td><a href="http://depts.washington.edu/pharmacy">http://depts.washington.edu/pharmacy</a></td>
<td>Location is great, staffing hours are flexible</td>
<td>Location is great, staffing hours are flexible</td>
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<tr>
<td>Children's National Medical Center</td>
<td>Washington DC</td>
<td>PGY 2 Pediatric Pharmacy</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>$57,000</td>
<td>1/8/13</td>
<td><a href="http://www.childrens.org">http://www.childrens.org</a></td>
<td>Location is great, staffing hours are flexible</td>
<td>Location is great, staffing hours are flexible</td>
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Interviewing is a necessary process for those in the professional world, but it can also be an intimidating one. However, if you know what to expect and how to be prepared, it can be a much less stressful ordeal. The most important part of the interview is likely actually before you even arrive. Before you go into any interview, it’s crucial to research the organization and the position you’re applying for. Good things to research include the organization’s mission statement, who the manager or director of pharmacy is, and other unique facts about the organization. Another important way to prepare is coming up with situations or experiences you’ve had that you can reference as examples of past behavior. You can also practice interview questions with a friend to help you develop a good flow to your responses. Finally, you’ll want to review your CV or resume. The interviewers will most likely reference this and ask questions about it, so be sure you can discuss anything that’s listed.

On the day of the interview, be sure to dress professionally and arrive on time. Remember that the entire time you spend at the site is part of your interview, so act professionally throughout it all. During the interview, be conscious of both your verbal and nonverbal cues. Speak slowly and annunciate your words. Sit forward in your chair to show that you’re interested and engaged. Avoid crossing your arms across your body. Also, maintain good eye contact with the interviewers, and don’t forget to smile!

The most common types of interview questions are standard questions asking you about yourself and behavioral-type questions. Most interviews will contain some of each. Common standard questions include the following: “Tell me about yourself”, “What are your strengths?”, “What are your weaknesses?”. It can help to have a short statement prepared about yourself, as well as a few examples of strengths and weakness before going into an interview. Behavioral questions are ones that ask, “Tell me about a time when you...”. These questions are used because of the belief that past actions are the best predictor of future behavior. Having a few situations in mind before an interview can be very helpful with answering this type of question.

At the end of the interview, you’ll almost always be asked if you have any questions. Be prepared for this by determining questions you want to ask ahead of time. The interview is a time for you to determine if the site is a good fit for you as well, so take advantage of this time. In addition, asking questions shows your interest in the organization. Some examples of questions that can be asked include, “How would you describe the responsibilities for this position?” and “What are the biggest challenges a person in this position will face?”.

When you leave the interview, be sure to thank the interviewers. You’ll also want to follow up with a thank you card. Now that the actual interaction is finished, take the time to reflect on the experience while it’s fresh in your mind. Did this program and organization seem like a good fit for you? Make a pros and cons list for each site you interview with to help keep your thoughts organized.