No surprise: Another year, another successful Waunakee Wellness Fair!
Once again, GenerationRX sets a fast-paced schedule for presentations and community outreach. A strong finish in the Fall semester for GenerationRX counted another nine high school presentations: seven at Memorial High School and two at East High School. This included an exciting new collaborative presentation with members of PATCH, a local teen advocacy group that is bridging the gap between the teen population and healthcare professionals. In many ways, GenerationRX and PATCH’s goals are in line, as they focus on healthcare and prescription education, with special attention given to opioid abuse and addiction. While this partnership is new, Kinsey and Matt hope to continue growing this collaboration in the future. The momentum from Fall semester was carried over during winter break, too. While many of us were catching up on sleep, GenerationRX continued to work diligently, as they gave two presentations at Elk Mound High School. This gave them a solid foundation for another packed semester presentation schedule has not ebbed with the start of this semester; in fact, it continues. Already locked in are a number of high school talks, including: Malcolm Shabazz City High School in February and April, seven presentations at Memorial High School in April, Edgewood College, Waunakee High School, and four presentations at La Follete High School in March. A standout member of GenerationRX has been Kayla Huebner, who has taken it upon herself to give a number of presentations at her hometown high school in Hortonville. She gave six presentations last semester there, and has another six planned for this semester, too; not to mention an additional six presentations scheduled for Hortonville Middle School. With group members such as Kayla branching out into their local communities, Matt and Kinsey encourage anyone who is curious to either join the group or craft their own presentation at home to contact them. The initiative you show here would shine on any CV. If you are passionate about public outreach and education, and extending the role of the student pharmacist beyond the pharmacy, stay tuned for future presentations and sign ups!
PHP-PSW/United Way

By: Katie Flesch, DPH-1

It’s a semester of new and exciting endeavors for PHP! Beginning this spring, Co-Chairs Brianna Rahmlow and Meredith Frey have transitioned the operation’s focus to a different community partnership: St. Vincent de Paul. The switch will allow PHP volunteers to reach a wider audience, thanks to St. Vincent de Paul’s already prominent presence in the community. Pharmacy students continue to work alongside dietetics and pre-pharmacy students, but the operation will offer a variety of new volunteer events, including hosting both the SVDP food pantry as well as educational events at Port St. Vincent, a men’s transitional housing facility. PHP plans to educate on topics such as diabetes management, reading nutrition and OTC labels, and general health literacy. They have developed medication cards with graphics, designed for patients at all levels of health literacy, which will be incorporated into the information they provide to community members at the SVDP sites. Speaking about the new PHP focus, Meredith reflected, “I am confident that this new partnership will allow us to make a greater, positive impact in the community!”

Operation Self-Care

By: Brad Hettich, DPH-2

Operation Self-Care has had a successful year so far! The co-chairs hosted events at the Healthy Aging Fair at the Alliant Energy Center in October and have had numerous events at Walgreens in Middleton. These events have had a primary focus of Over-the-Counter medication literacy where they taught patients how to read medication labels and use safe dosing. Because self-care is any activity performed voluntarily to help maintain physical, mental, or emotional health, the narrowed focus has allowed OSC to reach even an even wider variety of patients of all ages. However, they continued to teach about heartburn awareness through the holiday seasons in December with the hopes of reaching those who enjoyed a little too much thanksgiving dinner. The rest of the semester will be busy for OSC, as they are participating at the Waunakee Wellness Fair, the Science Expedition on campus, the health fair on Library Mall, and more Walgreens events. The co-chairs are currently developing some new pamphlets to distribute regarding safe OTC medication use, which is sure to be a hit at all of these events! This will allow patients to take a little bit of the presentation home with them so they can implement all that they learn.
Policy Liaisons Olivia Fahey and Eric Friestrom have had an exciting Spring semester thus far, focused mainly around PSW Legislative Day 2017. At the beginning of the year, Olivia and Eric set a goal to reach more students, and get more people involved in policy. They believe getting more student involvement starts with keeping people informed, hence the starting of the 90-Second Policy Challenge at each WSPS general meeting. At Legislative Day 2017, Eric and Olivia were happy to report that 144 UW students attended the meeting, the most ever for the event! One of the main goals for the event was to give students an opportunity to reach out and push some policies through legislators to alter current pharmacy practice. Of note was an immunization bill that would allow pharmacy interns to vaccinate 6 to 18-year-olds under pharmacist supervision. This bill gives interns the opportunity to practice immunizing young children before they’re practicing pharmacists. For her contributions over the past two years to the pharmacy-policy field at UW, Olivia Fahey was awarded the Policy Good Government Award by PSW. Be sure to congratulate her and thank her for all her work with policy while at UW!
Thank you to everyone who participated in the Wear Red Day on Friday, February 3! Congratulations to the DPH-1 class for having the most students wearing red in a photograph! American Heart Month was a busy month for Operation Heart with three different blood pressure screenings in the community, but the fun is only just beginning! There will be many blood pressure screenings throughout the semester, as we continue to pair with some of our long-term partners in the community. These long-term partners include UW Health – University Station and HyVee on the East side. Additionally, we are looking forward to collaborating with HyVee in Fitchburg this spring. Operation Heart will also be participating in a variety of different health fairs this semester!

With a new year, Operation Heart is excited to begin incorporating some new changes. First, we are very eager to try a new heart-friendly game at the UW Science Expedition this April, which focuses mainly on educating younger children. Additionally, we are delighted to be incorporating lead volunteers into many of our screenings. It is a wonderful opportunity for students to practice their leadership skills and build their confidence and involvement within WSPS. Lastly, we were thrilled to pair with a dietetics student at the HyVee on the east side for our most recent screening. The pharmacy students performed blood pressure screenings, while the dietetics student provided heart healthy snacks and information on how to build a heart-healthy diet. It was an excellent interprofessional experience for everyone involved!
APhA Liaison

By: Kinsey Clark, DPH-2

If you haven’t seen any of the brilliant emails from our APhA liaison, Zach Pedretti, recently then you may actually be wondering, “What should I be doing over Spring Break 2017?” No, the answer is not “catching up on sleep” or “watching the 14 modules that I am behind on in class” but is “Going to APhA in beautiful San Francisco!” WSPS is providing reimbursement for those in attendance to four key events during the conference and what could be more fun than spending your break away from the School of Pharmacy than attending more events relating to pharmacy! In all seriousness, it is predicted to be the event of the year.

Representing WSPS in the APhA National Patient Counseling Competition will be the ever-so-talented Kelsey Waier (DPH-3). She is sure to be impactful in the lives of many (mock) patients to come.

Operation ODA

By: Josh Nachreiner, DPH-2

Congratulations to ODA co-chairs, Noah Budi and Collin Dean on winning the American Society of Transplantation grant! The plan is to use the money to educate high school students about organ donation and give the students the opportunity to sign-up to the national bone marrow registry. Collin and Noah have been working hard over the past few months planning and organizing multiple organ donation awareness events and bone marrow registry drives. Organ Donation Awareness hosted a school of pharmacy bone marrow registry drive in late November signing up 26 pharmacy students. On March 1st ODA will be hosting another bone marrow drive partnering with the Pharmacy Global Health Interest Group located in the Health Science Learning Center. The wait is finally over! The ODA annual Gigi’s Cupcake sale will be happening again this year on April 19th and 20th. Don’t forget to mark your calendars! The proceeds this year will be going to the Restoring Hope Transplant House to help rehabilitate people who have had an organ transplant. The co-chairs are hoping to beat last year’s cupcake sale number of $543.

Operation Immunizations

By: Tina Cheng, DPH-2

Spring is a rather quiet semester for OI, with all the flu shots and Meningococcal B vaccines done in the fall. OI had two high school HPV presentations done in during early January and will be conducting more in the near future. There will be presentations at the Waunakee Wellness Fair, UW-Science Expedition, and Regionwide Health Fair in March and April to increase public awareness on vaccinations and preventable diseases.
Operation Diabetes
By: Rebecca Gerovac, DPH-3

Operation Diabetes has been pretty busy since the start of spring semester. OD has been working on their After-School Program, so far completing a total of 6 events in partnership with Juventud Centro Hispano. The After-School Program uses an interactive presentation to help teach students ways of preventing type 2 diabetes, and the students are able to cook a healthy snack at the end! There are three more events for this program throughout this semester!

Operation Diabetes has also been providing a presentation about type 2 diabetes to the parents of the students who are connected through Juventud. The presenters went the extra mile to be able to translate and provide the entire presentation in Spanish! The parents really enjoyed this, and were able to ask the presenters questions they had about diabetes. As the spring semester continues, Operation Diabetes will continue to provide and perform the ADA Risk Assessment to help screen the community for “at-risk” patients for type 2 diabetes.

Operation Airways
By: Abby Sharpe, DPH-2

Operation Airways has been working hard to provide WSPS members with a great new volunteer experience in collaboration with MEDiC. This partnership allows Operation Airways to set up informational booths at the various clinics MEDiC holds and provide those patient populations with valuable educational resources. These resources include information about airway health and smoking cessation, which is very prevalent to those patients. Volunteering with one of these events is a great way to hone your education skills and provides a unique opportunity to speak with patients and work alongside the student-run clinics. Operation Airways has worked with two clinics so far, and is looking forward to working with the MEDiC coordinators in the future. Keep an eye out for sign-ups for this awesome opportunity!

Membership
By: Connor Hanson, DPH-2

Karissa, our Membership chair, has been busy preparing for the Spring Membership Drive for WSPS! Why should you renew this Spring? How great of you to ask! If you’re thinking of attending the PSW Annual Meeting in Fall, you’ll want to renew before May 31st if you want it to be a little cheaper. PSW membership runs June to June, so students won’t be covered for the PSW meeting discount unless they have already renewed. It also makes Karissa’s life much less hectic when more people renew in the Spring! For current DPH-3s, the 4th year dual membership is a great opportunity to get NAPLEX study materials, and to have APhA coverage throughout next year and your first year of practice! You must register before May 31st to receive this great deal. Let’s help Karissa meet her goal of getting 75-100 people renewed this Spring!
MedDrop

By: Andrea Gray, DPH-1

Operation MedDrop has a number of exciting events in the works this spring! On Saturday, March 11th, pharmacy students travelled to the Waunakee Health and Wellness Fair. Student pharmacists worked with the Waunakee Police department to collect unwanted medications and educate the public of medication safety. On Thursday, March 30th, Operation MedDrop will be at Attic Angel long term care facility. Working with the Madison Police department, student pharmacists will offer a medication collection for residents. In April (Sunday, April 2nd), students from the School of Pharmacy will have the opportunity to participate in Science Expedition, a campus wide outreach to families in the Madison area. This is a collaboration with many organizations within the SOP. We will be educating children on various medication safety information through our MedDrop Bingo and "Medication or Candy?" game. This event promises to be a fun time for all! Switching gears from children to an older generation, the next event brings student pharmacists to another long-term care facility. At Oakwood Village University Woods and Prairie East students will be working with the Madison Police department, to implement a medication collection for residents at both locations on Friday April 21st. The final event of the school year takes place on Thursday, May 4th. Be sure to drop by the HSLC for MedDrop Scoop! At this bi-annual event, student pharmacists, in conjunction with UW Police, will offer a medication collection and education to students and other healthcare professionals about medication safety and disposal. As a bonus, FREE ice cream will be served!

Public Relations

By: Connor Hanson, DPH-2

Alanna has been busy showcasing all the great activities and events WSPS has been participating in this Spring! She has been working closely with board members to promote events like Relay For Life, APhA Annual Conference, and the upcoming Rx Factor. New this semester, summaries of Eric’s 90-Second Policy Updates are being posted to the Professional Affairs section of the WSPS website if you need a quick refresher. Alanna has also been posting a photo and summary of the Member of the Month (Holy Cow Award winner) after each meeting, which she hopes continues into next year. As a reminder, a lot of information regarding WSPS is posted on our website – be sure to check it out and see all the awesome work Alanna has done!
Professionalism

By: Char Ruiz, DPH-2

It’s White Coat Ceremony Season! Emily and Emily had a very successful fall semester hosting the networking dinner, mock interviews, and roundtable. There was positive feedback from pharmacists, residents, and students for all three events. Now, they are focusing on putting all the pieces together for the White Coat Ceremony. The white coats have arrived, the four committees have been made, invitations for the elected speakers have been sent out, and the date for the annual white coat ironing party has been set! This symbolic event welcomes the Class of 2020 into the pharmacy profession and we can’t wait to see everything come together!

Fundraising

By: Kirsten Bowers, DPH-3

The Fundraising co-chairs of WSPS have continued strong into the spring semester and have numerous events in the works. To kick things off, there was a fundraiser at Panera Bread on University Avenue on March 1st to help raise money for the WSPS Student Travel Fund. This fund assists student pharmacists with travel costs to local and national pharmacy conferences and is a great resource for any student that finds these conferences slightly out of their price range. Nicole and Christine are also busy planning the 6th Annual Silent Auction and Rx Factor set for April 19th. New this year, the silent auction will be held during the day starting at 12 pm to allow students that do not get the chance to attend Rx Factor to bid on auction items. Proceeds again benefit the WSPS Student Travel Fund. Then everyone is welcome to stick around for the Rx Factor that will begin at 5 pm. Here, all SOP students, staff, and faculty are invited to watch fellow students and faculty perform their talents and compete in the Mr. Pharmacy competition. Finally, with finals fast approaching, thoughts and plans about finals goodie bags are also in the works. Nicole and Christine have put in hard work and planned some great events for students this semester!

ASHP Liaison

By: Sydney Stiener, DPH-2

ASHP has some exciting opportunities for WSPS members this semester. After spring break ASHP will be doing a Clinical Skills Competition workshop. This will be two different sessions dedicated to working through a case and presenting the information to judges. This experience is designed to mirror the Clinical Skills competition that is held in the fall and is great practice for those interested in competing in October. Also, in early April, ASHP will have an active ASHP pharmacist come and speak about continued professional engagement in the profession after graduation.

On the national level, the CV review program opens in March and allows students to submit their CVs for review by multiple pharmacists around the country. This is the perfect opportunity to improve and refine CV’s before applying for positions in the summer. Additionally, the registration for the ASHP summer meeting in Minneapolis is now open, and a student from WSPS will be attending and receiving complimentary registration.
MEDiC

By: Fatima Khusro, DPH-2

MEDiC has been serving the underprivileged population in their clinics weekly. MEDiC is in the process of approving two new PharmD volunteers for SouthSide MTM clinics. This entails lots of interaction with MEDiC patients, many of whom are un-insured, underserved, and/or speak English as a second language. Once approved, these volunteers will play a large role in providing year-round MTM services, mentoring DPH-3 and DPH-4 interns, and administering immunizations during flu season. Recruiting additional PharmD volunteers has been a large goal for MEDiC, and especially the Pharmacy Liaison position. Expanding the PharmD volunteer roster helps to bring a well-rounded approach to the SouthSide clinics. Current PharmD volunteers practice anywhere from academia, community pharmacy, pharmacy management, and inpatient care. With the recent transition of MEDiC Council members, the administration team has been promoting inter-professionalism within the organization. Each discipline within MEDiC (Medical, Nursing, Physician’s Assistant, Physical Therapy, Pharmacy) has been asked to put together a showcase presentation about their roles in the MEDiC organization. Pharmacy will be presenting how PharmD volunteers and DPH students approach clinic, areas of expertise unique to our profession. They will also present how the Drug & Supply Coordinators work to compile the MEDiC formulary for our patients and the 7 clinic sites in the Madison area.