

Public Health Special Interest Group

NEWSLETTER: Issue #5, December 2011

In this Issue:

Page 1: SIG Officers

Page 1: Public Health Associates Program (PHAP) with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC)

Page 2: Letter from the Chair

Page 3: Textbooks in Public Health for Pharmacy and/or by Pharmacists

Page 4: Announcements and Upcoming Events

Public Health Associates Program (PHAP) with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC): Opportunities for PharmD Graduates Interested in Public Health

Suzanne Clark, PhD, Assistant Professor, School of Pharmacy and Affiliate Faculty of the Center for Community Health and Economic Development, University of Wyoming

Meghana Aruru, PhD, MBA, Assistant Professor, College of Pharmacy, Roosevelt University, Schamberg Campus

Christian B. Albano, PhD, MBA, MPH, Assistant Professor, College of Pharmacy, Nursing, and Allied Sciences, North Dakota State University (NDSU)

PharmD students receive training in a range of public health fields (Gettman et al., AACP presentation, 2010). This education includes training in the standard PharmD curriculum or in a PharmD-Masters of Public Health (MPH) dual-degree program, including programs housed directly in a College of Pharmacy (Naughton et al., 2010).

Accordingly, PharmD graduates are eligible for a wide range of public health opportunities, including the United States Public Health Service, Indian Health Service, and Centers for Disease Control (CDC). An opportunity of interest is the Public Health Associates Program (PHAP), a fellowship program funded by the CDC. The PHAP is a competitive, 2-year program open to recent graduates who wish to pursue in-depth work on public health projects.

A discussion of potential opportunities for PharmD students within the PHAP arose at the 2011 AACP Annual Meeting (San Antonio, TX) during the Q&A session following the excellent presentation by Gregory S. Holzman, MD, MPH (Associate Deputy Director, Office for State, Tribal, Local and Territorial Support,

(Continued on page 2)

2011-2012 SIG OFFICERS:

Chair: Christian B. Albano (North Dakota State University)

Immediate Past Chair: John Conry (St. John's University)

Chair-elect: Trina von Waldner (University of Georgia)

Secretary: Lilia Z. Macias-Moriarity, (South University)

Past Chair: Carrie Maffeo (Butler University)

Founding Chair: Jack Fincham (University of Missouri-Kansas City)

2011-2012 SIG Committees and Chairs/co-Chairs*

Program: Trina von Waldner (University of Georgia)

Nominations: John Conry (St. John's University)

Assessment: Justine Gortney (Wayne State University)

Lisa Woodard* (Washington State University)

Development: Hoai-An Truong (University of Maryland)

Suzanne Clark* (University of Wyoming)

Meghana Aruru* (Roosevelt University)

Caring for Underserved: Sachin S. Devi. B. (Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine)

Tobacco Control: Sarah McBane (University of California, San Diego)

Robin Corelli* (University of California, San Francisco)

Public Health Associates Program (PHAP)...continued

CDC). Dr. Holzman expressed an interest in seeing applications from our students and forwarded our questions to the PHAP. In subsequent correspondence with PHAP representatives, we found that, although PharmD students would be eligible to apply, no PharmD graduates have been Fellows/Associates in the PHAP program, at least in recent memory. However, representatives of the PHAP program stated that the program **would welcome** applications from PharmD students. (Of note, the PHAP website now includes a comment that one of the recent Associates previously worked as a pharmacy intern – a comment that PharmD students, hopefully, would see as encouraging.)

One goal of the PH SIG Public Health Pharmacy Ad-Hoc Committee is to encourage recent graduates of PharmD and PharmD-MPH dual degree programs to apply to the PHAP program. One possible reason behind the absence of PharmD graduates as PHAP Associates may be a lack of awareness about the program. Accordingly, the Public Health SIG newsletter is a good venue in which to review the PHAP program, given that SIG members may know PharmD students who are interested in Public Health careers.

As outlined on the PHAP home page, PHAP Fellows (aka Associates) have 2-year paid appointments. Associates are assigned to "...a state,

tribal, local or territorial public health agency and works alongside local public health professionals."

Assignments typically are made based on geographical preferences rather than on project type. Associates are extensively supervised and mentored to assure the quality of their training. Travel is required for the application process, as well as during the fellowship.

Eligibility is limited to US citizens who hold a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution. (The degree must be conferred by July.) In the words of one PHAP representative, "... the most successful candidates are those who have sought out volunteer opportunities in public service and/or public health, have exceptional interpersonal skills, and a willingness to try and learn new things."

Associates are benefited, full-time, term-limited (non-permanent) CDC employees. Foreseeable challenges for PharmD students could be the pay-rate and the availability of loan deferments. Salaries are set at GS -5, step 1 or SG-7, step 1 (for years 1 and 2, respectively). Thus, it will be important for new graduates to determine their eligibility for loan deferment or their ability to make loan payments on a GS-5/7 salary before pursuing this pathway. It must be noted here that a fellowship is comparable to a residency. Salaries paid to residents are below the

(Continued on page 3)



Photo taken by Trina Von Waldner at the 2011 AACP Annual Meeting (San Antonio, TX)

Letter from the chair

*"Coming together is a beginning.
Keeping together is progress.
Working together is success. "*
~ Henry Ford.

*Our SIG's membership continues to grow at an amazing rate. As of November, our SIG membership was up to 638 members! Member volunteerism is just as amazing. Thank you to all members who have volunteered on committees; promoted our work; and especially Dr. Jack Fincham, the founding chair, for bringing us all together, our Henry Ford. I applaud all of you as well as the time and efforts you have put in to advance the **SIG's mission and goals:***

Mission: *The AACP Public Health SIG shall work to enable the Academy to focus on issues and impacts that serve to protect, promote, and enhance the health and well-being of all people and the environment; and prevent disease in a global framework.*

Goal: *To help institutions and the members of the Academy integrate public health tenets that positively impact student learning and the processes of teaching, learning and assessment.*

(For the complete Standing Rules document for the Public Health SIG click here: <http://www.aacp.org/governance/SIGS/publichealth/Pages/default.aspx>)

I think Henry Ford's quotation signifies the spirit of our SIG; we are all striving and progressing together in our work as public health educators, practitioners, and

Public Health Associates Program (PHAP)...continued from page 2

prevailing wage rate for newly minted PharmDs, yet there is still competition for the in-depth experiences provided by residencies. The PHAP website also notes that, for graduates with master's degrees, additional options are also available outside the PHAP program and may offer a higher pay rate.

Qualified and selected applicants would gain an invaluable experience and obtain excellent credentials for future opportunities in public health. Further, Associates who are PharmDs would most likely use their training to tackle public health problems most relevant to pharmacy. Consequently, they could make a significant contribution to the field of public health pharmacy by focusing on topics that graduates from other disciplines may not pursue. The program serves as a pathway to public health careers: PHAP alumni have secured positions in federal, state, and local public health agencies as well as non-profits and academia.

In summary, the PHAP program may provide compelling opportunities for Pharm D students. Clearly, PharmD students are interested in public health topics, a recent study reported that "...two-thirds found public health courses to

be extremely appealing" (Shah, et al., 2009) and an informal survey at NDSU found that approximately 30% of PharmD students were interested in the PharmD-MPH dual degree option (Naughton et al., 2010). Pharmacy students observe public health pharmacy in action while on their experiential rotations, including but not limited to, mass vaccinations, health screenings, and public health education. Therefore, the AACP Public Health SIG encourages its members to highlight these opportunities in discussions with students interested in an in-depth training program supported by the CDC.

Additional Information:

Application Deadline: TBA (The specific dates have not been set, but the website states that on-line applications will open in early February and will close in late February or early March.)

Phone interviews are in April, on-site interviews in May, and start dates in July.

Home page: <http://www.cdc.gov/phap/>

email contact: phap@cdc.gov

Phone: 404-498-0030



Photo taken by Trina Von Waldner at the 2011 AACP Annual Meeting (San Antonio, TX). From L - R: Christian B. Albano, Ronald LaPorte, Jack Fincham, Susan Meyer, and Greg Higby

Letter from the chair (cont.)

scholars. As we end one year and welcome another one, let us continue the positive work for the Academy, communities, students, and beyond. With the spirit of collaboration in all of us, I am confident that success will follow. Lastly, I encourage you to contribute to the Abstract and Roundtable Submissions for the 2012 AACP Annual Meeting – see the Announcements on page 4 for more deadlines.

Happy New Year!

*Christian B. Albano
Chair, Public Health SIG, AACP
Assistant Professor, College of
Pharmacy, Nursing, and Allied
Sciences, NDSU*

Did you know? Henry Ford published an anti-cigarette book (1916) titled "The Case Against the Little White Slaver" and said "I employ no one who smokes cigarettes." (<http://medicolegal.tripod.com/ford1914.htm#ruskinquote>)

Textbooks in Public Health for Pharmacy and/or by Pharmacists

Have you ever wondered if there are public health textbooks for pharmacy and/or by pharmacists? Collaborating with publishers and based on my experiences in teaching social and administrative sciences, the table (page 4) list is neither exhaustive nor prescriptive. I want to thank Jones and Bartlett as well as Pharmaceutical Press for the suggested textbooks. (Continued on page 4)

Table: Textbooks in Public Health for Pharmacy and/or by Pharmacists

Publisher	Lead Author(s)	Title	Edition	ISBN 13
American Pharmacists Association	Truong, Bresette, and Sellers	<i>The Pharmacist in Public Health: Education, Applications, and Opportunities</i>	First	9781582121307
American Society of Health-System Pharmacists	Carter and Slack	<i>Pharmacy in Public Health: Basics and Beyond. ASHP. Bethesda (MD); 2010</i>	First	9781585281725
Jones & Bartlett Learning	Cobert	<i>Cobert's Manual of Drug Safety and Pharmacovigilance</i>	Second	9780763791599
Jones & Bartlett Learning	Fincham	<i>The Medicare Part D Drug Program: Making the Most of the Benefit</i>	First	9780763749675
Jones & Bartlett Learning	Levin	<i>Introduction to Public Health in Pharmacy</i>	First	9780763735395
Jones & Bartlett Learning	MacKinnon III	<i>Understanding Health Outcomes and Pharmacoeconomics</i>	First	9780763770990
Jones & Bartlett Learning	McCarthy	<i>Introduction to Health Care Delivery with Companion Website</i>	Fifth	9781449644888
Jones & Bartlett Learning	Pizzi	<i>Economic Evaluation in U.S. Health Care: Principles and Applications</i>	First	9780763727468
Jones & Bartlett Learning	Rickles	<i>Social and Behavioral Aspects of Pharmaceutical Care</i>	Second	9780763764081
Jones & Bartlett Learning	Van Ornum	<i>Electronic Prescribing: A Safety and Implementation Guide</i>	First	9780763758493
Pharmaceutical Press	Fincham	<i>Health Policy and Ethics</i>	First	9780853698388
Pharmaceutical Press	Krska	<i>Pharmacy in Public Health</i>	First	9780853698791
Pharmaceutical Press	Maguire and Haslem	<i>The Obesity Epidemic and Its Management</i>	First	9780853697862
Pharmaceutical Press	Shakespeare	<i>Zoonoses</i>	Second	9780853697534

Announcements and Upcoming Events

- ⇒ Renew AACP Membership by Dec. 31st (confirm membership in Public Health SIG in the profile section)
- ⇒ 2012 AACP Annual Meeting, Call for Educational and Research Poster Abstracts, Deadline February 22, 2012
- ⇒ 2012 AACP Annual Meeting, Call for Topical Roundtable Discussions, Deadline: February 22, 2012
- ⇒ 2012 AACP Annual Meeting, July 14-18, 2012, in Kissimmee (Orlando), Florida
- ⇒ 2012 AACP Interim Meeting, February 11-14, 2012, in San Diego, California

