APPE Rotation Fair  
By Shelly Fromholtz

The Office of Experiential Education hosted an APPE Rotation Fair for the P3 students on Thursday, November 5th from 2:00 PM to 3:30 PM. Preceptors and representatives from over 20 teaching sites in San Diego and Orange Counties discussed their APPE rotations with the class of 2011. As they will soon be ranking their APPE preferences for the P4 year, the P3 student turnout was high, evidenced by the crowds surrounding the tables and the energetic buzz in the area.

When asked about foot traffic at her table, Margo Karriker, preceptor at the UC Veterinary Medical Center in Sorrento Valley, responded that she did indeed have many students interested in her site and was happy to answer their questions. Sarah Lorentz, representing St. Vincent de Paul, said students asked questions such as “What’s a typical day like?” and showed an eagerness to learn as much as they could about each preceptor, site and APPE experience.

Sites participating in the event included Fallbrook Hospital, UCSD Family Medicine, Health Net Pharmaceutical Services, Kaiser Permanente, UCSD Moores Cancer Center, Scripps Mercy Hospital, Sharp HealthCare, UC Veterinary Center, UCSD Medical Center Hillcrest, Pharmacy Home Infusion Service, St. Vincent de Paul, UCSD Thornton Hospital, Veterans Administration, Vietnam, Walgreens and Orange County.

2009 Scripps Innovations Challenge  
By Steve Bennet

2009 Scripps Innovations Challenge finalists:
1) Cameron Coates and Emily Turnacosta, “Biodegradable Plastics from Algae”
2) Eddie Kisfaludy, “Scientific Aerial Video System”
3) George Nicola and Bill Gerwick, “SIO Natural Compound Library”

On November 17th, the finalist research teams were paired with YPO teams comprised of about 30 leaders from the local San Diego business community. An evening workshop asked researchers and YPOers to work together to create a “Concept Statement” to turn the research team’s work into a sustainable ongoing project. YPOers established a roadmap for funding, implementation, sustainability and application. Final concepts will be judged on an “ROI approach.” Return On Investment (ROI) will be calculated based on required capital (which could come from investment/venture capital, tax dollars, or philanthropic dollars) versus the return to businesses, the economy, technology advancement and/or human society.

Immediately following the evening workshop, teams made a final presentation to the San Diego Chapters of the YPO. YPO members in attendance then voted to select a winning team. The researchers on the winning team received a $10,000 cash award (for personal and unrestricted use) while the YPOers on the winning team were offered a series of experiences that are exclusive to Scripps.

Thanks again to everyone who put in the time and effort to submit for this year’s event! I hope that your pioneering spirit will lead to more opportunities such as this in the months/years to come.

All submissions can be viewed here: http://www.youtube.com/user/SbennettSIO
Pharmacy Informatics
By Phil Anderson, Pharm.D.

Pharmacy Informatics is the title of the new book edited by SSPPS faculty members, Drs. Phil Anderson, Sue McGuinness and Phil Bourne and published by Taylor and Francis. Book chapters are based largely on lectures from the first-year SSPPS course in Pharmacy Informatics. In addition to chapters written by the editors, guest lecturers from the pharmacy informatics courses authored the majority of the book. A few additional chapters cover topics from the second-year Drug Information course and some topics not currently covered in these courses. This is the first textbook to be generated from SSPPS courses. In his Foreword, Dean Palmer Taylor writes, “The diversity in backgrounds of the three editors has enabled them to fashion a textbook that extends beyond the UCSD curriculum and should serve as a treatise for the evolving curricula in pharmacy to refine over the years.”

The book is divided into five parts where each part builds upon what has been discussed before. Part I introduces the topic of the book and reviews the drivers of change. Part II covers computer and informatics basics, standards & controlled vocabularies, and effective use of scientific literature & the web. Part III covers hospital and pharmacy information systems, barcoding, medication errors, drug information databases, PDAs and pharmacy informatics as a career. Part IV covers decision support topics such as evidence-based medicine, pharmacokinetics software, clinical decision support systems, and data mining. The final part contains two chapters that examine the future of pharmacy informatics. In the Introduction, the editors explain, “Taken together, the five parts of this book reflect a changing pharmacy profession in which information plays a central role if that practice is to be conducted in the most productive and efficient way for both producer and consumer of healthcare services. We have tried to capture what such a change means to both the pharmacy student and the practicing pharmacist, and to prepare the reader for what lies ahead in a world characterized by only one certainty – it will be very different.”

All authors of this wide range of topics are from San Diego, demonstrating the rich healthcare informatics expertise available to SSPPS students and faculty. Other UCSD Healthcare authors include Ashley Dalton, Pharm.D., Pieter Helmons, Pharm.D., Grace Kuo, Pharm.D., M.P.H., Joshua Lee, M.D., Joseph Scherger, M.D., M.P.H. and Dean Palmer Taylor, Ph.D. Joseph Ennesser, Pharm.D., a member of the SSPPS charter class, authored a chapter, and additional contributors came from the Kaiser, Scripps, Sharp, VA Healthcare Systems, and Global Life Sciences, Inc.

Winter 2010 SDSHP Student Outreach Events
By Lindsey Hohmann, P2

This winter at the UCSD Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, the student chapter of SDSHP is focusing on teaching children and their parents how to lead healthier lives. UCSD pharmacy students taught middle school students about various health topics through the PRYDE program, and will soon participate in several events designed to educate children and their parents about the signs and symptoms of asthma.

The PRYDE program is an after-school program sponsored by the YMCA that helps to educate at-risk children about various health topics. UCSD pharmacy students are participating in this program at the Montgomery Middle School in San Diego. Approximately fifty children, ranging from ten to fifteen years of age, attend this program. About fifty intern pharmacist volunteers are spending their time with these children on four Fridays throughout January and February of this year. The topics of discussion include: nutrition, exercise, sex education, and recreational drug use. Brief slide presentations are followed by games, healthy snack-making activities, or question-and-answer sessions with the children. This event was also held last year and was very successful. Hopefully this tradition will continue next winter as well.

Additionally, several more events are planned for UCSD pharmacy students this winter. On February 20th and March 6th, students will be volunteering at the North University Community Branch Library in La Jolla and the Santee Library in Santee, respectively. Following children’s storytime at the library, students will help to educate parents and children about asthma. A poster about asthma signs and symptoms will be presented to the parents, while asthma story books will be available for the children.

The UCSD student chapter of SDSHP has held many wonderful education events this winter. These events are an example of how pharmacists can make a real difference in the community and spread health access and knowledge to the underserved. As always, thank you to Dr. Candis Morello for advising the student chapter. Please support SDSHP and look forward to our future events!
The San Diego Pharmacist Resource and Research Network (SDPharmNet™), established in 2008, is a network of San Diegan pharmacists from various practice settings. UCSD Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences (SSPPS) serves as the academic hub to facilitate collaboration among members. Dr. Grace M. Kuo, SSPPS clinical faculty and SDPharmNet™ Advisory Board members strive to provide members the best practice tools and resources for pharmaceutical care and medication therapy management services. Last year, network members nominated 5 pharmacists for their best pharmacy practice. You can view these best practice videocasts on the SDPharmNet™ SciVee™ Community via http://sdpharmacist.ucsd.edu/about/showcase.shtml.

**Best Pharmacy Practice Awards:**

**Suzanne Bradbury, PharmD of Vons Pharmacy**

Vons pharmacy manager Dr. Suzanne Bradbury believes that patient counseling is an important aspect of retail pharmacy, as well as providing various vaccinations and services to the customers. Her pharmacy practice includes medication counseling, immunizations, and Travel Health services.

**Therese Clark, PharmD of Sharp HealthCare**

Sharp HealthCare is an Integrated Delivery Network (IDN) in San Diego. Dr. Therese Clark works at Sharp's Outpatient Coumadin Clinic and provides medication therapy management for patients taking warfarin. She helps patients reach therapeutic goals while minimizing side-effects from the medication.

**Beatriz Lewis, PharmD of UCSD’s Moores Cancer Center**

Dr. Beatriz Lewis and other pharmacists at the Moores Cancer Center's (MCC) retail pharmacy created an Oral Chemotherapy Monitoring and Counseling Guide to help gather chemotherapy-specific laboratory monitoring parameters, dosage limits and patient counseling points. Using the guide, they helped ensure medication safety for many patients receiving chemotherapy, radiation, surgery, and transplant.

**Binh Tran, PharmD, MBA, MS of the Asian Pacific Health Center**

The Asian Pacific Health Center (APHC) is a non-profit organization that provides a number of primary-care services and screenings. APHC's Executive Director, Dr. Binh Tran, strives to increase the Asian community's awareness on the importance of health screening and seeking comprehensive treatment.

**Wayne Woods, RPh of Burns Drugs in La Jolla**

Burns Drugs, owned by Mr. Wayne Woods, is one of the few remaining independent, family-owned pharmacies with current and "old-fashioned" practices, including home health care and delivery service. In addition, Burns Drugs has on staff a compounding pharmacist renowned for his knowledge in hormone replacement therapy.

Please join us in congratulating each pharmacist for winning the SDPharmNet™ Best Pharmacy Practice Award! If you are not yet a network member, we cordially invite you to join us. For membership information please visit: http://sdpharmacist.ucsd.edu/.

**SDPharmNet™ Board and Staff:**

**Network Director:** Grace M. Kuo, PharmD, MPH (Associate Professor of Clinical Pharmacy)

**Advisory Board Members:** Minh Dang, PharmD; Jacky Lee, PharmD; Anthony Morreale, PharmD, MBA; Bimal Patel, PharmD, MS; Isabel Perlas, RPh; Albert Rizos, PharmD; Sally Smith, PharmD, Binh Tran, PharmD, MBA, MS; Linda Woods, RPh; and Wayne Woods, RPh

**Staff Research Associates:** Lailani Aguila; Roberto Altieri, BA; Jessica Bryan, MPH; Carinne Hawley, MPH, CPH; and Ashley To, BA.

**Acknowledgments:** We thank UCSD undergraduate Pre-Pharmacy Society volunteers Stephen Ly, Tammy Hsu, Nadhia Gotama, Khan Huynh, and Jen Nakata for their hard work on making the videos.
On a brisk Saturday morning on December 5, 2009, a large group of young students gathered at the front of the UCSD Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences Building. They were middle and high school students coming from various areas of San Diego and as far as Bakersfield, all waiting for registration to attend the annual Doc-4-A-Day event. The students learn what physicians and pharmacists do by participating in various activities, which can help them consider choosing these career paths.

Walking down the stairs to the auditorium, I saw that students held folders of different colors: red, blue, green and black. Where was the pharmacy group so that I could join them? Luckily, I saw Tim Bassell who was assigned to the orientation team. After helping at the fruit juice line for the student attendees, I followed Tim to the MDL5 room in the Medical Building. There, I met Shaddy Javadinejad, coordinator of the two pharmacy sessions, and the 6 - 8 student pharmacists who were preparing the tables for the first compounding session.

Since this was my first year attending the Doc-4-A Day, I wanted to follow all the steps that the high school students followed. In the Skaggs auditorium, they were greeted by Dr. Willes-Jacobo, a relatively new UCSD medical school professor and the Director of the PRIME program. They learned that the qualities necessary for a good physician are passion, determination, empathy, compassion, dedication, integrity and humility. The professor also gave practical tips for a successful journey:

1. Make specific goals,
2. Put decisions in writing,
3. Align performances with the stated goals, (grades do matter)
4. Find a good mentor (counselor, teacher) and
5. Get involved in the community.

After the address, everyone headed to the actual learning stations.

I followed the group for Pharmacy - Compounding. There were 4 students at each table equipped with a large mortar and pestle, a cup of brown sugar and a measuring spoon. Third year Student pharmacists explained what pharmacists do, and pointed out the different settings where they can work. They gave examples of how medications produce their effects, what the common forms are, and why pharmacists do compounding. The case for the day was to prepare four capsules of 50 mg each, using eight Smarties of 25mg pseudo-active ingredients. In another room, the young students played jeopardy games. Two teams were formed, and a member of each team came up to give answers to questions on non-prescription products.

In the medical sessions, they learned about the muscular system - tendons and ligaments and how injuries are caused. They also learned the names of major bones in the skeleton.

Lunch of sub sandwiches and cookies was served outdoors, after which they learned how to do physical assessment understanding lung function, using the stethoscope, doing neurology tests and measuring blood pressure. In the cardiology workshop, they listened to heart beats, measured pulse at rest and after exercise (doing jumping jacks), and followed the path of arteries and veins in formol-preserved sheep hearts.

The remaining workshops were on Gastro-enterology and Neurology. In the Neurology room, there were three stations. At station #1, students held models of the brain, took them apart, and learned about the lobes’ different functions. Also, goat brains and a real (plasticized) human brain were on display. At station #2, they learned about reflexes and how to use a reflex hammer, and at station #3, they learned about cranial nerves and clinical testings for identifying cranial nerve dysfunction.

At 3:10 PM, the workshops came to an end. The students went to the Skaggs Auditorium to have a raffle drawing. All went home after a day of enjoyable learning sessions with future doctors in medicine and pharmacy, knowing that they have to study hard to get into the professional schools. The help and dedication of the UCSD medical and SSPPS student pharmacists in providing skilled hands-on experience were very much appreciated.

Continued on next page
Participants at the event:

From the Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences:

Faculty: Sarah Lorentz, PharmD, Marie Scott, PharmD, Binh Tran, PharmD Pharmacy Student Pharmacists:
Robin Kinnear, Cathy Chang, Erica Lee, Rebecca Romasco, Shaddy Javadinejad, Heather Cox, Natalie Keil, Fauzia Khan, Jeannette Truong, Hanieh Farid, Rebecca Lau, Thanh Le, Linda Tang, Sherry Kim, and Timothy Bassell

From the UCSD School of Medicine:

Medical Students: Amy Tran, Mylan Dang, Keiko Amano and many others

SSPPS: Leading the Next Generation of Pharmacogenomic Training

By Carinne L. Hawley, MPH, CPH and Grace M. Kuo, PharmD, MPH

The Pharmacogenomics Education Program (PharmGenEd™) is an educational campaign targeting more than 100,000 healthcare practitioners and students across the country! PharmGenEd™ seeks to increase clinicians’ awareness and knowledge about pharmacogenomic tests and their potential therapeutic implications. The program is delivered via a web-based portal, a shared curriculum, and live presentations. You can access educational materials free of charge at http://pharmacogenomics.ucsd.edu. Here is a snapshot of several ongoing program activities:

CPE/CME Modules and a Shared Curriculum

Healthcare professionals can earn CPE/CME through two recently launched modules entitled: Module I: Pharmacogenomic Principles and Concepts, and Module II: Clinical Applications of Pharmacogenomics. You can view these videocasts any time at your convenience, on the CPE/CME page of our website. Two written CPE articles published by Pharmacy Today and JAPhA are linked on the Resources webpage. A shared curriculum with several modules is currently in development (our target release dates are some time this spring/summer) and includes topics ranging from Oncology, Psychiatry, Cardiology, Infectious Diseases, Economics and more!

Train-the-Trainer Program

A key component of PharmGenEd™ is making the shared curriculum available for healthcare professionals and faculty at colleges of pharmacy (COP) for educational purposes. Using a “Train-the-Trainer” model, healthcare professionals can share the information with their peers and faculty can use the shared curriculum materials to teach the next generation of clinicians in this fast-moving field. Are you interested in becoming a trainer? Register and email us at the PharmGenEd™ website.

Use the Resources PharmGenEd™ has to offer!

Visit the resources section of our website to access current news and publications, references, textbooks, journal articles, and evidence-based recommendations.

Team Members: Faculty and Staff at UCSD SSPPS and SOM

Principal investigator: Grace M. Kuo, PharmD, MPH (Associate Professor of Clinical Pharmacy)
Co-Investigators: Philip E. Bourne, PhD; Theodore Ganiats, MD; James R. Halpert, PhD; Kelly C. Lee, PharmD, BCPP; Joseph D. Ma, PharmD; and Palmer Taylor, PhD
Staff Research Associates: Roberto Altieri, BA; Jessica Bryan, MPH; Carinne Hawley, MPH, CPH; and Ashley To, BA
If you have any questions or comments regarding the PharmGenEd™ program, you can contact us at pharmacogenomics@ucsd.edu.
Patient Counseling Competition 2010

By Stephen M. Rettig Jr, P2, APhA-ASP President-Elect 2009-2010

Every year UC San Diego’s Chapter of APhA-ASP holds a Patient Counseling Competition that starts at the school level and allows the winner to compete at the state and national levels. This year, the Patient Counseling Competition took place on January 9, 2010. Competitors were given 5 minutes to look up information about Vytorin from a selection of reference books, then another five minutes to counsel the mock patient while being video recorded. Following the competition our four pharmacist judges Drs. Ashley Dalton, Sanaz Farhadian, Beverly Freedman, and Chris Woo scored each competitor and provided feedback.

All that was needed to enter was a basic knowledge of the “three prime questions”: 1) What is this medication for? 2) How is it taken? 3) What is to be expected? All student pharmacists were encouraged to take advantage of the wonderful opportunity to practice their counseling skills and receive feedback from all four judges.

When you see him, please congratulate Tim Bassell (P3), our first place finisher who recently competed at CPhA Outlook in Long Beach in February! Tim is also fine tuning his skills in preparation for the National Competition, which will take place in Washington DC in the middle of March.

Great job to all of the student pharmacists who participated: Laura Lafranchise, Christine Luu, Richard Muus, Kam Soleymani, Kayvan Moussavi, Ken Nguyen, Shaddy Javadinejad, Kiranpreet Kaur, Thanh Le and Kim Tsai. You all deserve to be recognized for taking advantage of a great opportunity to develop your skills as a professional!

In addition, many thanks to Christina Sejersen for making sure that no one had more than the maximum five minutes to look up information and to David Ha for being an incredible patient. A great job all around and we all are looking forward to next year’s competition!

Phun Run 2010

By Timothy Bassell, P3

Football fans have Superbowl Sunday. Basketball fans have March Madness. Now, pharmacy fans have a day that they can call their own: On Sunday, May 16th, the 5th annual Free Clinic “Phun Run” is coming to the UCSD School of Pharmacy. This is certain to be a day to remember, so don’t miss out!

Whether you are a serious competitor or just out for a relaxing walk, Phun Run will be a fantastic time for you and your whole family. The 5k course starts at the School of Pharmacy building at UCSD and runs through our medical campus, past the landmark Geisel Library, and through wooded trails in UCSD’s nature preserve. And when you get back, the fun continues with food, drinks, raffle prizes, awards ceremony, and plenty of time to relax and hang out with your friends.

Best of all, all proceeds from Phun Run are donated to the UCSD Student-Run Free Clinics. Since it was founded, Phun Run has raised thousands of dollars to benefit pharmacy operations at the clinics, including new laptops and label printers to ensure the safety and accuracy of our prescriptions. The Free Clinics are a major provider of quality healthcare for the underserved populations of San Diego and Pacific Beach, with services including primary and specialty medical care, dental and orthodontia clinics, mental health counseling, social and community service referrals, acupuncture, immunizations, and pharmacy. The clinics are also an integral component in the educational curriculum for the School of Medicine and the School of Pharmacy at UCSD, providing essential training for our city’s future doctors and pharmacists.

So come out to show your support and enjoy a great day at Phun Run! Registration is only $15 and includes a t-shirt while supplies last. Parking is free at the School of Pharmacy parking lot. Race start time is 9:30AM. To register, mail your shirt size (S/M/L/XL) and check made out to “UCSD-SDSHP” to Timothy Bassell, UCSD Skaggs School of Pharmacy 9500 Gillman Dr, MC 0657, La Jolla, CA 92093-0657
A Successful Year for ASCP-UCSD Student Chapter

By Irina Olshanskaya, P3

The American Society of Consultant Pharmacists (ASCP) UCSD student chapter continues to grow with the involvement of more student pharmacists, touching lives of the elderly of the San Diego community. ASCP has reached out to almost 400 patients since summer 2009.

In a health screening event at the Horton House, ASCP students displayed six posters. The undergraduate pre-pharmacy society joined pharmacy students to help with translation. An article about this event was published in the World Journal informing the Chinese San Diego community about ASCP projects. A homeless patient attending the health fair expressed, “It’s nice to know that there are people who care enough to come and talk to us.” This comment underlined the importance of having these events to reach out to more disadvantaged seniors. Throughout the summer, Medication Use Safety Training (MUST), led by Catherine Hong (P3), traveled all over San Diego county educating patients regarding the various medications being taken and the possible adverse reactions that may occur. One senior shared, “My friend takes her medications only on weekdays to allow her body to rest on the weekends.” As future pharmacists, it is our responsibility to make sure that drugs are administered in the most effective way. At the Brookview Village Homes, ASCP and APhA joined forces and delivered a seminar on diabetes. Angel Lam (P3), ASCP President, commented, “It is a great joy to educate patients on such a common disease and possibly prolong their lives by preventing heart attacks and strokes.” A session on pharmacogenomics, prepared by Christina Sejersen (P3), was given at the San Diego Senior Games Association Healthy Lifestyles luncheon. The audience was pleased to learn more about the future wonders of medicine.

In November, the School of Medicine invited ASCP to participate in the 5th Annual Health and Medical Consultation event. This gesture resulted in a lasting relationship with medical students which has allowed them to understand the role of pharmacists in the healthcare system. Benjamin Ma (P2), ASCP P2 Liaison, was happy that “student pharmacists benefited by learning how they can help economically disadvantaged patients by recommending alternative medications at lower cost.” A talk on “Principles of Antibiotic Use in Senior Citizens” given by Dr. James, provided students the opportunity to learn more about the geriatric community, which entailed learning about the modified pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics in various systems of the body. This led to the conclusion that special attention when handling and caring for the elderly is required. During finals week, ASCP conducted an event in conjunction with Medicare Part D outreach, where posters were presented to senior citizens on topics such as the common cold and heartburn.

In addition to all community outreach events, ASCP developed a new Geriatrics elective. Realizing the large need in senior pharmacological services, I suggested a course to fill the gap with the help of UCSD pharmacy students. This idea received a heartwarming welcome from the school administration and students. The class is precepted by Dr. Ma and Dr. Rai and is offered quarterly. One of the major aims of this class is to contribute to the health and welfare of the elderly through educational sessions and health screenings in underserved communities. ASCP is very grateful to Dr. Ma, who supervised all of the training and recap sessions, events and evaluation examinations, and supported students every step of the way during the course launch. One of the students taking the class, Gwendolyn Le (P3) said: “I really appreciate this opportunity to help educate our senior citizens about various aspects regarding their health and medications. It makes me sad every time I see an old person with lots of health problems because I am reminded of my parents getting older. However, it is comforting to know that there are many resources available in assisting our aging population, including student pharmacists like ourselves.

Hopefully, if this trend continues, we can be assured that our parents and even we would be in good hands as we approach old age.” The class allows students to incorporate topics learned in therapeutics and pharmacy practice while helping the seniors. ASCP is excited to announce that Academic Geriatric Resource Center awarded a $2,000 grant to support further expansions, allowing even more seniors to be served.

ASCP projects aid students in becoming excellent pharmacists, confident with newly acquired knowledge and involved in their community. This year was a great accomplishment for ASCP, which would not have been possible without ASCP faculty advisors: Dr. Ma and Dr. Rai; supporting deans: Dr. Adler, Dr. Manoguerra, Dr. Colbert; preceptors: Dr. Cheng, Dr. James, Dr. Kuo, Dr. Morello, Dr. Smith, and also Kim Ciero, Gail Gipson, ASCP officers, members, and student pharmacists.
Outlook is a California pharmacy convention that is hosted annually by the California Pharmacists Association (CPhA) and the Pharmacy Foundation of California (PFC). I speak for many here at UC San Diego when I say that it is one of the most anticipated events each year. Outlook took place in Long Beach at the Long Beach Hyatt Regency Hotel from February 4-7, 2010 and from a student perspective, there was not a person nor a school whom was better represented than UC San Diego. Here is why:

For starters, congratulations to Kim Tsai, who delivered her presentation entitled, “Empowering Female Family Caregivers (FFCs): A Smart Phone Medication Safety Application (MSA) and a Pharmacist-Led Intervention” and was awarded the Robert C. Johnson Scholarship which recognizes students who have demonstrated leadership and an interest in advancing the profession. From Kim herself, “The purpose of my project is to teach female family caregivers to take full responsibility of managing multiple medications of many at risk patients, such as the elderly, pediatric patients, and middle aged men. It also addresses challenges that are particular for this population and stresses the importance of safe medication use principles.” Wonderful job, Kim.

Next, Ohannes Kandilian, our CPhA Board of Trustees Representative, deserves to be recognized for being appointed to and serving on Reference Committee B, as well as being asked to lead the entire All School Caucus! Ohannes has made a huge impact all year long with his commitment and forward thinking, both of which were evident at this year’s Outlook. Our Chapter Delegates Alex Engelmann, David Ha, Christine Luu, Christina Sejersen and again Ohannes and myself also deserve to be recognized for successfully amending a policy on Competency Assessment during the House of Delegates.

And after all of this success, there was a first: after a second-place finish last year, UCSD finished FIRST at the Quiz Bowl claiming the first place trophy by a substantial margin over the other six competing California Schools. The trophy will be passed on from year to year, but it is currently on display in the Skaggs School of Pharmacy's Dean's office for all to enjoy until we try and win it again at next year’s Outlook in Palm Springs! Please congratulate our team with special mention to Rachel Sperling, Steven Tan, Tim Bassell and Christina Sejersen for leading the way, here they are: Kim Tsai, David Ha, Tiffany Wong, Paul Ko, Alex Engelmann, Christine Luu, Susan Cho, Brian Sears, Jennifer Johnson, Tihua Chao, Julia Pchelnikova and myself. We also had multiple people come away with prizes for placing in the top 20 based on their individual scores!

We would also like to thank Kim Ciero, Kesha Miller, Drs. Jan Hirsch and Candis Morello for their incredible support throughout the Convention. And now it’s time to prepare for Outlook 2011 in Palm Springs!
Someone once said that the essence of education is lifelong learning. As lifelong learners and students at UCSD Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, we like to seize every opportunity to pass on what we have learned to people in our community. It is our chance to “pay it forward.”

The 2nd Annual SSPPS Pharmacy Day, held on January 23, was an overwhelming success. After an incredibly stormy week, the sun finally peeked out from behind the clouds. Over 130 students from 14 different high schools throughout San Diego County visited our school to learn about college and graduate school requirements, various opportunities for careers in pharmacy, compounding, and medication safety. Students also became “specialists” in one of four areas: diabetes, hypertension, immunizations, or asthma. They had the opportunity to measure blood pressure, practice vaccine administration techniques, practice proper use of inhalers, and utilize blood glucose monitors. It was amazing to see how much they learned in just one day. One student bade us farewell at the end of the day by saying, “Wow, I want to be a pharmacist now!” The students who attended SSPPS Pharmacy Day left UCSD ready to present their newfound knowledge to peers, family members, and San Diego middle school students. I am proud to say that we have successfully passed on a portion of what we as student pharmacists have learned. In doing so, we were able to not only stimulate interest in pharmacy and pharmaceutical sciences, but also to empower young adults to “pay it forward” by becoming teachers in their communities.

In addition to spending time with student pharmacists and UCSD undergraduates, high school students were able to meet esteemed professionals in the field, including SSPPS faculty members James Colbert, PharmD, Marie Scott, PharmD, Christopher Woo, PharmD, Binh Tran, PharmD, David Bao, PharmD, and Sarah Lorenz, PharmD. Thank you for being awesome preceptors and for sharing your experiences at Pharmacy Day.

This year, Pharmacy Day was led by Trina Huynh, a first-year student pharmacist, and Alegra Bartzat, Biobridge Program Representative. This successful event would not have been possible without their leadership and the support of and collaboration among SSPPS students, student organizations, and faculty. More than 100 SSPPS student pharmacists contributed in a significant way, through planning curriculum, leading activities, mentoring teams of students throughout the day, or documenting the events of the day as they unfolded. In addition, numerous undergraduate pre-pharmacy students also attended the event to help mentor high school students and to learn more about pharmacy themselves. SSPPS and Walgreens sponsored the event, along with five organizations, APhA, CSHP, Biobridge, Kappa Psi, and ASCP.

A huge THANK YOU is extended to everyone who was involved in planning or supporting the event. What an amazing day! Thanks to our involved SSPPS family, we will continue to spread the Skaggs name by reaching out to our community.
In The Holiday Spirit
Mary Moss, P2 - Class President

The holiday season inspires a desire to give back to the community and bring joy to the lives of others. This past winter, the Class of 2012 shared the holiday spirit by delivering lunch to the homeless throughout San Diego. Brian Sears, P2, organized the operation for making lunches and distributing throughout the county. Together the P2 students were able to make 100 lunches. The brown-bagged meals contained a peanut butter and jelly sandwich, chips, granola bars and water. With these gifts in hand, the students drove from Pacific Beach to Downtown San Diego distributing the lunches to any homeless individuals along the way. The students found this to be a very rewarding experience and hope to continue our class tradition of holiday giving. This could not have been possible without the generous donation from AS and the time given by all students involved.