

Get Involved...Make an Impact

NCPA 

Independent Voice

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Make Your Chapter Stand Out from the Rest

Many student NCPA chapter officers feel that to have a successful chapter they must have a large membership. False. Having the opportunity to serve on the NCPA Student Executive Committee for the past two years I have seen very successful chapters make an impact with few numbers. The key is innovation, determination and accessing and utilizing available resources offered by NCPA. As students, we tend to get overwhelmed by exams, projects, studying, and sleep deprivation. I too get overwhelmed, but I try to focus on the experiences in pharmacy school that will shape me as a professional pharmacist. Studying for and passing exams has little impact and/or weight in determining the type or success of a pharmacist. However, the experiences outside of school can and will determine, through networking and involvement, which field of pharmacy you will pursue, job offers, traveling opportunities, committee appointments, devotion to pharmacy and the overall happiness with your career decision. Imbedded in this newsletter are opportunities for you and your chapter to become involved and immersed in the profession of pharmacy. I hope you take advantage of these opportunities in NCPA. Good luck to all. For questions or comments please email rthendley@uh.edu.

Important Dates:

Jan 15, 2008: Summer Internship Application Deadline

Jan 18, 2008: Student Regional Council (SRC) Application Deadline

Jan 31, 2008: NCPA Chapter Midterm Report Deadline

Feb 22, 2008: Chapter Outstanding Member of the Year Award Deadline

March 1, 2008: Student Political Advocacy Challenge Award Application Deadline

March 15, 2008: Scholarship Applications Deadline

March 31, 2008: Wellness Challenge Award Application Deadline

May 1, 2008: NCPA Foundation Student Loan Application Deadline for Fall 2008

May 15, 2008: Business Plan Competition entry deadline

May 31, 2008: Chapter of the Year Application Deadline

Student Political Advocacy Challenge Award

The NCPA Student Executive Committee's mission through this project is to support NCPA financially through the Legislative Defense Fund (LDF) and to utilize every student resource to protect and promote the future interests of independent pharmacy in the government arena. Applications will be judged based upon: level of government action (40%) and amount and brief account of LDF donation (60%). The winning NCPA chapter will be awarded the NCPA Student Political Advocacy Challenge Award at the upcoming National Legislation and Government Affairs Conference in May. The application and all forms are due by March 1, 2008. Visit www.NCPAnet.org for more information.

Student Executive Committee

The NCPA Student Executive Committee comprised of the NCPA Student Leadership Council (SLC) and the NCPA Student Regional Council (SRC) are pharmacy students elected by their peers to represent student chapters on NCPA's policy-making steering committees and to spread the NCPA message of the rewards and challenges of independent community to students. Go to www.NCPAnet.org, Student Services and Regional Leadership Positions for more information.

Wellness Challenge Award

The purpose of the Wellness Challenge Award is to: enhance awareness, empower patients, and educate the public to improve health & wellness in the community by monitoring blood pressure, fat analysis, weight, and BMI calculations, and Food Pyramids and Handouts. This is a great way to expose NCPA as well as **PROMOTE INDEPENDENT PHARMACY!** Student chapters are challenged to screen a minimum of 5 patients per member in such areas as hypertension and fat analysis, as well as provide materials with information on lifestyle modifications. Please complete the Report Form after each event and email it to us along with any supporting documentation/pictures at NCPA.Wellness.Challenge@gmail.com. All forms are due by March 31, 2008 and chapters meeting their goals will be recognized for their efforts.

Writing your elected officials

You can make a big difference in just 5 minutes. That's all it will take to learn the issues and send a letter to your elected officials. The actions of our government have an enormous impact so please educate yourself and take action. Stay informed with Action E-List (Get an alert when your involvement can make a critical difference), Alert feed (Get our alerts in your RSS feed reader on Yahoo, Google and others), MegaVote (Get your reps' votes by e-mail weekly!!) After you have become educated go to www.NCPAnet.org and under Grassroots Network enter your Zip code to Take Action and submit a letter to your elected officials. It's that easy. Your voice, along with your entire chapter, can make a difference.