

the Independent Voice

From the Students' Perspective



Tips of the Month

L.D.F.

Encourage students from your chapter to attend the NCPA Legislative Conference in the spring.

Wellness Project

Ask a local independent pharmacist to help sponsor your NCPA chapter's screenings.



Charlie Hartig is a 4th year pharmacy student attending Drake University College of Pharmacy. He is currently serving as a senior member of the Student Executive Council.

NCPA Receives \$250,000 from Pharmacist Mutual



Pharmacists Mutual Companies

The NCPA foundation has recently received a \$250,000 challenge grant from Pharmacist Mutual Insurance Company. The grant is intended to raise funds to support the "Preserving the Legacy of Independent Pharmacy Campaign". The "Preserving the Legacy of Independent Pharmacy Campaign" was conceived last year to raise \$1 million dollars by 2012. The goal of the campaign will be to support the annual operating expenses of the Pruitt-Schutte Student Business Plan Completion.

In the fifth year the Pruitt-Schutte Student Business Plan Competition the event has drawn over 30 Colleges of Pharmacy. This number composes nearly one-third of all U.S. pharmacy schools. The Pruitt-Schutte Student Business Plan Competition is the first national contest addressing entrepreneurial skills in pharmacy. The competition is currently supported by the Pruitt and Schutte families, the NCPA Foundation, and Covidien (formerly Mallinckrodt Pharmaceuticals).

The challenge grant from Pharmacist Mutual is contingent on NCPA Foundation raising a similar amount of money to contribute to the new campaign.

NCPA Annual Convention Recap and Feedback

Several new student programs came to the convention this year.

- Chapter Officer's Breakfast
- Pharmacy Owners in Consultation
- Students in Consultation
- Future Pharmacists Bonanza (drinks and raffle)

Tell us what you thought. Any improvements or changes that would better serve you? We are looking for your feedback. Send your thoughts and ideas for next year's convention to john.stelmachowicz@ncpanet.org

**Important
• Dates & Deadlines •**

January 16, 2009

Executive Residency/Summer Internship Application Deadline

January 20, 2009

Student Regional Council (SRC) Application Deadline

February 23, 2009

Outstanding Member of the Year Award Deadline

**** Note:** One nominee from each active chapter

March 16, 2009

NCPA Foundation Spring 2009 Student Loan Application Deadline

NCPA Legislative Initiatives

In this post-election time of year it is all the more important to educate your local and national elected officials. Keep yourself informed about the local and national legislative issues. Here are some of the national legislative topics NCPA government affairs are tackling.

- AMP (Average Manufacturers Price)
 - H.R. 3140
 - S. 1951
- Prompt Pay for Medicare Part D Claims
 - H.R. 1474
 - S. 1954
- DMEPOS and Diabetes Supplies (H.R. 6331)
- Negotiating Rights for Independent Community Pharmacies
 - H.R. 971
 - S. 2161

**Want to know
more about
NCPA?**

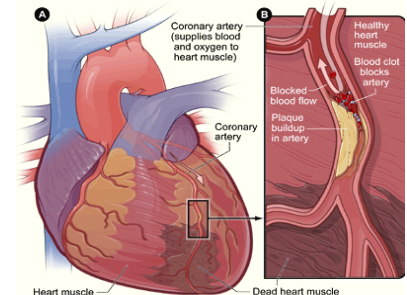
**Need a speaker for
a meeting at
your school?**

Contact

John Stelmachowicz
to schedule a time that
works for you and a
Student Executive
Council member. We
would love to visit your
school!

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hs-CRP the new Cardiovascular Marker



This past month a new study has come out that may change the way primary care physicians treat and assess cardiac risk. The article [Ridker et al. *Rosuvastatin to Prevent Vascular Events in Men and Women with Elevated C-Reactive Protein*. NEJM; November 20, 2008; 359:2195-2207] was able to draw major conclusions that linked high levels of hs-CRP (an inflammatory marker) and cardiac events.

This double-blinded, placebo, randomized control trial showed a decreased risk for cardiovascular events in patient's with normal/low LDL levels and high hs-CRP levels that took Crestor® (rosuvastatin).

This study although relatively new could be ground-breaking. Current guidelines do not incorporate and hs-CRP levels, further studies and reviews may be needed to incorporate these findings. Read for yourself and assess the article as a future pharmacist. This could effect your future practice.



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