

IT'S SUMMERTIME!

NCPA 

Independent Voice

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Want to know more about NCPA?

Need a speaker for a meeting at your school?

Contact Jackie Lopez to schedule a time that works for you and a Student Regional or Leadership Council member. We would love to visit your school!

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CHOOSE A CAREER YOU LOVE

Summer has finally arrived and for many it is a time to relax and prepare for yet another semester of school, but for some it is a time to take boards and decide on a future career path. Those preparing to enter the work place have a very tough decision on whether to do a residency, work in a clinical setting, or possibly take a retail position. There are many pros and cons for each position and my encouragement for everyone is to find the best fit for YOU! Many of your classmates will say that they do not want to lose their clinical knowledge at a retail job, so they will search for a residency and continue searching for a hospital based job, but an independent pharmacist will use clinical knowledge on a daily basis as well. Their patients and the local physicians will ask clinical based questions that will keep any practicing pharmacist on his or her toes and leave them feeling accomplished in the work place. Not only will an independent pharmacy job leave you feeling accomplished, but it can allow you to help and counsel patients all day long and be flexible with your daily schedule. If you are flexible and have an entrepreneurial spirit than being an independent pharmacist is the job for you. Get an independent job and let the sky be the limit in what you want to accomplish as a pharmacist and possibly a future pharmacy owner. Enjoy the summer and good luck to all you future pharmacists out there!

STUDENTS ENCOURAGING STUDENTS

There is no better way to get other students involved in independent pharmacy and NCPA than inviting them to visit an independent pharmacy. Ask your peers that have not experienced independent pharmacy to shadow you or a pharmacist in the field. Who knows they may love it and pursue the career!!

STUDENTS MAKE A STAND

Independent pharmacy is at a pivotal time on Capitol Hill right now and it is time for students to take a stand. Unfortunately, our new largest single business partner is soon to be the Medicare/Medicaid system or a.k.a the government and it is time to defend our business rights. According to the NCPA website, the Medicare/Medicaid system will account for 37% of prescription sales in the next year, which will be up from 20% in the previous year. It is difficult for students to take on such a large institution alone and quite frankly we can't, but if we can stand up next to NCPA officials and the local pharmacists that are taking stands we CAN make a difference!! I encourage fellow students to talk to pharmacists in their state to get a better perspective on what the current issues are and to visit NCPA's website regarding legislative issues. As many chapters now know, the Student Executive Council has implemented the Political Advocacy Challenge to encourage student NCPA chapters to get involved with politics at the state and local levels. Along with this challenge, we have urged student chapters to donate or raise money for the NCPA Legislative Defense Fund. Capitol Hill is a hard place to have your voice heard and unfortunately it seems to cost a lot of money to get it heard, so we must raise money to ensure the future profession that we as students have strived so hard to be a part of will continue to flourish. The Government Affairs office at NCPA is working hard to ensure our voice is heard and in order to maintain this office we must raise funds to support it. I know it is difficult for students to donate by themselves as education costs continue to rise, but as a chapter students can pool resources together to raise the needed monetary support. Let's get together as students and show our support for the future of our profession. For more information regarding the current political issues and the Legislative Defense Fund please visit <http://www.ncpanet.org/leggovaffairs/> and <http://www.ncpanet.org/leggovaffairs/ldf/>.



