WELCOME TO THE FIRST ISSUE
CPP NEWS PHLASH

Since its inception in the Fall of 2007 with only two students, the UNM/NMSU Cooperative Pharmacy Program (CPP) has grown to 44 students in four years. During those years, CPP students have been involved in various school and community activities. The purpose of this newsletter is to highlight CPP students, faculty and staff in their many ventures and activities throughout the academic year.

Fourteen incoming freshmen will become part of the CPP family in August! The 2012 Welcome Reception will be held on August 19, 2012 at Fulton Center. Save the date. Invitations will be mailed in July.

We hope you enjoy this first issue. We plan to make this newsletter a biannual tradition and hope that parents and students (past and present) will send articles of interest about CPP students’ achievements as they progress through the NMSU phase and after they transfer to the UNM College of Pharmacy. Don’t be shy, we want to hear from you!

Deb Franzoy, Editor

HAPPY JUNIORS!

From left to right: Kristen Pino, Magdalena; Nancy Portillo, Columbus; Sara Aldaz, Carlsbad; Braeden Hadley, Texico; Haley McInnes, Capitan; Callie Bunce, Clovis; Brighton Patch, Alamogordo; Saquib Mohammed, Socorro; and Courtney Kessler, Alto. Not pictured: Contessa Jaramillo, Roswell.

WELCOME FRESHMEN OF 2011

Front row from left to right: Nikki Wagner, Roswell; Katie Lamm, Tucumcari; Kayla Newell, Lordsburg; Brittany Haggard, Carlsbad; Jaron Cadena, Las Cruces; Daniel Goldberg, Belen; Ali Chavez, Clovis. Back row: Danielle Schavz, Las Cruces; Jeff Stewart, Las Cruces; Joaquin Acosta, Las Cruces; Lindsey Pearce, Roswell; Ian Taylor, Edgewood; Connor Doolittle, Texico; and Colton Dant, Clovis.

WELCOME BACK SOPHOMORES

From left to right: Cynthia Madrid, Clovis; Tianna Sevachko, Las Cruces; Dailyn Garcia, Los Lunas; Anica Chairez, Clovis; Tuyen Huynh, Las Cruces; Brendan Chavez, Bent. Back row: Victoria Gries, Tucumcari; Tyler Short, Clovis; George Urias, Las Cruces; Jeremy Madrid, Las Cruces; and Dylan Ostin, Tularosa. Not pictured: Dayna Fletcher, Artesia and Lauré Montes, Ruidoso Downs.
Freshman Colton Dantz was awarded the “4 Point” award from NMSU’s Greek Life and also won the “Outstanding New Member for Fall 2011” from his fraternity, Pi Kappa Alpha. It should also be noted that Pi Kappa Alpha has the highest GPA for NMSU fraternities. Congratulations Colton!

CPP students living in the Pre-Pharmacy Living Learning Community (LLC) take advantage of a wide range of activities planned by this year’s peer advisor, Cynthia Madrid. Students living in the LLC have built-in study partners, classmates and friends who are equally focused on academic and professional success. Activities range from study sessions to fun, social times together.

Freshmen Lindsey Pearce, Katie Lamm and Brittany Haggard make “inspiration bracelets” and discuss the inspirational people in their lives. Amy Buesing, CPP program director, also spoke to the group about getting through tough times by helping each other.

There was a packed house at the Las Cruces Convention Center for the Women’s Luncheon and Fashion Show, held during NMSU’s Tough Enough To Wear Pink (TETWP) campaign in October. Our own Ms. Buesing, in the midst of breast cancer treatment, modeled fashions from a local boutique. Later that week, Ms. Buesing was a guest cannoneer at the Aggie football game!

CPP students, Tianna Sevachko and Victoria Gries, joined Traci White and Deb Franzoy for the luncheon and to cheer on Ms. Buesing at the event.

PHUN PHACT - The UNM/NMSU Cooperative Pharmacy Program encourages CPP students to get involved with many local and nationwide campaigns like TETWP, Poison Prevention Week, Memorial Medical Center (MMC) Flu Shot Drive, United Blood Services and more. Being an active member of the NMSU Pre-Pharmacy Society (PPS) is an integral part of the experiential training CPP students receive during their NMSU phase.
Freshman Brittany Haggard was awarded the President’s Excellence Scholarship, the most prestigious scholarship available to students at New Mexico State University. It is awarded to new entering freshmen with markedly superior academic ability. Selection is competitive and based on proven academic achievements and extracurricular activities. The award pays tuition and fees. Congratulations to Brittany!

Adam Garcia and Robert Altimirano, both from Las Cruces, are the first two CPP students to transfer to the UNM College of Pharmacy. They are currently finishing their third full year in Albuquerque and if authorized, will start 4th year rotations this coming summer (2012). We hope to see more of them around here when they work in Doña Ana County! Congratulations Adam and Robert!

More than 35 students participated in the annual flu drive at Memorial Medical Center which consisted of walk-in and drive-through lines allowing practitioners to quickly and safely administer influenza vaccine. 3,500 free flu shots were provided in 6 hours. Almost all of us received a flu shot, including students, faculty, staff and spouses! What a great learning experience for NMSU pre-pharmacy students.

This fun student tournament sheds light on the topic of breast cancer. The event was part of NMSU’s Tough Enough to Wear Pink week held October 10-15, 2011. Several of our NMSU Pre-Pharmacy Society students participated in the volleyball tournament.

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POISON PREVENTION EDUCATION
by Tianna Sevachko, CPP Sophomore

Three members of the UNM/NMSU Cooperative Pharmacy Program were joined by Dr. White in making a poison prevention presentation to a group of mothers at the Organ Community Center on November 16, 2011. In attendance with Dr. White were Cynthia Madrid, Tianna Sevachko and George Urias, all CPP Sophomores.

The mothers were extremely interested in learning how to minimize threats to their family from household products and first aid treatments they could use to protect their children.

The presentation was successful, even with some technical difficulties. It was a true learning experience for the CPP students, as they had to give the presentation and also explain the video that had the technical difficulties!

Organ is a very small community, so there was not a large audience but the mothers that attended were glad we came.

KEEP STATE GREAT
NMSU Pre-Pharmacy Society students convened on a Saturday in October for NMSU’s largest community service event of the semester: Keep State Great.

Students participated in community service activities designed to improve campus features. Some of the events planned this year were mulching trees, painting curbs, picking up trash, and helping the NMSU Foundation by writing thank you letters to alumni.

More than 1,500 individuals from 105 organizations registered for the event. This year marks the event’s sixth year in existence. The event is held annually the weekend before homecoming weekend.

Pictured above from L to R: Shelby Lewis, Katie Lamm, Aaron Geary, Lindsey Pearce, Brian Mangusing, Ian Taylor, a friend, Lisa Kim and Ashton Robinson.

NMSU PRE-PHARMACY SOCIETY’S ELECTIONS FOR 2012-2013 OFFICERS

The new officers for the 2012-2013 academic school year were elected by the members of the NMSU Pre-Pharmacy Society at the last meeting of the semester on April 24. The outgoing officers (in the gray shirts) passed the “gavel” to the incoming officers along with helpful ideas to start their reign. Outgoing officers were Brian Mangusing, Aaron Geary, Callie Bunce and Lianna Rojas. Incoming officers are Tianna Sevachko-Secretary, George Urias-President, Katie Lamm-Webmaster/Historian and Colton Dant-Vice President.
COURTNEY KESSLER, ASNMSU SENATOR

Courtney Kessler, a Junior in the UNM/NMSU Cooperative Pharmacy Program, serves as the ASNMSU Senator for the College of Arts and Sciences. She sits on the Rules Committee, a special Student Advisory Board Committee, and is a non-voting member of the Arts and Science Council. She loves serving as a student representative and is always happy to meet with students to draft legislation and address any questions and concerns.

Courtney was recently awarded the opportunity to attend the COSGA conference in Washington, D.C., a national student government conference where colleges and universities across the nation get together to discuss ideas to improve their schools. She came home excited to use many new ideas here on the New Mexico State University campus.

Courtney is actively involved in the Zeta Tau Alpha sorority and holds the positions of Risk Management Chair and New Member Assistant. She is also a member of the Honor Society Order of Omega.

Courtney will be transferring to the UNM College of Pharmacy this summer (2012). We wish her the best of luck as she moves to Albuquerque.

OUR VERY OWN PISTOL PETE!

A long standing tradition at NMSU is our lovable mascot, the gun-toting, mustachioed face of Aggie athletics, Pistol Pete! This year, the students who played the part of Pete were graduating from NMSU therefore a search was conducted for two enthusiastic, energetic and crowd-pleasing students to fill their boots (pun intended)!

Auditions were held and each candidate performed two-minute skits in front of a panel of judges. The judges were looking to see “that there was time and effort put into the skit, continuity with the music, crowd appeal, eye contact and that they could look the part!”

Lo and behold, Joaquin Acosta (CPP freshmen) was one of two NMSU students selected to represent “Pistol Pete” at NMSU and community events.

As a Las Cruces native, Joaquin loved to watch Pistol Pete as a kid but never dreamed he would become the lovable character himself when he got to college!

While being Pistol Pete is a lot of fun, it is also a time consuming responsibility. Pistol Pete attends all NMSU sports-related games/meets in addition to alumni, community and charity events. Pistol Pete also earns a $2500 scholarship from the NMSU Alumni Association.

We look forward to seeing Joaquin (as Pistol Pete) in action during the 2012 academic year. Congratulations, Joaquin!

Joaquin Acosta, as Pistol Pete, attends the annual Memorial Medical Center Cancer Survivor’s Day, which CPP Director Amy Buesing also attended. Ms. Buesing recently completed year long treatments for breast cancer.

Article excerpts and information from the Las Cruces Sun News, April 29, 2012.
Sophomore Anica Chairez is spending her summer taking classes, but not here on the NMSU campus, or sitting at her computer taking an online class. She is studying overseas in Barcelona, Spain!

Anica has taken advantage of the NMSU Summer Abroad Program and because she is getting a Bachelor’s Degree in Spanish (yes, while working on her pre-pharmacy prerequisites, serving as ASNMSU Senate Clerk and an active Pre-Pharmacy Society member) Barcelona was a perfect fit.

In a recent email Anica writes, “My walking and exercising is done during sightseeing time when I’m not in class or studying or eating or sleeping! Barcelona is beautiful! I’m so happy to be here! The classes are great and I’m learning a lot. The PCAT is also easier to study for when I’m away from my friends! No offense (guys), but you get me!”

In a second email, “Having the opportunity to study abroad has been the best experience I have ever had. I am really enjoying Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain. It’s such a beautiful city. The people here are so kind. The culture is a bit different from my Mexican culture but not by much. I live in the center of the city, so I see a lot of tourists. I walk down the street and hear so many different languages (Catalan, Spanish, English, French, German, and others I don’t recognize). It fascinates me that so many different types of people are all in the same place.

My school is great. The classes are never boring and I learn something new everyday. Although my first language was Spanish it’s easily forgotten when I speak English on a daily basis, so I can definitely say my vocabulary is expanding and my speech is improving. My classmates are so interesting. Most of the time we spend our time speaking about our countries while learning grammar and vocabulary. It’s amazing how different and how alike the USA is to other countries. I’ve had classmates from France, USA (Texas), South Korea, Brazil, Russia, Holland, Italy and Israel. Every two weeks we have an exam to test if we can advance to the next level so I’m always having different classmates considering I’m already in the highest level.

Barcelona has so much to offer. There are museums everywhere, parks, restaurants/bars, clubs, the beach, a huge zoo and aquarium, fast public transportation, a good climate, kind people, and if tourists watch their stuff closely, a safe environment. The life here is so laid back. Breakfast is around 8:00 a.m., lunch between 2:00-3:00 p.m., and dinner is around 8:00 or 9:00 p.m. Many stores close after lunch to take their daily siesta (a nap) and people are out all the time, the parks are never empty and people will still be walking around at 5:00 a.m., hanging out at the plazas or clubbing. People really value family and friends here. Walking into a place, a greeting is the first thing that is heard. The atmosphere is friendly and lovable. People just seem really happy here.

I’m honored to be a student studying Spanish in Spain. I feel so privileged for the opportunity given to me by the Program and my supporters to allow me to fit this into my required curriculum. I don’t go a day without being thankful. I am truly blessed.”

Top left: Anica at the infamous Arc de Triomf. Above: Leave it to Anica to meet an Aggie Alum, from Clovis, NM, thousands of miles from home! Pictured here with Sunnie Sartin at the Picasso Museum.
NEW MEXICO MISSION OF MERCY COMES TO LAS CRUCES

Students, faculty, staff, nurses, dentists, hygienists, and other volunteer citizens from southern New Mexico spent the first weekend in March volunteering at the first free dental clinic of its size to come to Las Cruces. Held in the Las Cruces Convention Center and sponsored by the New Mexico Dental Foundation, the New Mexico Mission of Mercy project (NMMOM) was a huge success and a great opportunity to serve the public.

NMMOM is a large-scale dental clinic where dental screenings/services are provided at approximately 100 portable dental stations set up in a public arena. Patients are treated on a first-come, first-served basis. Patients wait their turn to see a nurse and a dentist for an initial evaluation and to have their dental needs prioritized. As dentists and dental hygienists became available, patients were guided to specific areas of the dental clinic for teeth cleaning, fillings, extractions, root canal treatments, partials, and/or surgical procedures. Patients were also provided with instruction on how to care for their teeth. Bilingual volunteers were available throughout the clinic to assist non-English speaking patients.

Local community pharmacist Dale Menges served as the coordinator for the pharmacy booth. 21 NMSU pre-pharmacy students and 12 local pharmacists volunteered for four hour shifts at the "temporary" pharmacy. Certified pharmacy technicians assisted in preparing the prescriptions and patients were then counseled by a licensed pharmacist.

What a great learning experience and a great chance to serve the community. The next NMMOM will be held in 2013 in Farmington, NM.

LAUREN GRAHAM
Lauren is finishing her 2nd year at UNM and presented a new program to the NMSU Pre-Pharmacy Society at the April meeting. The program, Generation Rx, is intended to raise awareness about the misuse and abuse of prescription drugs.
LLC POTATO DAY

Last February, the Pre-Pharmacy LLC residents learned about the health benefits of potatoes when they celebrated “Potato Awareness Month!” Who knew?

Students were given an assignment: to research the potato and bring an article to Mrs. Franzoy’s house on a Saturday afternoon where they would later experiment in the kitchen, using the potato to create a variety of yummy recipes. Additionally, Ms. Buesing had a big surprise for them.

So what did we learn about the potato on “Potato Day?” The students found the most interesting articles and shared the information with the group. Did you know that a pharmacist was the first person to promote the nutritional benefits of the crop? Antoine Augustine Parmentier was a pharmacist, chemist and employee of Louis XV while being held prisoner by the Prussians during the Seven Years War! Prior to Parmentier’s discovery, potatoes were considered fodder for animals and inconsumable for humans! It’s a fascinating story you can read for yourself on Google.

Meanwhile, in Mrs. Franzoy’s kitchen, recipes, potatoes and utensils were flying! Students prepared mashed potatoes, potato salad, microwave potato chunks, potato pancakes, sweet potato chips and fries! Now, that’s a lot of potatoes! Mr. Franzoy and Mr. Buesing also cooked hamburgers and hotdogs on the grill to counteract all that starch! Everything turned out very yummy!

Finally, the big surprise! Mr. Buesing had borrowed a potato gun from a friend and got it ready for the shooting. What a blast shooting potatoes into the desert, some with more accuracy than others! It made our first “Potato Day”such a huge success that the students said they would like to make “Potato Day” an annual event. Who knew?