

# UNMC student organizations

## **Academy of Students of Pharmacy**

All students enrolled in the College of Pharmacy are encouraged to join the Academy of Students of Pharmacy (ASP), which is the student chapter of the American Pharmaceutical Association. This national association was organized in 1852 and traditionally represents the broad interests of professionals in pharmacy. Membership in the student chapter serves to identify students with their chosen profession and allows them to participate in a number of academic, professional, and social activities, including attendance at APhA regional and national meetings, participation in the APhA-USP Patient Counseling Competition, various patient education programs (Brown Bag Medication Counseling, the Visiting Nurses Association Project Hope, and Elder Shelter), and the Annual Vennelyst Park Picnic.

## **Alpha Omega Alpha**

AOA is a nonsecret, national medical college honorary society. Membership is based upon scholarship and moral qualifications. Elections conducted by the membership are limited to those whose scholastic record places them in the upper 25 percent of their class, but the total number of new members selected may not exceed one-sixth of the total number expected to graduate. The University of Nebraska chapter was organized November 2, 1914.

## **[American Academy of Family Physicians \(AAFP\)](#)**

Also known as the Family Practice Club, this organization was formed to provide fuller exposure to the specialty of family practice and the education needed for this specialty. Meetings provide information about residency programs in the Midwest and elsewhere. This organization also allows student participation at the state level and exposes students to organized medicine.

## **American Medical Association (AMA)**

### **Nebraska Medical Association (NMA)**

The American Medical Association Medical Student Section (AMA-MSS) is dedicated to improving medical education, developing leadership, and promoting activism for the health of America. The Nebraska Medical Association - Medical Student Chapter (NMA-MS) is the official student branch of the Nebraska Medical Association and is designed to initiate student participation in organized medicine at an early stage in the future physician's medical career. Through membership in NMA-MS, students from all medical school classes can participate directly in NMA activities and work alongside practicing physicians throughout the state of Nebraska.

## **[American Medical Student Association \(AMSA\)](#)**

More than 20,000 medical students in American medical schools are AMSA members. The AMSA chapter of the University of Nebraska College of Medicine is one of the largest in the country, and is one of the most influential. AMSA represents student views concerning health care delivery and all current medical issues. In addition, AMSA provides many valuable services. For example, through the MECO project, freshman students can go on a four-week clinical rotation with a practicing physician in the summer after their first year. AMSA arranges for freshman students to spend time in the University Hospital Emergency Room and organizes noon conferences and films of student interest. At Nebraska, AMSA has developed community services such as interdisciplinary health teams and health screening.

**[American Medical Women Association \(AMWA\)](#)** AMWA is a national forum for women physicians and medical students. The UNMC student chapter's role is to bring together medical students and physicians, to promote their training and education, and to encourage women to practice and study medicine. Activities include peer support sessions, guest speakers, discussion groups, social gatherings, and educational outreach programs.

### **Emergency Medicine Interest Group (EMIG)**

The Emergency Medicine Interest Group (EMIG) is an organization whose purpose is to expose students to the practice of emergency medicine through a variety of events and meetings. It is a student-run organization that elicits the help of various emergency physicians for the task of introducing the basic concepts and skills needed in an emergency department.

**Graduate Student Association.** The Graduate Student Association of the University of Nebraska Medical Center (GSA-UNMC) is open to all students in an approved graduate program. The GSA-UNMC serves as a voice for the graduate students at the Medical Center, investigating and proposing solutions to problems unique to graduate students.

The GSA-UNMC annually elects a representative to the Medical Center Graduate Council.

### **Kappa Epsilon Professional Fraternity**

Kappa Epsilon (KE) is a professional fraternity for students in pharmacy. The purpose of this organization is to promote an active interest in the advancement of women in the pharmacy profession and to provide an avenue for communication between those interested in the profession. Professional projects include assisting the Visiting Nurses Association Project Hope, Red Cross blood drives, and grade school poison prevention programs.

### **Kappa Psi Professional Fraternity**

Kappa Psi Fraternity was founded in 1879 and is the world's largest professional pharmaceutical fraternity. In addition to the social benefits of fraternal affiliation, Kappa Psi offers the opportunity for attainment of greater professional competency and achievement within the profession of pharmacy. In turn, it requires a certain level of scholastic achievement of each prospective member and then provides an environment conducive to continued scholarly pursuit.

### **Organization of Student Representatives**

The OSR, established by action of the Assembly of the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC), provides a mechanism for making student opinion known to the AAMC. Students have two votes on the AAMC Executive Council and are recommended to standing committees. An appointed representative from the University of Nebraska Medical Center attends the AAMC Annual Meeting.

### **Phi Chi**

Medical society, open to all UNMC medical students.

### **Phi Rho Sigma - Iota Chapter**

The Iota Chapter of Phi Rho Sigma is open to all UNMC medical students. Its major goal is to inform students of different aspects of medicine which might not be covered in their regular academic curriculum. It seeks to foster a sense of community among medical students through a variety of social gatherings. The Iota Chapter at UNMC is one of the largest in the nation.

### **Pulse**

UNMC's Married Student Group. Pulse is a student-run organization that brings together students who have in common the

experience of married and/or family life.

### **Rho Chi Honor Society**

The Rho Chi Society is the national pharmacy honor society. Rho Chi recognizes superior academic achievement and promotes scholarly fellowship in pharmacy. Undergraduate students qualify for election and invitation to membership in Rho Chi based primarily on the cumulative GPA and academic standing in the upper 20 percent of their class. Major activities include an annual initiation banquet and participation in professional programs, such as the Annual Rho Chi/Nebraska Pharmacists Association New Drug Seminar, to raise funds for an annual scholarship.

### **Student Alliance for Global Health (SAGH)**

SAGH promotes local awareness of cultural and linguistic health issues, provides more sensitive health services within Nebraska, educates and informs students from all UNMC graduate programs about global health issues, and promotes and facilitates placement of students on international rotations and exchanges.

### **Student Association for Rural Health (SARH)**

SARH was organized by students at the Medical Center to promote interest in health careers in rural areas of Nebraska. Outreach programs encourage youth in rural areas to consider medical careers. The Association supports students who have expressed interest in rural health. Through its New Alliance program, SARH members representing each health care profession visit schools and community organizations the state. Membership is open to all UNMC students.

### **Student National Medical Association (SNMA)**

The SNMA is a nonprofit corporate association of multicultural students in pursuit of a medical education. SNMA is dedicated to leadership development, social awareness, service to humanity, and excellence as a physician.

### **Student Senate**

The Medical Center Student Senate governs the organization and regulation of student activities of the College of Medicine, College of Nursing, College of Pharmacy, School of Allied Health Professions, and UNMC students in the Graduate College. It serves as a liaison group between students in the various disciplines and works toward the common goals of students at UNMC. Students in each college or school elect representatives to serve on the Medical Center Student Senate. The President of the Student Senate serves as a representative on the University of Nebraska Board of Regents.

### **Students of the University of Nebraska for Drug Abuse Education**

The Students of the University of Nebraska for Drug Abuse Education (SUNDAE), started in 1989 with a core group of students and a faculty sponsor, offers a comprehensive educational program for students in grades 6-8. SUNDAE members are students in the health care professions (pharmacy, medicine, nursing, allied health) who are interested in using their knowledge to educate grade school students about alcohol and other drugs. The information presented is a factual look at the pharmacology of drugs and drug abuse, and the program has been tailored to fit the needs of individual schools in the Omaha area. Presentations, usually lasting approximately 45 minutes, consist of a general overview of drug action and addiction plus a more detailed discussion on one or more specific classes of drugs (e.g., anabolic steroids, alcohol, marijuana, cocaine, inhalants, caffeine). To schedule a speaker, call Dr. David Scott at (402) 559-4621 between the hours of 9:30 a.m. and 3 p.m.

### **Whole Medicine: A Holistic Medical Group**

This group is open to UNMC students who wish to explore alternative and complementary medical therapies and beliefs.

