

# Student Pulse



Cabarrus College of Health Sciences | March 2015

## March Important Events and Deadlines

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
2	3	4 <b>St. Patrick's Day Cookie Bar</b> 11am to 1pm   lobby	5	6  <i>Change of Major forms due by 5pm</i>
9	10	11	12	13
<b>SPRING BREAK!</b> College closed Monday & Tuesday				
16 <b>SGA Meeting</b> 10am   room 236 All students welcome!	17	18	19	20  <i>Intent to Graduate forms due for all students graduating December 2015</i>
23	24	25 <b>SGA event</b> 11am—1pm   lobby Come paint a flower pot and plant some seeds to take home in honor of spring!	26	27  <i>Last day to drop a course without academic penalty for Full Spring</i>
30	31			
<b>REGISTRATION OPENS:</b> March 29th for Master and Bachelor students March 31st for Associate and Diploma students				

# Campus News & Updates

## Registration

Be sure to make an appointment to meet with your advisor before registration opens to discuss what you will need to register for in the summer & fall semesters.

Registration opens on March 29<sup>th</sup> for Master and Bachelor students and on March 31<sup>st</sup> for Associate and Diploma students.

## Continuing Education Updates

*Let your friends and family know about our upcoming Nurse Aid I and CPR/AHA Healthcare Provider II classes!*

### UPCOMING NURSE AID I CLASS

Class dates: March 3 to April 15

Class meets every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8am to 3:30pm

Clinical Days are 7am to 3pm at CMC-NorthEast and The Gardens of Taylor Glen

### UPCOMING CPR/AHA HEALTHCARE PROVIDER PART II CLASSES

Students must complete American Heart Association BCLS Online Part I prior to registering for Part II (skills). More information can be found here:

[http://www.cabarruscollege.edu/programs/continuing\\_education/courses.cfm](http://www.cabarruscollege.edu/programs/continuing_education/courses.cfm).

### CPR/AHA PART II CLASS HOURS

March 9: 2-4pm

March 23: 10am-12pm

April 13: 2-4pm

April 27: 10am-12pm

May 4: 2-4pm

May 18: 10am-12pm

## Scholarship News

### Cabarrus College Hosts Annual Scholarship Dinner

Cabarrus College hosted its annual scholarship dinner on January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at the Union Street Bistro. Each year students who apply for the Endowed Scholarships (see below) and are selected by the scholarship committee attend this event. This is a wonderful evening and provides the scholarship donor with the chance to meet their student recipient. 22 student recipients attended representing scholarships in the amount of \$64,193. Lisa Gullede, a current OTA student, spoke to the attendees

about what it has meant to her to receive the Anita A. and Terry L. Brown Endowed Scholarship.



### 2015-2016 Cabarrus College Endowed Scholarship Application

Will you be attending Cabarrus College during the 2015-2016 school year? Are you interested in applying to be considered for an Endowed Scholarship? Watch your student email at the beginning of April for the application and details. The Endowed Scholarship application will be emailed to all students and will need to be completed and returned by the end of May.



# Campus News & Updates

## Financial Aid Corner

### 5 Reasons You Should Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid

1. It's FREE!
2. It's easier than ever when you use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool.
3. It takes less than 21 minutes to complete.
4. More people qualify than you'd think.
5. You'll need it to apply for state and federal financial aid and private scholarships!



**Awesome video! Really gets me thinking!**  
**I challenge you to take 2 minutes and watch it now at**

<http://studentaid.ed.gov/sites/default/files/budgeting.wmv>

## FELS Scholarship!

The NC Forgivable Education Loan for Service application is now available at:

<http://www.cfnc.org/Gateway?command=GetBasedProgramDetail&note=no&type=13&vocType=-1&vocational=no&id=159>

Students who will be enrolled during the 2015-16 school year in one of the eligible programs below are encouraged to check out the information available at the link above and consider applying.

Nursing- Associate and Bachelors  
Occupational Therapy- Associate and Masters  
Pharmacy Technology  
Medical Imaging- Bachelors

**Deadline to apply is April 1, 2015**

Applications will be reviewed on a first-come, first-served basis



## Pharm Tech Alumni Accepted in to PharmD Program



Congratulations to Samantha Smith, AS, CPhT, who was accepted into the Class of 2019 at Wingate University School of Pharmacy. Ms. Smith is a 2013 graduate of the Associate of Science in Pharmacy Technology Program, and began pre-pharmacy studies at Wingate after graduation. She currently works as a Certified Pharmacy Technician at Food Lion Pharmacy in China Grove. We look forward to watching her grow in her education and career!



# Program News

## NCOTA Advocacy Day

Submitted by Amy Mahle, Occupational Therapy Assistant Instructor

Cabarrus College was well represented at the North Carolina Occupational Therapy Association Advocacy Day on Wednesday, February 4 in Raleigh at the Legislative Complex. Eleven OTA students, two OTA alumni, and two faculty members left campus at 5 am to arrive in Raleigh for the day. They met with other occupational therapy practitioners and students from across the state to lobby for occupational therapy. Attendees were able to have individual and small group meetings with their Representatives and Senators to not only underscore the importance of occupational therapy for clients, but also as a career path. Jared Stone, OTA/S, stated, "I felt by educating the Senators and Representatives about OT we not only helped them but helped ourselves learn how to



Current students with faculty (Amy Mahle and Amber Ward) and alumni (Deborah Dorsett COTA/L and Michelle Martin COTA/L).

work towards our goals and future goal to best serve our clients." Heidi Bishop, OTA/S reflected on the day, "It was a powerful experience to be in a powerful place and see where change is made in North Carolina. As students, it is easy to get caught up in the details of our classwork, but our visit to the legislature was a reminder that big picture decisions are made in our state's Capitol that will affect our practice someday. Involvement is the way to help ensure informed decisions are made that will benefit our patients in the long run".



Off-road wheelchair from the NC Wildlife Officials. There are 9 located across NC for free use in State Parks!

## New Equipment Donations!

Submitted by Annette Simmons, Pharmacy Technology Program Chair



Pharmacy technology students at Cabarrus College of Health Sciences now have two additional pieces of laboratory equipment essential to preparing sterile intravenous medications, thanks to gifts from Novant Health Rowan Medical Center in Salisbury, NC and Neil Medical Group in Mooresville, NC. Novant Rowan Medical Center recently donated a Glovebox Isolator for students to use as a sterile environment for making chemotherapy and other injectable medications. Neil Medical Group donated a laminar flow hood, also called an IV hood, which also simulates the sterile compounding environment.

"Until recently, we had only one hood for the students to share and rotate through during their practice and simulations," said Annette Simmons, chair of the pharmacy technology program. "This donation brings us to two IV hoods and a glovebox in the lab for students to utilize, providing more time and space to strengthen their sterile

compounding skills."

Simmons said the cost of an IV hood could range between \$1,000 and \$10,000. Rich Andrews, Pharmacy Operations Manager at Neil Medical Group, said the donation was made when new equipment was installed. "To be 797 compliant we needed to get a Glove Box Hood," Andrews said. Dr. Carla Kennedy, Pharmacy Manager at Novant Health Rowan Medical Center, contacted Ms. Simmons when the inpatient pharmacy no longer needed their isolator glovebox. "It is over 15 years old but has never been used," Kennedy said.

The pharmacy technician program at Cabarrus College of Health Sciences provides students with the skills and knowledge to enable them to qualify for entry- and advanced-level positions in pharmacies as well as prepare for the national certification exam.



# Pharmacy Technology News

## Cabarrus College of Health Sciences' Pharmacy Technology Program Prepares for Pharmacy Tech Certification Changes

*Submitted by Annette Simmons, Pharmacy Technology Program Chair*

Due to the increased roles and responsibilities of pharmacy technicians, the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board (PTCB), began phasing in changes to its certification program in 2013, and will continue implementing changes through 2020. According to its website, the PTCB asserts, "The new changes will advance pharmacy technician qualifications by elevating PTCB's standards for national certification and recertification." The PTCB awards the nationally-recognized designation Certified Pharmacy Technician, or CPhT, through the successful completion of an initial exam. To maintain certification, 20 hours of continuing education is required every two years.

Annette Simmons, Program Chair of the Pharmacy Technology Program at Cabarrus College, has been carefully monitoring the PTCB changes to ensure the program's curriculum exceeds national standards and to inform students, graduates, and technicians of the new requirements. Simmons states, "In 2013, the PTCB introduced a new certification exam designed to be more challenging and applicable to current technician roles. Of the 20 CE credits required every two years, PTCB requires one hour of CE in pharmacy law, and as of 2014, one hour focusing on Medication Safety."

Starting in 2015, all pharmacy technician continuing education credits must be Pharmacy Technician-specific. Certified pharmacy technicians may no longer count CEs targeted toward pharmacists, nurses, or other providers toward their PTCB recertification requirements. This change is intended to ensure technicians are receiving continuing education in topics that are relevant to their work activities. In addition, CE credits awarded for college coursework will decrease from 15 to 10 hours beginning in 2016, and credits for on-the-job training will be phased out completely by 2018.

The most prominent change regarding PTCB certification will take place in the year 2020, when only graduates from programs accredited by the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) will be permitted to sit for the PTCB exam. Simmons says, "Our associate degree program is well-prepared for the new requirements. We are ASHP-accredited, and have adapted our curriculum to prepare students for the more challenging exam. We also aim to host several technician-specific CE events in the upcoming years to help current technicians meet their CE requirements, since technician-specific CEs are not as plentiful as those for other professions."

Simmons is hopeful the new requirements will bring about changes to how pharmacy technicians are regarded by patients and other healthcare providers. "Pharmacy Technology is a career field in its own right. While my ultimate goal is to improve patient safety and reduce medication errors through education, I'm excited to see a higher standard put behind our credentials. We prepare intravenous chemotherapy, manage huge inventories of medications, and manage accurate patient medication files, just to name a few crucial responsibilities. In upcoming years, I look forward to seeing the professional status of pharmacy technicians catch up with the real impact we have on patient care."





# 3rd Annual Wheelchair Basketball Tournament

*Submitted by Meredith Clark, OTA student*



The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Wheelchair Basketball Tournament was held Saturday, February 21, at the Kannapolis YMCA. SOTA organized the event, partnering with the Charlotte Rollin' Hornets, a program that provides opportunities for youth and adults with disabilities to pursue active, healthy lifestyles in adaptive sports.

The event had a terrific turnout with an estimated 150 people in attendance. OTA students, faculty and staff, along with family, friends, and Cabarrus College alumni all came out to participate and show support for the fundraiser. The tournament began with an exhibition game between the Rollin' Hornets' junior and adult teams to showcase the rules and techniques of wheelchair basketball (and to show us how they roll!). Able-bodied teams then competed in playoffs to see who would take on the Rollin' Hornets in the final game. The lineup was as follows:

Game 1: **OT/OTA Students** vs. Nursing

Game 2: **OTA Alumni** vs. Faculty, Staff, Administration, & Family/Friends

Game 3: OT/OTA Students vs. **OTA Alumni**

Game 4: OTA Alumni vs. **Charlotte Rollin' Hornets**

OT/OTA Students took the win in the first game, while OTA Alumni won Game 2. Both teams advanced to play each other in Game 3. OTA Alumni finished as the top able-bodied team, winning Game 3 and securing the right to play the Rollin' Hornets adult team for the final game. The Rollin' Hornets won the tournament, with a final score of 32 - 6.

Proceeds from the event will go towards travel expenses for the Rollin' Hornets, and help fund community benefit and professional activities for the Cabarrus College Student Occupational Therapy Association.

To learn more about the Charlotte Rollin' Hornets and their mission, check out their Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/rollinhornets>



# Chris' Corner

From Chris Corsello, Dean, Student Affairs & Enrollment Management

## Puppies for Sale

A farmer had some puppies he needed to sell. He painted a sign advertising the pups and set about nailing his sign to a post on the edge of his yard. As he was driving the last nail into the post, he felt a tug on his overalls. He looked down into the eyes of a little boy.

"Mister," he said, "I want to buy one of your puppies."



"Well," said the farmer, as he rubbed the sweat off the back of his neck, "these puppies come from fine parents and cost a good deal of money."

The boy dropped his head for a moment. Then reaching deep into his pocket, he pulled out a handful of change and held it up to the farmer. "I've got thirty-nine cents. Is that enough to take a look?"

"Sure," said the farmer. And with that he let out a whistle, "Here, Dolly!" he called.

Out from the doghouse and down the ramp ran Dolly followed by four little balls of fur. The little boy pressed his face against the chain link fence. His eyes danced with delight. As the dogs made their way to the fence, the little boy noticed something else stirring inside the doghouse. Slowly another little ball appeared; this one noticeably smaller. Down the ramp it slid. Then in a somewhat awkward manner the little pup began hobbling toward the others, doing its best to catch up. "I want that one," the little boy said, pointing to the runt.

The farmer knelt down at the boy's side and said, "Son, you don't want that puppy. He will never be able to run and play with you like these other dogs would."

With that the little boy stepped back from the fence, reached down, and began rolling up one leg of his trousers. In doing so he revealed a steel brace running down both sides of his leg attaching itself to a specially made shoe. Looking back up at the farmer, he said, "You see sir, I don't run too well myself, and he will need someone who understands."

The world is full of people who need someone who understands – I hope you are one of them!