

# MUSOP BULLETIN

Marshall University School of Pharmacy

October 2025

## From the Dean

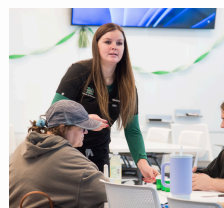


DR. ERIC BLOUGH, PHD  
DEAN

Welcome to the October 2025 edition of the MUSOP Bulletin. In this issue, we are delighted to share with you some of the highlights from our Pink Halloween Women's Health Fair, where community partners and students came together for screenings, education, and festive fun. You'll also read about Pharmacy Month in Huntington - its rich history, our outreach efforts, and how we're celebrating the profession. We are also proud to recognize Cassie Kellogg as Student of the Month for her leadership in study groups and volunteer clinics, and we've included helpful resources for Learning Disabilities Awareness Month, along with fall nutrition tips in our Health Habits Corner. Finally, we recap the engaging Pfizer 3D Drug Discovery Workshop. Thanks for joining us as we continue to advance pharmacy education, patient care, and professional growth - right here in Huntington and beyond!

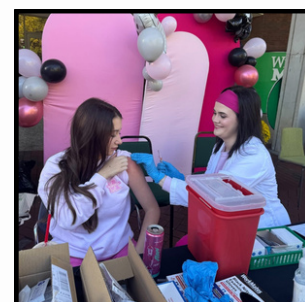
## Fall 2025 Preview Day

This month MUSOP welcomed high school and college students to our Fall Preview Day. Approximately 25 students and guests attended the event, which offered an immersive look into life at MUSOP. They were given the opportunity to participate in active learning, hands-on compounding, flipped classrooms, and more. Thanks to our dedicated faculty, staff, and student ambassadors for a successful event. We look forward to supporting these future pharmacists on their journey!



## MUSOP APhA-ASP Chapter

MUSOP's APhA-ASP chapter painted the campus pink during their 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Women's Health Fair outside the Memorial Student Center. This year's "Pink Halloween" theme provided the backdrop for several healthcare initiatives, including vaccinations, Plan B distribution, a clothing and bake sale, as well as Halloween-themed giveaways.



This digital newsletter connects you to many of our other online sources of information. As this newsletter continues to evolve, we encourage your feedback and story ideas by emailing [sopnews@marshall.edu](mailto:sopnews@marshall.edu).

# Pharmacy Month: Its Origins, Meaning, and Why It Should Matter to You

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You might think of your local pharmacy as just a place to pick up prescriptions, but it's so much more than that. This October, we're diving into the history, meaning, and significance of Pharmacy Month, and highlighting the vital role pharmacists and pharmacy technicians play in our communities and overall health. Get ready to learn something new about the dedicated professionals who are always there to help us stay healthy and informed.

Pharmacy Month, observed annually in October, has a rich history rooted in recognizing and promoting the pharmacy profession. Its origins can be traced back to the late 1920s, when the American Pharmaceutical Association (APhA), now the American Pharmacists Association, first designated a week to celebrate the profession. Over time, this week expanded into a month-long celebration, reflecting the growing importance and complexity of the pharmacist's role. The official designation of "Pharmacy Month" aimed to raise public awareness about the crucial services pharmacists provide beyond simply dispensing medications. It was a way to educate communities about the expanding responsibilities of pharmacists in patient care, medication safety, and public health.

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## More Than Just Pills: The Meaning of Pharmacy Month Today

Pharmacy Month is much more than just a ceremonial observance. It's a crucial opportunity to:

- **Raise Awareness:** Highlight the expanding role of pharmacists in patient care, from medication management to immunizations to health screenings.
- **Promote Education:** Educate the public about the importance of medication adherence, proper drug disposal, and the risks of drug interactions.
- **Recognize Excellence:** Acknowledge the contributions of pharmacists and pharmacy technicians to improving patient outcomes and advancing public health.
- **Advocate for the Profession:** Support policies that enable pharmacists to practice at the top of their license and provide comprehensive pharmaceutical care.

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## The Significance: Why Pharmacy Matters to You

So, why should you care about Pharmacy Month? Because pharmacy directly impacts your health and well-being! Pharmacists are often the most accessible healthcare professionals in our communities. They are medication experts who can answer your questions, address your concerns, and help you manage your health conditions.

Here are just a few ways pharmacists make a difference:

- **Medication Counseling:** Pharmacists provide personalized counseling on how to take your medications safely and effectively.
- **Immunizations:** Many pharmacists offer vaccinations, making it easier than ever to protect yourself from preventable diseases.
- **Medication Management:** Pharmacists can help you manage multiple medications and identify potential drug interactions.
- **Health Screenings:** Some pharmacies offer health screenings, such as blood pressure checks and cholesterol tests.
- **Chronic Disease Management:** Pharmacists can help you manage chronic conditions like diabetes, asthma, and heart disease.

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## Call to Action

This Pharmacy month, take a moment to appreciate the pharmacists and pharmacy technicians in your community. Here are a few ways you can show your support:

- **Say Thank You:** A simple "thank you" can go a long way in showing your appreciation for their hard work and dedication.
  - **Ask Questions:** Don't hesitate to ask your pharmacist questions about your medication or health conditions.
  - **Spread the Word:** Share this newsletter with your friends and family to raise awareness about the importance of pharmacy.
  - **Support Local Pharmacies:** Choose to support your local pharmacies, which are often small businesses that contribute to the well-being of your community.
  - **Advocate for Pharmacy:** Contact your elected officials and let them know you support policies that enable pharmacists to provide comprehensive pharmaceutical care.
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# Student of the Month

This month, we would like to congratulate Cassie Kellogg as our Student of the Month. Cassie has recently taken on the role of president of Phi Lambda Sigma. She is working diligently to revive this organization and make it more active than it has been in recent years.

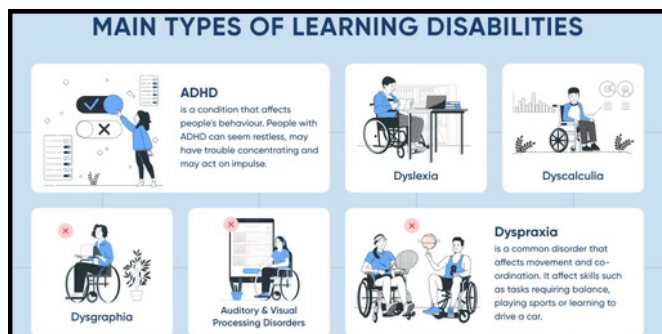
Cassie is eagerly working to make it a staple here at MUSOP by helping our students find leadership and career development opportunities.



congratulations!



## October is Learning Disabilities Awareness Month



LDAM was established in 1985 by President Ronald Reagan to raise awareness about learning disabilities such as dyslexia, ADHD, and dyscalculia. The month aims to educate the public about these conditions, promote acceptance, and highlight the unique strengths and perspectives of individuals with learning disabilities.

## Healthier Eating Habits

A healthy diet can help reduce the risk of some health conditions. Picking up some beneficial habits now might help avoid having to make abrupt changes later.

- Learns the basics of a healthy diet
- Make a plan
- A dietitian can help

Click the link below to learn more.

[Mayo Clinic Press](#)





# Celebrating Pharmacy Week at MUSOP

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## RxCellence Week at MUSOP

The Department of Pharmacy Practice, Administration, and Research is excited to be hosting a variety of events throughout the week! See the list below of all of the events, and the chance to win a gift card.

### *Monday* REFILL YOUR MIND

Twenty-five minutes of yoga and meditation starting at noon in the P3 classroom



### *Tuesday* RX IQ: TRIVIA SHOWDOWN

Gather a group of your friends and colleagues and meet us in the P3 classroom at noon for pub trivia and popcorn

### *Wednesday* PHARMACY MONTH SPEAKER

Join us at noon to hear our guest speaker, Wes Keck of The Medicine Shoppe



### *Thursday* RX RUNWAY

Dress as your favorite medication

### *Friday* CAREER FAIR/TEA & TINCTURES

Relax before the Career Fair with herbal teas, honey, and a few treats in the Student Lounge



# Pfizer 3D Drug Discovery Event

We recently hosted a Drug Discovery and Development Workshop facilitated by members of Pfizer research, business development, and medical affairs with a broad understanding and experience of the Pfizer drug discovery and development process..

During this event, students were presented with the chance to experience firsthand what it takes to develop an innovative drug from early target ideas through clinical trials to the market. They learned the key decisions a project team must make to shorten the development time, contain costs, and beat the competition in the marketplace. Essential takeaways included the key elements of how internal and external investors trade off critical factors (technical, financial, regulatory, and commercial) to maintain a competitive portfolio for long-term growth. Students also learned the kind of time, money, and risk trade-offs that have to be considered as they advance a project.

The learning objectives for the project included:

- Explain the trade-offs between time, money, and product attributes that influence drug development strategies, as well as a drug candidate's likelihood of success.
- Understand the goal of Pfizer's drug development process and what that means in practice.
  - A marketed product with optimal value to the patient.
- Describe the different stages and the activities that underlie them.
  - Commercial evaluation, disease area focus, and target selection as the foundation of the discovery and development process.
  - Learn the key steps in preclinical, Phase 1, Phase 2, and Phase 3, as well as criteria for advancing to the next phase.
  - Recognize the contributions made by the various groups that play a role during each stage.
  - How we engage with patients, regulators, physicians, and payers.

This interactive simulation allowed our students to play part of a project team trying to get a virtual drug on the market by the end of the session while facing the same hurdles faced in real-world drug discovery.



## Looking to hire a MUSOP Alumni?

Does your company or organization have opportunities, such as FT or PT jobs, internships, fellowships, or volunteer opportunities that our student pharmacists and alumni may be qualified for? If so, we would love to share with them. Please submit your opportunities through the following link:

<https://www.marshall.edu/pharmacy/opportunity-form/>

