



Establishing a New Student Organization - Inclusive of both Graduate and Professional Students

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Background

This poster describes lessons learned from establishing a new student organization at a School of Pharmacy, outside of the usual PharmD organizational structure, to include primarily graduate students, while also including professional students with research interests. The poster describes the vision, implementation, difficulties, and leadership development for the students.

Vision

A primarily graduate student organization was envisioned as part of the Biophysical Society. The vision for the organization's mission was centered on the development of a series of events focusing on 1/ scientific and professional development, 2/ service and outreach, and 3/ networking and socializing.

Implementation

The Biophysical Society (<https://www.biophysics.org/>) is a national organization, increasing in prominence in research in pharmacy schools in terms of drug discovery, with many graduate and professional students being members. Comparable to the traditional American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists (AAPS), student chapters are included, but logistics for establishing such chapters are not clear at the campus level.

A major problem encountered was: Where does the organization “fit” within the University structure?

This was important for official signatures for documentation and financial aspects. The traditional SGA (PharmD) said it wasn't part of their structure, the UGSA (graduate) said it wasn't part of their structure, and the University said it wasn't part of theirs....it was pass-the-parcel.

Administrative Solutions

A strong faculty advisor was necessary, along with dedicated leadership within the students. Involving Associate Deans helped to some extent, but every institution is going to be different, and require their own approaches. This results in strong leadership development for the students

Events

In spite of the administrative issues, the main three goals described in the vision were embraced by the student members. These included:

- Presenting research at professional meetings
- Community outreach events to Baltimore
- Networking events for career prospects
- Recruitment activities for future students

Industry Career Panel
Interested in a career in industry? Join BPS for our career panel! Our hosts will share their journeys and provide valuable advice on navigating the professional field!

Danté Johnson, Ph.D.
Product Specialist of North America EVOSEP

Suraj Adhikary, Ph.D.
Senior Scientist, Structural and Protein Science at Johnson & Johnson

Alecia Dent, Ph.D.
Senior Scientist, Preclinical and Translational Pharmacokinetic and Pharmacodynamic Department at Genentech

Payal Chatterjee, Ph.D.
Principal Scientist, Computational chemistry at Cogent Biosciences

In-Person: PH N111
Refreshments provided in Balch Gallery N104

Virtual: Cisco Webex

Friday, February 23rd, 2024
2:00-3:00 PM

Umb Biophysical Society
Follow us on Twitter
https://twitter.com/umb_bps

DATE: MARCH 18TH, 2024 2-3PM
LOCATION: PH N111

\$75 PRIZE!

\$50 PRIZE!

3 MINUTE THESIS COMPETITION

Join UMB BPS as we celebrate Biophysics Week with a 3MT Competition!

Virtual Option

Follow us on Twitter @umb_bps

Biophysical Society
BiophysicsWeek
March 18-22, 2024

BIOPHYSICS IN PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES

As part of the Biophysical Society's Biophysics Week (3/21-3/25, 2022), the University of Maryland Baltimore's Student Chapter presents "Biophysics in Pharmaceutical Sciences". A series of flash talks from five graduate students in the Pharmaceutical Sciences Ph.D. program. In each talk, you'll hear about the biophysical techniques used to fulfill each student's research objectives. Following the flash talks, guests will have the opportunity to ask questions to a student panel comprised of the presenters.

ACSCS
Chemistry for Life

JULIET OBI
SHENEIL BLACK
AZIZA FRANK
CATHERINE LADIPO
AARION ROMANY

LOCATION: GOOGLE MEET
[HTTPS://MEET.GOOGLE.COM/PME-ETIR-VDU](https://meet.google.com/PME-ETIR-VDU)

FRIDAY, 25 MARCH 2022
12:00-1:30 PM EST

BIOPHYSICAL SOCIETY
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
BALTIMORE
STUDENT CHAPTER

UMB BPS STUDENT CHAPTER
INVITES UMB GRADUATE STUDENTS TO JOIN OUR ORGANIZATION

The Biophysical Society (BPS) Student Chapter program is one of the Biophysical Society's most successful and longest-running programs with an active presence in over 100 institutions. Currently, there are over 30 BPS student chapters around the globe and the UMB BPS student chapter was officially formed in February 2021.

OBJECTIVES

- Promote continued professional growth in the area of biophysics among our members, and encourage professional responsibilities including ethical, social, economic, and safety considerations.
- Engage in educational outreach among local high schools and colleges to promote and inspire future generations of biophysical scientists and biophysical society members.

ACTIVITIES

To celebrate Biophysics Week held in March, we introduced our student chapter and biophysics research to undergraduate students at Coacher college, through a webinar presentation.

Our student chapter was involved in the first ever organized Black in Biophysics week (BBiPhWeek), led aside to recognize and celebrate Black scientists in biophysics.

We organized our first social hangout for the chapter in form of a craftfest and picnic at a park. Members enjoyed board, dining, and played different sports to get to know one another.

CHAPTER OFFICERS

President: Kyle Kline
Vice President: Juliet Obi
Secretary: Alys Smith
Treasurer: Catherine Ladipo
Social Media Manager: Aarion Romany
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Daniel Deredge

For any questions or inquiries on how to join, email us at umbbps23@hotmail.com

Follow our Twitter page @umb_bps

Conclusions

The need for a faculty champion was essential, as was the critical mass of faculty and graduate students with an interest in the area for long-term health of membership. Important considerations for the strength of the organization are core principles consistent with aims of the graduate student body – research, professional development, networking, outreach, and recruiting. The recruitment was particularly important, as current students are far better prepared to reach potential students than faculty.