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The Script is an unofficial, student-managed publication that provides the University of Houston College of Pharmacy student body with news, articles, and opinions relating to our school, students, and profession.

This edition of the Script and previous editions are also available on the Pharmacy Council website at:

[www.uhpharmacycouncil.org](http://www.uhpharmacycouncil.org)





## + Quote of the Month with Austin Hinkel

### “Summertime, and the living’s easy.”

This little phrase embodies the essence of what summer is all about, with truer words about the sunny season difficult to come by. Although, “Why is it so hot outside?” and “If I get one more mosquito bite...” are no doubt relevant in their own right.

In any case, I hope you all have a great summer full of baseball, pool parties, and tans, or whatever else it is that tickles your

fancy. Live it up and enjoy, for it is well earned. Oh, and a brief public service announcement, don’t forget to wear mosquito repellent and sunscreen if you’re going to be outside for extended periods of time, or if you’re taking a tetracycline. I don’t want anyone to suffer from any arboviruses, sunburns, or phototoxicity.

Now, y’all take it easy.

## Pharmacy Fun Fact



It is believed that vodka was invented around the 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> century in Eastern Europe. “Vodka”, in Russian, translates to “little water”. The drink was commonly referred to as medicine or a cleaning agent (“wódka”).

**Q: Basics: Home town, Undergrad, Family, etc.**

A: I was born in Houston and have been here for most of my life, besides the four years I spent at UT Austin. I have a BS in Biochemistry that I'm rather proud of. My family is small: just my mom, my older sister and me. I am a first generation college student and the first in my family to pursue a health care career, which is both exciting and frightening all at once!

**Q: Why did you want to become a pharmacist?**

A: When I was 11, my mom was diagnosed with Hepatitis C. Back then, the medications were pretty debilitating. After a while, our pharmacist suspected that maybe they were too debilitating since my mom got pretty frail. I can't say I know what all happened (likely a call to mom's physician), but I do know that after the pharmacist intervened, mom actually started getting better. Pharmacists catch things that physicians and nurses don't, and I'd like to be that accessible health care professional for my community.

**Q: What has been your favorite thing or experience so far in UHCOP?**

A: Even on interview day, I could sense the family feel that UHCOP has, which was one of the reasons I chose to come here. After a year here, I am still happy with my choice. We may not all be BFFs or anything, but I haven't had a day where I came to school and felt like I didn't belong here.

**Q: What has been the biggest challenge?**

A: There are times when it feels like I am always busy with something school or work related, even now that it's summer. Although I've been living at home since finishing undergrad, it has been hard on my loved ones to learn that my physical presence here doesn't always make me as present as they'd like me to be. Luckily, the things I busy myself with tend to be very rewarding,

and we appreciate free time so much more now.

**Q: What do you hope to do after graduation?**

A: I'm one of those that is still trying to figure out what I want to be when I grow up, but as of now, it's a three-way tie between ambulatory care, compounding, and retail. Oh, and Disney World. That will be my graduation present to myself to finally get to experience the magic!

**Q: What motivates you?**

A: I take things a few days at a time and celebrate the small victories to keep me going and prevent getting overwhelmed. Here's a running analogy, even though I'm an awful runner: when you focus on something distant but still in your line of sight (maybe a light post or tree, etc), I find that it can motivate you to run faster to reach it. Once you reach it, focus on a new something and repeat.

**Q: What is something you're passionate about?**

A: Harry Potter! Just kidding. One thing I really enjoy is teaching others, but not necessarily in the traditional classroom setting. Whether it's teaching the kids I babysit how to be okay with losing a game, or showing my boyfriend how to cook a good quick breakfast, or teaching my mom something new about her medications, it's just fun to be able to share all this stuff in my head with others and it go to good use.

**Q: What is some of the best advice you've received?**

A: My mom would always tell me "try not to compare yourself to anyone but your past self." It's easy to forget this in a competitive place like pharmacy school, where you're surrounded by some of the best minds and very accomplished people. Your time is better spent focusing on your own growth than on wishing you were on someone else's path.

## + Pharmacy Student Q&A

With Erica Morales

**Q: What do you like to do to relax/hobbies/interests?**

A: I like to sing really loud in the car when I'm stuck in traffic to make my rides home more pleasant. Since summer started, I have finished reading A Game of Thrones and started on the sequel, A Clash of Kings. I'm also a big video game nerd. The Kingdom Hearts series, Pokemon, and Super Mario are some of my favorites to play after a long week at school or work.

**Q: What would you be doing if not pharmacy?**

A: I'd love to say I would be a musician or singer, but unfortunately I'm not a very good one. Maybe I'd be a veterinarian. Animals are awesome and I really can't see myself doing something not health related.

**Q: What does it mean to live a good life?**

A: I think it means to do thing you find worth doing and to stay connected with people who make you happy. The good life is not perfect or stress free, but it is meaningful and full of love.

**Q: What's your favorite drug?**

A: I'm awful at picking favorites, but I'd have to say currently I'm tied between benzonatate and aripiprazole. There's no deep meaning behind these; they're just fun to say!

# Kappa Psi Delta Delta Southwest Province Chapter of the Year 2015-2016

Written by: Rodrigo De La Torre



The Delta Delta Chapter of Kappa Psi Pharmaceutical Fraternity, Inc. had the honor of hosting the 2016 Southwest Province Spring Assembly on March 18-20<sup>th</sup> at Hotel Sorella in CityCentre on Houston's Westside. Province assemblies are held in both the Fall and Spring semesters at select cities in which the hosting chapter plans a weekend of events consisting of conducting official fraternity business, as well as offering opportunities for brothers across the province to meet and build lasting bonds with each other.

A tremendous amount of planning and efforts go into creating a successful province meeting as it is a perfect opportunity for the hosting chapter to showcase not only their city, but more importantly, what the chapter has to offer to the fraternity as a whole. The weekend comprised of many of the brothers coming together to volunteer to cover different aspects of the evening in order to guarantee its success under the leadership of our faculty advisor, Dr. Louis Williams, our immediate Past-Regent, Stella Kim, as well as our immediate past-Vice Regent, Robert Miller. Apart from building lasting fraternal bonds and conducting official fraternity business, Province also serves the purpose of awarding a single chapter out of the entire Southwest region of the United States the prestigious Chapter of the Year Award.

Many different elements come into play when a chapter is evaluated to receive the much-coveted award. Each chapter is appraised using a points-based system on areas of interest such as leadership, community service, social activities, academic scholarship, and a video submitted by each of the chapters which showcases their activities and accomplishments during the current academic year.

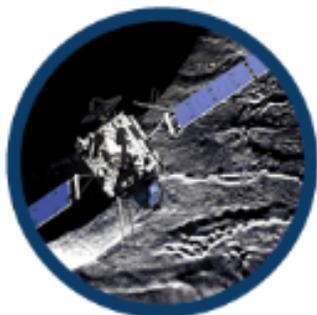
The weekend culminated with a formal dinner enjoyed by all of the brothers and those who hold important executive positions within the Southwest Province. As dinner came to a close, all of the chapters in the room held their breath with much anticipation each and every helping hand that helped make the event a complete success. The Delta Delta chapter prides itself in serving as leaders and stewards to the continual improvement of the community through health fair activities, blood drives, volunteer events, as well as serving as role models in the pharmaceutical industry.

We look forward in carrying on our mission in the coming academic year to continue striving for new heights and personal development, while serving those in the community who need our help the most. For the Delta Delta Chapter, the sky is the limit as we look ahead in competing for the Chapter of the Year Award on a national level as the sole representative chapter from the Southwest Province.

# THIS WEEK IN CHEMISTRY

22<sup>ND</sup> MAY 2016 – 28<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2016

Links to articles & studies for the featured stories are provided at: <http://goo.gl/QFv6UC>



## ROSETTA DISCOVERS AMINO ACID & PHOSPHORUS ON COMET

The ESA's Rosetta probe has detected substances thought to be key to the origin of life on comet 67P. The substances detected include the amino acid glycine, a component of proteins, and phosphorus, which is found in DNA and cell membranes.



## SPECTROMETRY TEST HELPS TO DETECT PARMESAN IMPOSTERS

A new method uses a combination of gas chromatography and mass spectrometry to determine whether parmesan is adulterated or downright fake. It detects cyclopropane fatty acids, found in silage-fed cows – and parmesan isn't made from the milk of silage-fed cows.



## PAPER-BASED SENSOR HELPS TO MONITOR SUN EXPOSURE

A new paper-based sensor to monitor sun exposure takes into account skin tones and SPF of sunscreens. It's made of paper, titanium dioxide, and a dye. When enough UV hits the sensor, the dye changes colour. It's tuned for different skin tones using neutral density filters.

# The Script

Are YOU interested in contributing to The Script? We would love to work with you, so simply let us know! We would also like to hear your thoughts and comments on how we are doing and what we can improve on.

Contact us at [uhcop.script@gmail.com](mailto:uhcop.script@gmail.com)