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AED often comes to help.

I am proud to be part of an organization that reaches out to help others. I hope you are too. This is the backbone of AED, and hopefully, philanthropic activities will make better health care providers by creating and supporting people who care.

From August 12 to August 22, 2016, rain, rain, and more rain hit the state of Louisiana, with more than 20 inches hitting some regions causing a once in a thousand year flood. The rain flooded more than 100,000 houses, and 13 people lost their lives. In the words of Louisiana Beta (Louisiana State University, located in Baton Rouge) secretary Bronson Fong, “At first, even I wasn’t aware of how devastated families were. Many literally only had the clothes on their back and appreciated the high school spirit shirts I hadn’t worn in 4 years...Many are still sleeping on friend’s couches.” You may read more about how Louisiana Beta stepped up to help their community recover from this disaster.

But Louisiana Beta was not alone. AED Chapters across the southern United States helped out by donating to Louisiana Beta or other charity organizations to help those hit by the flood. The chapters that donated through Louisiana Beta include Alabama Alpha (Millsaps College), Alabama Iota (Troy University), Alabama Gamma (Auburn University), Alabama Zeta (University of South Alabama), Georgia Epsilon (Mercer University), Louisiana Alpha (Louisiana College), Louisiana Theta (University of New Orleans), Tennessee Eta (University of Tennessee), Texas Eta (University of Texas at El Paso), Alabama Eta (Birmingham Southern College), Alabama Lambda (University of North Alabama), Ohio Eta (University of Dayton), New Jersey Delta (Monmouth University), Oklahoma Eta (Northeastern State University) and Pennsylvania Rho (Robert Morris University). I am sure that others contributed to flood victims, and I apologize if I did not have your name.

Coming together as a national community is special. We share in common the spirit of AED. I hope that we all continue to serve others as advisors, teachers, and health care providers. I know AED made an impact on my life, and I hope to pass this passion for helping others to my students. Good luck to our Louisiana chapters affected by the flood, and for those in Florida, Georgia, South Carolina and North Carolina affected by Hurricane Matthew. There will always be disasters, and the world will always need people like you to get through them.

Cindy Stanfield, Ph.D.
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AED Lends a Helping Hand to Those Affected by the Flood of the Century

Written by K. Maeve Lawless
This year, Louisiana was hit by the "flood of the century." The storm system sat on top of East Baton Rouge, Livingston, and St. Helena parishes for 48 hours as it dumped as much as two feet of rain on their inhabitants. Other neighboring parishes also received great amounts of rain, causing widespread flooding. Countless homes have been destroyed, and people's lives have been put on hold as they try to pick up the scattered pieces of their broken communities. For weeks afterward, you could tell which communities were flooded by the rows of house after house with mountains of waterlogged drywall and personal belongings sitting in front on the curb. These scenes are far too familiar for some of us. I myself grew up in New Orleans and can remember the devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina. So speaking from experience, I can say that it will take a very long time for these communities to fully recover, but, some never will. Some have lost family or friends to the flood, and that sort of loss cannot be remedied.

The campus of Louisiana State University, which the Louisiana Beta chapter of AED calls home, did not sustain any damage, but less than two blocks away, there was major flooding. In response to the extreme need of the communities surrounding us, we have participated in flood cleanup projects in the greater Baton Rouge area. One such cleanup occurred at a woman's home in Denim Springs, south-east of the LSU campus. The home is owned by an older woman who lived there with her physically disabled daughter. Their home received about 4 feet of water, destroying all of their possessions on the first floor of the house as well as their van which was specially outfitted in order to accommodate the daughter and her wheelchair. Upon talking with the homeowner, she informed us that they had to be rescued by boat, and when the boat had finally arrived, the flood waters were chest-deep.

On arrival to her house, we were confronted by a pile of appliances, furniture, doors, keepsakes, and soggy carpeting at least ten feet tall, twenty feet deep, and fifteen feet wide. We were tasked with bringing the contents of the mountain to the front of her driveway, where it could be picked up and taken to the dump. This may have been easy except for the fact that her house was about a football field's length away from the road. Luckily being the southerners that we are, several volunteers owned trucks, and we were able to get quite a bit done. I left dirty, sweaty, and exhausted, but as I drove away, I passed at least another hundred houses just like the one I had left. There was a lot of work still to be done, and it made me tired just thinking about it.

We would like to give special thanks to the AED chapters at the University of South Alabama, Baylor University, and Mercer University. Thank you for your donations and support!
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The AED National Office is located in Winton-Scott Hall of Science at Texas Christian University. Winton-Scott Hall, home to the departments of biology, psychology and math, is the only academic building to be named for faculty who contributed to the departments housed within its walls. Professor Will McClain Winton served as chair of the biology/geology department and began the premedical program at TCU. Gayle Scott was one of Winton’s students before becoming a geology specialist. Dr. Phil Hartman is the Dean of the College of Science and Engineering at TCU and currently serves on the AED Board of Directors as the Liaison to the AED National Office.
Alpha Epsilon Delta will hold its 42nd biennial convention in Washington D.C. from March 15th to the 18th, 2018. The host hotel will be the Bethesda North Marriott Hotel and Conference Center ($159/nt.). The hotel is conveniently located just steps from the Metro (Red Line) and very close to the National Institutes of Health. The hotel can be easily accessed from all three DC area airports (Dulles, BWI, or National) allowing travelers to use their favorite carrier. The Museums/Mall area of downtown DC is a 25-30 min. subway ride away.

AED is happy to announce that the Host Chapter for the 42nd convention will be from Virginia Gamma at the University of Virginia.

Members of the Convention Planning and Program Committee are:
Dr. Ken Crawford - National Vice-President (Chair)
Dr. Donna Nonnenkamp - AED Director of Communications
Mr. Sovent Taylor - National Secretary
Mr. Juan Pardo - Student Member, Alabama Zeta
UVA. Member - Student Member Virginia Gamma

The committee will put together an entertaining and stimulating program for AED convention attendees. Some possibilities we are pursuing: Speech from the U.S. Surgeon General, tour of the National Institute of Health, a presentation from the American Association of Medical Colleges, free time to visit the museums/monuments, and of course the ever popular Chapter Roll Call.

Start working on your cheer, and begin making plans to attend.

We hope to see you in D.C. in 2018.

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Chapter Reports

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West Virginia Alpha

South Carolina Alpha

Idaho Beta
Alabama Alpha

It is our goal at the Alabama Alpha chapter to help students navigate their way through the hectic maze that is pre-health. We have a wide range of initiatives whose goal is to assist students in each of the aspects expected of a pre-health student. One initiative in particular, CAPS mentoring, provides a unique support system by pairing underclassmen with junior and senior mentors. The mentor is responsible for planning a weekly meeting with their mentee and they are able to customize their discussions to best benefit the mentee. This allows freshmen to gain knowledge about all that goes in to being in pre-health and they are able to get advice on things like classes, the MCAT, graduate school application processes, and involvement opportunities. The goal of this program is to help underclassmen get on a successful path to medical school early on. One of our CAPS mentoring leaders, Nikhi Singh, said, “when I was a freshman I participated in CAPS mentoring as a mentee. The experience was extraordinarily helpful for me and drove me to seek a leadership role in CAPS mentoring as an upperclassman. I learned a lot that I might have not otherwise learned and became friends with my mentor.” Additionally, this year we have partnered with the University of Alabama Medical School at UAB to allow our students to hear what medical school is like first hand. We are excited about all that the potential CAPS mentoring has to help students alleviate some of the stress and mystery of being an upperclassman pre-health student.

Submitted by: Jenny Nelson

Alabama Delta

The Alabama Delta Chapter of Alpha Epsilon Delta is working hard to give back to the community and help its members grow. During this fall 2016 semester, a productive effort has been demonstrated by officers and members combined. The chapter offered six community service opportunities, with an emphasis on rural health. One of these events involved the Red Barn Foundation, which provides assisted outdoor activities (such as horseback riding and art therapy) for children with physical, cognitive, or emotional disabilities. This volunteering opportunity gives the AED officers and members a chance to experience a unique approach from an occupational therapy perspective. Working outside, shoveling hay and taking care of horses helps members understand the meaning of labor and builds teamwork and leadership skills. Our chapter also serves the local community through its participation with The Spirit of Luke, our main philanthropy. Fundraising through the sale of candles, baked goods, Krispy Kreme donuts, and Chick-fil-A sandwiches and volunteering help this charity continue to support their needs.

The Spirit of Luke Charitable Foundation is a free medical clinic that is open in rural areas every first Saturday of each month. This is organized by Dr. Ford who are close friends of Alabama Delta, and the chapter’s school, The University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB). This clinic’s outreach helps by providing basic primary health care, including free medicine and checkups, to underserved regions of Alabama. AED members have the opportunity to shadow a primary care physician, a registered nurse, a resident, and even current medical students at the clinic. Volunteers can also choose to work in the pharmacy and learn about various medications and their uses, or work in triage and learn how to take blood pressure or blood sugar. Members also help wherever needed by cooking the community lunch or sorting donated clothes and school supplies for patients. While patients are waiting to be seen in the mobile clinic, their children can participate in the mentoring program with AED members. Our volunteers provide guidance about school, career goals, and life in general to Alabama youth.

Beyond volunteering, shadowing, and fundraising, the chapter also holds bi-weekly general business meetings for members. Attendees gain insight into health professional fields. Students from all pre-health tracks are welcome to listen in, to help understand and hopefully help create a more unified healthcare system. Different speakers represent a large variety of healthcare professions including medicine, dentistry, optometry, physical and occupational therapy, physician’s assistant, and military medicine. The most recent meeting was an open panel discussion. Students had the opportunity to ask questions of representatives from both osteopathic medicine and allopathic medicine, as well as dentistry, optometry, and physician’s assistant studies. The interaction of students and health professionals encourages pre-health students to understand the importance of particular career responsibilities.

Overall, Alabama Delta provides health career resources and support to the UAB student body. Our goal is to enrich the undergraduate experience and to help students find the right health professional field.

Article by: Kayla Hazelwood
The Alabama Eta chapter of AED at Birmingham-Southern College has been off to a great start this fall. The year kicked off with a new membership drive for students who were interested in becoming involved with AED. We have been working on expanding our mentorship program to incorporate more freshman and sophomores. This endeavor has proved successful and gives support to these new students as they navigate the pre-health process. We also hosted various speakers this semester including Andrea Stacy, a student in the UAB Genetic Counseling Program, as well as Edwina Taylor, the founder of a local healthcare clinic. Our final speaking panel consisted of a variety of senior students who had already taken their respective pre-professional exams. These students offered their advice on how to best prepare and take the exams giving the underclassmen an idea of how to study and excel. This test preparation was supplemented by a visit from a Kaplan representative who provided an in depth look at the Kaplan method for studying for these admission exams.

Our chapter also participated in raising funds for Alex’s Lemonade Stand, which supports childhood cancer research. Due to the recent devastations in Louisiana caused by flooding, our organization hosted a drive to collect items that we then sent to the AED chapter at Louisiana State University. Furthermore, we have maintained our partnership with Spirit of Luke, which is a charitable foundation that offers medical assistance in rural locations. In addition to our involvement with these organizations, the Alabama Eta chapter hosted a blood drive with the Red Cross as a part of our Homecoming celebrations. We currently have several other philanthropies scheduled for the spring term and are also in the midst of planning the application process for and initiation of new members to the Alabama Eta chapter.

Article by: Sarah Bowman

The fall semester is certainly off to a great start for the Alabama Gamma chapter of Alpha Epsilon Delta at Auburn University. We have welcomed several new members, and numerous volunteer opportunities have been announced for the year. Additionally, multiple guests have traveled to Auburn to speak at our meetings, leaving members with valuable information and resources pertaining to a variety of health professions. Members have been serving others throughout the community thanks to the exciting opportunities which are organized by our volunteer coordinators. Many volunteered at the Wooten Memorial Race in August to raise funds for scholarships in memory of Dr. Marie Wooten, a previous dean of the College of Sciences and Mathematics. Additionally, volunteers have given their time assisting the Food Bank of East Alabama, the American Red Cross Blood Drives, Storybook Farms, and the War Eagle BEST Robotics program. As a result, our members are very invested in the Auburn community.

Speakers from professional programs around the state have attended our meetings and shared information with our students. We began with a speaker from the University of South Alabama College of Medicine, followed by representatives from UAB School of Dentistry and UAB School of Medicine. In the upcoming weeks, Alabama College of Osteopathic Medicine, Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine, and UAB School of Optometry will all be sending speakers to our meetings. Our pre-professional representatives serve as a wonderful resource for our members, answering questions about professional school applications, leadership opportunities, summer internships, and more. These representatives work hard to ensure that our pre-health students are exposed to the information they need in order to be successful future applicants.

One particularly exciting development this year is an upcoming partnership with our local osteopathic medical school in creating a workshop allowing pre-health students to learn suturing techniques.

Overall, this semester has been largely successful here at Auburn University, and we are looking forward to spending the upcoming months continuing to serve and learn alongside one another.

Article by: Laura Beth Towery
Greetings from Troy, Alabama! The Alabama Iota chapter of Alpha Epsilon Delta at Troy University has been hard at work this past academic year! Throughout the year various guest speakers from nearby medical, dental, optometry and therapy schools inspired us to pursue health care careers. We also showed our commitment to service by participating in monthly Adopt-A-Mile projects. We strive to keep our mile the cleanest it can be!

Our biggest and most exciting event of the fall semester was Operation Christmas Child. We worked together to collect, package, and deliver 52 shoeboxes full of gifts to our surrounding schools. The shoeboxes contained letters written by the member that packed the box along with gifts. For many of our members this was the most rewarding event of the year. There are many children that are not fortunate enough to receive gifts at Christmastime. Even though our boxes were small we were able to see the excitement that they brought to every student. Being able to enrich their Christmas season reminds us of the importance of service!

The spring semester was packed full of service! We started the semester with the Pike County Heart Walk. Our members talked to participants of the heart walk about the flow of blood through the heart and why it is so important to live a healthy lifestyle. We also taught the younger participants how to listen to their heartbeat with stethoscopes. Many participants told us their personal stories of their battle with heart problems and how it has impacted their lives. They also thanked us for doing our part to help educate kids! We also hosted our annual Groundwater Festival. The mission of the Groundwater Festival is to teach students about the importance of clean water and how to practice water conservation. We are very excited about the upcoming academic year! We have elected a new president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, editor, and historian and we have already created many new exciting events for our chapter to partake in this year! We hope to make this the best one yet!

Article by: Hailey Bates

The Fall Semester of the Alabama Lambda chapter of AED at the University of North Alabama is promising to be an exciting one. We ended last semester with initiating a large group of new members, and this semester we have many new first-year students interested in AED. This semester we have speakers from several health professions schools scheduled to speak, including a representative from the Auburn campus of VCOM and the McWhorter School of Pharmacy at Samford University. Our volunteer opportunities this semester include an exciting opportunity to participate in the Guatemala Shoe Box Program. We have a goal of 50 boxes this semester, and hope to exceed that goal. In addition, we have a new project involving distributing leftover medical supplies (such as crutches and wheelchairs from local medical institutions) to members of the community who need these supplies but cannot afford them. This new project is exciting not only because of the need in the community, but also because it is a project born out of our own chapter. In addition to these planned activities, our chapter began the semester by hosting a drive for essential items desperately needed by the Louisiana flood victims. While we barely scratched the surface of the needs of the victims of what the Red Cross called the worst U.S. disaster since Hurricane Sandy, it was encouraging to see AED chapters working together to provide what we could for the victims in Baton Rouge and the surrounding areas. Last semester, the Medical Student Mentors Program was established to provide a necessary shadowing element for students, and it continues to develop and grow this semester. In addition, we are expanding our efforts to prepare students for medical school by providing test prep biweekly. These programs provide an essential educational component to our students. As we look forward into this exciting semester, we hope to set the standard for our university. We look forward to these new opportunities as we continue to grow and flourish as the Alabama Lambda chapter of AED.

Article by: Rachel Milwee
Alabama Zeta

The Alabama Zeta chapter of AED at the University of South Alabama has increased in membership by more than 50% this year. With over 300 affiliate members, we meet biweekly to learn more about healthcare, healthcare professionals, and what it takes to become a part of it.

As one of the largest organizations on the University of South Alabama campus, Alabama Zeta is called upon to help other organizations in their philanthropic events, in addition to running our own. Each fall, Alabama Zeta hosts an International Coastal Cleanup site. Mobile Municipal Park sits just a few blocks from our University, and more than 250 University of South Alabama students gather to pick up trash and make the park beautiful again. This year, we assisted Guy, a boy scout trying to earn his Eagle Badge, with eradicating the Amazon Apple Snail population in the park while also cleaning up trash. The Apple Snail was introduced to the Mobile waterway when somebody decided to empty their aquarium into the lake. The Apple Snail is an invasive species in the United States and has devastated effects on our natural wildlife. We collected about a ton of trash and a large ice chest full of snails that day. (The snails were humanely euthanized.)

AED also participates in the Honors Program Ghouls for Goods, where students go trick-or-treating for canned goods. We often receive candy as well, as a bonus. AED participates in the Chi Omega songfest, a fundraiser for the Make-a-Wish foundation. Our students spend about 30 hours in two weeks preparing for this competition, and we have taken first place in the independent category several years in a row.

This year, the University of South Alabama was asked to provide volunteers for the World Food Challenge, an event held by the Food Network taking place in Orange Beach Alabama. We exceeded the number of volunteers required and are excited about being able to taste the left-overs from all the magnificent chefs coming.

Article by: Cindy Stanfield

Arkansas Alpha

What a great time it is to be part of the Arkansas Alpha Chapter of AED! We had a fantastic spring semester, and our officers have been working diligently to make the fall semester even better. We made a big effort to reach more students around our campus, and the strong attendance present at our first meeting of the semester indicates that we are on the right track.

To start off the spring semester, we hosted a group of 3rd and 4th year medical students from the University of Arkansas for Medical Science Northwest Campus. They answered questions about classes, studying, and their overall experience throughout medical school. In February, we held our annual spring banquet where Dr. Ronald Brimberry, a family practice physician, spoke about medical school admissions, the challenges medical school entails, and life as a physician today. In April, we hosted Dr. Elicia Kennedy, an Emergency Medicine Physician affiliated with the Baptist Health Medical Center in Little Rock, Arkansas. Dr. Kennedy has experience as a member of a medical school admissions committee and has served as a residency program director. She spoke about what it’s like practicing emergency medicine and provided insight into admissions decisions.

For this semester, we have several volunteer opportunities arranged, and are in the process of planning our first diversity event. The mentoring program is also getting underway, and applications have been sent out to recruit mentors and mentees. We also have our senior panel coming up, which will include seniors from the University of Arkansas discussing their experiences preparing for the MCAT. They will address questions about their study techniques, amount of preparation time, various study programs available, and the benefits of any courses that they took at the University of Arkansas. We can’t wait to see what else this semester will hold!

Article by: Caroline Spainhour
Arkansas Delta

The Arkansas Delta chapter was very active and alive last semester. The officers tried to create an environment within the group that both introduced new members to a rich learning experience and also allowed senior members to become positive leaders. Arkansas Delta held monthly informational and inspirational meetings to encourage students along the pre-health professional’s pathway. The group concentrated on becoming more diverse by allocating more focus towards students who have aspirations in something other than medicine such as dentistry, pharmacy, and optometry. As seen in our wonderful picture, many of our students are involved in some form of internship or volunteering experience. We feel that our community outreach improved tremendously this year whether directly involved with the University of Arkansas- Fort Smith or with local partners. We celebrated these partnerships by holding our First Annual AED Initiation Banquet. This banquet was to welcome our new initiates into Alpha Epsilon Delta but, also to invite a variety of health professionals from the community to share their experiences with all of our students.

At this time we also commended our six graduating members and our new group of officers. Five of the six of these officers are returning AED officers from the previous year. They plan to use their proven experience to further guide the Arkansas Delta chapter in a direction that reflects both inspiration and service to the next generation of members.

Article by: Cameron Parsley

Califomia Alpha

This past spring semester, the University of Southern California chapter of Alpha Epsilon Delta invited its members to take part in the Kicks 4 Kids event on Sunday April 10. The event was open to all members of AED, and was highly attended by executive board members as well those who were inducted into AED for Spring 2016. Throughout the course of the morning, AED members played soccer with students from the neighboring communities in south Los Angeles. Everyone was excited to play with the children and be able to put a smile on their faces. However, the impact of Kicks 4 Kids is far beyond playing soccer. Almost all of the USC students in attendance took it upon themselves to converse with the kids. “It was great being able to talk with kids both about things they liked and also about what it means to be in college”, said Brian Chin. The organizers of the event took notice of how involved the AED members were and invited our chapter to come back and help with future events. Participating in Kicks 4 Kids was a great philanthropic event that allowed us to directly communicate with the children who live around our school and try to make an impact on their lives; whether the enjoyment of playing soccer for a couple hours, or the deeper understanding of college and academic pursuits.

In the spring semester of 2016, the University of Southern California chapter of Alpha Epsilon Delta participated in the 50th annual Southland Conference on Saturday, March 26. Its largest networking event of the year. Not only was it open to AED members, but it was also open to any current pre-medical students. The event began with a keynote speaker, Dr. David Agus, one of the world’s leading oncologists and professor of medicine at USC’s Keck School of Medicine. He was able to begin the conversation about the current state of affairs with cancer research, as well as inspire others in the audience to choose this difficult, but fulfilling career and validate their decisions to be a physician. The conference also featured 30 doctors who participated in the Networking Brunch, where each physician was able to talk to students at their table about their experiences and give advice. Students enjoyed getting to speak to doctors in a more personal and individualized way. Finally, there were additional workshops held that featured four different doctors speaking about their experiences and path to becoming a doctor. Overall, this conference allowed pre-medical students to learn more about their current track to becoming a physician and gave them personalized experiences with esteemed physicians.

Article by: Rachel Chang

One of the greatest things about a community of pre-med students is that we’re all motivated by the same thing: doing what we can to help others. While that may be the mission of a doctor and what we’re all working towards, this spirit lives within us and is very apparent in many of the activities we do now. One such event occurred when we decided to make sandwiches for the homeless community centered in Skid Row. What started as a simple idea between a couple people turned into a large gathering of many, all of who were working together to make as many PB&J sandwiches as possible. It didn’t even feel like work as all of us there were having a good time, laughing and hanging out like we would be doing anything else. In just a little over an hour, we were able to completely package over 200 sandwiches, and as we all said our goodbyes and went our separate ways, I went on to deliver them to a local organization located in the middle of Skid Row. Having never been there before, it was an eye opening experience to see what lies just a few miles off the USC campus we are all so blessed to attend. I was in Skid Row myself when I realized 200 people were going to have food they wouldn’t have had otherwise, and that is when I understood the significance of what we had just done and the joy it brought me to know so many people we were willing to come and help out.

Article by: Ben Orsmeth
Every year Alpha Epsilon Delta (AED) Florida Epsilon members volunteer at various different events, or places making a positive effect on the community, and also getting to learn more about the medical field. This past year AED members volunteered their time at Camp Boggy Creek, Camillus House, and Relay for Life. Camp Boggy Creek is a place for children with serious illnesses and their families to go to get away for a day, week, or weekend. They get to play and interact with their families or other kids. It gives them a chance to be a kid, and escape from their illness for a little while. Our members were able to make a significant impact by interacting with the children and teaching them fun new activities (such as fishing, horseback riding, and rock climbing). Camp Boggy Creek is completely free for the children and their families. When we volunteer, we are helping the camp so they can allow more children to experience the excitement and fun.

Camillus House is a hospitality service which allows those who don’t have shelter or a home to come and stay. Individuals are provided with shelter, health services, showers, food, and other care they may need. Camillus House is big on providing the homeless with food. AED went as a group and worked in the kitchen helping cook, clean, and serve those at the shelter. We got to learn about the services Camillus House provides, and its impact on the community.

Relay for Life was something I was personally involved with. This event takes place in locations all around the country. Our AED chapter participates Relay every year. Funds raised are donated to the American Cancer Society. This past year AED raised a significant amount of money. Along with this, we also participated in the overnight walk. We had a tent where we sold food and drinks to many of the attendees. This event allowed us to raise money for a great cause, and also work with other organizations that had the same goal. Altogether as a community we raised over a million dollars. All the hard work went toward a great cause and this is something we look forward to participating in each year.

This upcoming school year, AED looks forward to getting involved in the community. We are participating in Relay for Life once again, and many other events, such as walks and benefits. We are also doing a mission trip in the summer to Guyana, to work with a children’s medical outreach program.

Article by: Danielle Pagano

Florida Delta

The University of South Florida’s (USF) Florida Delta chapter has grown significantly through the years. We have recruited a number of members this fall semester of 2016 and have been actively participating in the Tampa Bay and USF communities. AED members volunteer at several organizations such as the Ronald McDonald House, Trinity Café, Shriners Hospital, Partners in Health, and many more. Currently, two of our most significant and impactful activities include our UNICEF event and our Ribbon Awareness Campaign.

In August 2016, Alpha Epsilon Delta at USF hosted their 3rd Celebrating Humanity with UNICEF event. This event centered on raising awareness for different cultures around the world as well as raising money for UNICEF, the United Nations Children’s Fund. UNICEF helps children in developing countries gain access to healthcare, clean water, education, protection and several other resources. Different multicultural organizations performed during the event, and food donated by a variety of culturally diverse restaurants was sold to raise money for UNICEF. Next year, we will be hosting a similar event, but the proceeds will go to Partners in Health, another great organization that focuses on providing healthcare to those in poverty-stricken areas.

In August 2016, we started our ribbon awareness campaign. One of our volunteer chairs, Lee Elliott, brought to our attention a campaign going on in the United States. Nationally, each month is designated a specific color and a ribbon meant to symbolize a specific illness. Our goal is to contribute to this national campaign by spreading awareness on our campus here at USF, while also raising funds to fight these illnesses on a national level. The funds that we accumulate will be donated to national foundations that fund cutting edge research or provide social support. Many of the students on campus know someone whose life has been altered by these diseases. Our Ribbon Awareness Campaign gives everyone the opportunity to make a small difference in the world.

Article by: Erica Ginsburg
Our chapter has grown since our beginning in 2011 with more members and events in Spring 2016. With the Induction ceremony in February, we welcomed 29 new national members into our chapter. This year, we hope to continue increasing our affiliate and national membership with students from all pre-health tracks.

In February, students participated in Love is More than Romance to decorate cards and write inspirational notes to the residents of Daybreak Homeless Shelter. Daybreak assists individuals by providing meals, a safe place to live and access to other resources. A group of our members delivered the cards to Daybreak on Valentine’s Day.

In March, we hosted our annual Suture Workshop where students can learn proper suturing technique and practice on a banana. A fourth year medical student demonstrated how to perform two suturing methods: interrupted technique and instrumental tie. Students enjoyed learning suturing as a practical skill important in healthcare.

Last year, we hosted Slime Wars for the first time to raise money for St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital. In April, we added a twist to Slime Wars and renamed it Harry Potter themed Potion Wars to raise money for St. Judes Children’s Hospital. In Potion Wars, students and faculty could take the sorting test which determined their house out of Gryffindor, Slytherin, Hufflepuff and Ravenclaw. Everyone donated money to their respective house before the Final Battle, a field-day event with Harry Potter themed games. During the Final Battle, students and faculty participated in games like Quidditch and Potions Class. In the end, Ravenclaw surpassed Hufflepuff in donations and won the Final Battle by earning the most points. Overall, this event raised $386.71 which was given to St. Judes Children’s Hospital to support their mission.

Report by: Ashley Ray

The Idaho Chapter of AED is primarily engaged in volunteer work with the medical supply distributor Hands of Hope. The Hands of Hope facility is located near the Northwest Nazarene campus in Nampa, Idaho and receives donated used and excess medical supplies from in-state medical entities. They then distribute these supplies to those in need in other parts of the World. The role of Chapter members in the Hands of Hope operation is that of volunteer sorters and packers. Volunteer sorters are involved in the categorization of the donated medical supplies according to use within the health profession, while packers act to package these supplies for shipment to their destinations around the globe. A long standing relationship between the Idaho AED Chapter and Hands of Hope has offered many chapter members the opportunity to devote time to aid those in need of medical care around the world. This is a truly invaluable resource for the compassionate members of AED. While Hands of Hope provides an excellent outlet for the altruistic nature of the AED members, it has also granted members important experiences with medical supplies and medical instrumentation. Long term involvement of the Idaho Chapter of AED with the Hands of Hope will allow current and future AED members the opportunity to have a part in global aid to those needing medical aid and intervention.

Hands of Hope organization website: [www.handsofhopenw.org](http://www.handsofhopenw.org)

Article by: Dominic Haragos
Kentucky Alpha

Alpha Epsilon Delta at the University of Louisville has long been motivated to help the community of Louisville and try to make a difference in a multitude of ways. From volunteering around the community at organizations like USPIRITUS (a foster home for at-risk youth) and Supplies Overseas (SOS) (an organization that utilizes hospital’s surplus supplies to supply medical mission trips), there are many opportunities available for our members. Most of our members underestimate the admiration the children at USPIRITUS and the members of SOS have for AED. Along those lines, we, as a society, often underestimate the impact that we have on these organizations and the impact these organizations can have on us. Seeing a child smile and momentarily forget his or her struggles can transform the meaning of “giving back” for so many of our members. Each semester, we try to organize one large AED event, either on campus or in our community. This past year, members volunteered at two major events, ‘Halloween at the Zoo’ and our own AED-sponsored Health Careers Fair. Halloween at the Louisville Zoo is definitely the most vibrant Halloween celebration in the community of Louisville. It’s a wonderful way to give back to the community and have fun in the process. We are able to get dressed up ourselves, distribute candy, help our local Zoo, laugh over the children’s costume, but most importantly help to make the holiday memorable for kids in our community. Lastly, about 30 prestigious professional schools from across the city, state, and region participate in our Health Careers Fair at the University of Louisville. We invite each professional school (from PA schools to Medical Schools) to give us insight about their program and the path to receive acceptance to that school. The prospective students are then able to ask questions and obtain ‘insider’ knowledge about the schools. We invite the entire student body at the University of Louisville and each year about 500 students attend. The opportunity that this offers pre-health professional students cannot be understated; this is a way for them to speak with individuals – from Admission Directors to Admission Committee Members – about what it takes to reach his or her dreams. As the years go by, Alpha Epsilon Delta at the University of Louisville has been able to expand on our accomplishments and give our members valuable information and experiences, helping to shape them into ideal health professional applicants. AED at the University of Louisville is leading the way for pre-health professional students on campus. We cannot wait to see what this next year holds.

Article by: Dillon Rama & Charles Shofner

Kentucky Gamma

We had a great spring semester with AED. We invited multiple guest speakers to our meetings who shared their experiences with us. One that really made an impact on our members was a panel of seven WKU alumni in varying stages of medical school, dental school, or PT school. The AED members had the opportunity to ask the students questions about the applications process and about their experience in their respective school. This was a great experience for our members because they were able to hear stories from professional students who were in the place that many of our members hope to be in a few years. It was also beneficial for members to learn specifically about what happens in each year of professional school. Members asked insightful questions like, “Why did you choose the school you’re attending?” Responses could help them in their own application process. It was also great to see some former classmates and meet new potential contacts.

We also participated in several service activities last spring. We set up a health education booth in the hallway of the science building on campus. Members had the opportunity to talk to students as they walked by about health-related topics like the importance of brushing their teeth and becoming an organ donor. AED members gave students information on organ donation and urged them to sign up after class. Many AED members also participated in campus blood drives.

We ended the spring semester with induction and officer elections. These are great events that truly bring the AED members together outside the classroom. We enjoyed eating Fazoli’s catering and talking with our new members. The new officers were also elected. Brooke Simmons was elected President. Our new Vice President is Katherine Citak. Rose Damron is the new chapter treasurer. The new Community Service Chair is Sarah Parks. Kristina Gonzalez was elected as Secretary, and Jessica Vaughn was elected as the new Junior Vice President. Abby Huff is the chapter’s new Membership Coordinator, and the newly elected Historian is Nicole Williams.

Article by: Nicole Williams
Here at Louisiana State University, the Louisiana Beta chapter of AED has had a successful Spring semester and is well on its way to having a great Fall semester. One of our main philanthropic commitments is to Youth Oasis, a shelter for homeless and abandoned youth here in the Baton Rouge area. During the past spring semester, we were able to continue our annual fundraiser called “Loop the Lake.” It is a 4.1-mile fun-run in which participants run around the LSU lakes to raise money for the youth shelter. The LA Beta chapter has recently selected ten of its members to be designated volunteers for Youth Oasis. These members go on a weekly basis to talk, play, and help the children with anything that they might need, and our members have really enjoyed developing relationships with the kids. Our chapter has also taken on volunteer projects internationally. Since last spring, we led an International Service Learning (ISL) trip which provided medical services to underserved communities in Baja, Mexico. In addition to our volunteer efforts, the Louisiana Beta chapter provides excellent ways to prepare our members for the upcoming medical school application process and gives them insight into the workings of local medical schools. This Fall, we will be holding our annual Deans’ Convocation in which Dr. F. Scott Kennedy from the LSUHSC Shreveport School of Medicine and Dr. Robert Eubanks from the LSUHSC New Orleans School of Medicine will come to speak with our members about aspects of the application process, what they will see once enrolled in medical school, as well as answer any questions they may have. Later in the semester, Dr. Eubanks will return to conduct a mock medical school interview with our President Nikka Khorsandi during one of our chapter meetings. Both of these meetings are highly attended and well-liked by our members.

Submitted by: Kaeli Morgan

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The Louisiana Alpha Chapter at Louisiana College had an eventful spring semester, and we are looking forward to an exciting new school year. During the spring of 2016, we were honored to host Dr. Tom Arnold as he gave a school-wide presentation entitled “The Epidemic of Synthetic Drugs in Louisiana.” Dr. Arnold is the chair of the Department of Emergency Medicine at the LSU Health Science Center in Shreveport as well as the chairman of the admissions committee at the LSU Shreveport School of Medicine. His presentation gave valuable insight into a not frequently discussed issue regarding the plight of synthetic drugs used in our state. The event also gave an opportunity for our community to hear the dangers of synthetic drug use and the options for treatment. Our AED members appreciated the invaluable discussion and question and answer time we had regarding LSU Shreveport’s medical school program.

As our annual homecoming parade is quickly approaching, our chapter’s members are gearing up for another exciting homecoming float competition. Our chapter has won 1st place for the past two years, and we hope to keep the streak alive. This event is one of the most enjoyable experiences in which our club participates during the year. The unique experiences that occur during the float construction and parade become memories that are told to each successive year’s new members. We hope to again win the $500 1st place prize and top last year’s AED’s Magic School Bus float.

Louisiana Alpha will attend the Global Missions Health Conference in Louisville, Kentucky, in November of 2016. Our chapter attends this conference every other year. The conference provides an insightful view into the opportunities available for using medicine in a selfless way that provides emotional and physical benefit to others living in underdeveloped areas. The speakers share their medical expertise in addition to their love and concern for the people in the countries they serve. Our chapter looks forward to taking the lessons we learn at the conference and applying them to our future medical practices.

Submitted by: Kaeli Morgan

Article by K. Maeve Lawless
On September 2nd, several members of our local chapter traveled to Baton Rouge to assist with the recovery effort. These members got their hands dirty and removed wet, moldy drywall, removed ruined floorboards, and generally cleaned the damaged homes. This effort helped give the flood victims a fresh start. Through the efforts of our president and some dedicated members, our organization accumulated approximately 140 service hours assisting the flood victims clean up the wreckage that once was their homes. As many of our members are preparing for careers in healthcare, we often volunteer at local health clinics. One of these clinics, the Pool of Siloam, is a medical ministry that assists those who are medically underserved. The staff at the Pool believes that everyone is entitled to adequate healthcare, regardless of health insurance.

Our chapter stands by the medical ministry. Our members often volunteer at the clinic, and we even raise money for the Pool to ensure that the healthcare needs of the uninsured are met. Every year, our organization holds an event called the Winter Sun Run. This 5K run or walk is hosted by AED and raises money through registration fees, t-shirt sales, and sponsors. The proceeds from the event go to the Pool of Siloam Medical Ministry. Through this event, our members can assist the medically underserved community even before our professional careers begin. Members of our chapter are currently finding sponsors and fundraising for the Winter Sun Run, which will be held in December. Our chapter of Alpha Epsilon Delta is excited to have many community service events planned for this semester. We’re honored to be a part of this society, and we look forward to another great year.

Article by: Quintin Richardson
Maryland
Alpha
Two important initiatives of the Maryland Alpha chapter of Alpha Epsilon Delta (AED) are our community service projects within the city of Baltimore and our undergraduate mentoring program. Feel free to read more about each of these initiatives below!

For the past few years, AED has partnered with three Project PLASE (People Lacking Ample Shelter and Employment) transitional housing facilities in the heart of Baltimore. Through this partnership, members of AED have worked to create an educational workshop series for residents in the men’s, women’s and mixed (men’s and women’s) shelters. Topics that are covered by student presenters vary, but can include a wide range of topics, from those surrounding sexual health education and alcohol and drug abuse, to mental health and maximizing nutrition. In order to supplement our presentations, members often bring handouts, colorful diagrams and whiteboards to maximize the interactivity between the residents and the presenters. In addition, students who happen to have more familiarity with any of these topics often delve into more depth about the subject at hand, to the residents’ appreciation. Furthermore, healthy snacks like apples and oranges as well as meals are brought to the facilities during each trip. Residents who have participated in these workshops often respond extremely positively, and not only ask their own questions, but also share individual experiences if a subject matter is personal to them.

Another one of our chapter’s key ongoing initiatives is our undergraduate mentoring program. Aimed at freshmen and sophomore students, our mentoring program connects our members with these students with the interest in providing consistent guidance and support. Through this program, our goal is to allow younger students to benefit from the accumulated pre-medical experiences and connections that our members have made with Johns Hopkins faculty and medical doctors. We hope this will reduce the competitive environment that often surrounds the pre-medical experience and decrease some of the anxiety that younger students may face. As an extension of our mentoring program, we have also worked to establish an online-based forum where any student of the university can ask questions anonymously and have them answered by one of our members. Moreover, this online forum is closely affiliated with the Johns Hopkins Pre-Professional Advising Office to ensure that it serves as a reliable conduit of accurate information and successfully connects students with advising services. In addition to this, our mentoring program also organizes events such as Meet-and-Greets, off-campus outdoor retreats to increase group cohesiveness, and student speaker panels to further build the rapport between younger students and their AED mentors.

Article by: Pankhuri Jha and Charlottien Long

Massachusetts
Zeta
This past spring we, the members of the Massachusetts Zeta chapter, along with Dr. Robert Kearns held our Chapter Installation Ceremony. The ceremony was held at the Northeastern University Curry Student Center and we were able to induct 25 members into our inaugural class. Following the installation we were able to enjoy a small reception made possible by the generosity of many of our new members bringing in baked goods and other treats.

We then held our first official meeting soon after the April installation and made plans as we look forward to our first year of being an official honor society on Northeastern’s Campus. We are excited about the upcoming year and the programs we hope to be able to implement. We also already see our impact on campus with a large group of students already reaching out to us, independently, looking to get involved and to become future members of AED Massachusetts Zeta.

Now that we have begun meeting for the 2016-2017 school year, our members have been excited in trying to start service and fundraising activities. Some current ideas include reaching out to the Boston Food Bank, participating in the Northeastern Day of Service, and setting up a CPR certification course. We have also been asked to help co-sponsor the Bouve College of Health Sciences Campus Health Fair and Flu Shot Clinic. This health clinic provides free flu shots and health screenings to the community of Northeastern right in our student center. It’s a great way to spread healthy lifestyle information and we are proud to be able to support it as a chapter of AED.

Article by: Max Morin and Brandon Barrett
The Michigan Beta chapter at Hope College grew dramatically this past spring as we welcomed 31 new members. Everyone is looking forward to a new year of service to the surrounding community.

We have developed a mentoring program over the past year that has provided a great opportunity for members to get involved and meet new people. The mentoring program consists of upperclassmen, typically junior or senior members, serving as mentors for the underclassmen, typically freshman or sophomore students. Underclassmen interested in a particular health profession are paired with a mentor in that same pre-professional field. Mentors and mentees are encouraged to meet with their counterpart many times throughout the semester to address any questions the underclassman has, as well as to get to know each other on a more personal level. Events are also held throughout the semester, that allow for mentors and their mentees to socialize with other participants in the program. Although the program is still relatively new, a lot of positive feedback has been coming from both the mentors and the mentees. We are constantly improving the program as participants suggest ways to make it better.

We have also reached out to many local charities and community organizations for amazing service opportunities. Our community partners this semester include the Holland Free Health Clinic, Appledorn Assisted Living Center, and Holland Hospital. We also have opportunities to provide meals to families in need, as well as spend an afternoon with children with disabilities to provide a break for their parents.

We look forward to the annual 5k fundraiser for the Holland Free Health Clinic in October, seminars from area professionals, and Relay for Life, among other events this fall.

Article by: Kevin Franz

The Michigan Epsilon chapter of Alpha Epsilon Delta at the University of Michigan has spent the winter semester continuing our service to the Ann Arbor community. On several occasions, volunteers spent Sunday mornings packing and distributing boxes of food at the Nourishing Gardens Food Bank. It was a great opportunity to meet and serve many deserving people. Another favorite event was the annual Snowball Dance, organized by our service committee. At Snowball, Special Olympians from the surrounding area come for a night of dancing, games, photos, and fun. Neither Michigan Epsilon members nor the Special Olympians realized how tired they were until the night ended after three hours of dancing, but the smiles spoke for themselves and the night was a huge success. When not participating in service events, our chapter members spent a lot of time pursuing academic and professional goals. Our professional development chair hosted both a resume and public speaking workshop where members had the opportunity to improve their networking abilities and prepare for jobs, summer internships, and professional school applications. Our academic chair made sure our chapter members stayed on top of their studies by hosting regular study nights, while our rush and freshmen development chairs took responsibility for mentoring the pledges to ensure their academic success. The highlight of our semester together was the 2016 AED National Convention. Twenty-five of our members and our advisor flew to Houston for a long weekend of career exploration, building relationships, sharing ideas with other chapters, and bonding. Winning second place in our region for activities and overall for attendance, as well as first place for activities overall, was the best way to finish a year of hard work and collaboration. Between service events, study nights, broomball, an Alternative Spring Break trip to South Carolina, raising money for pediatric rehabilitation with Dance Marathon, Relay for Life, and so much more, the semester was certainly both busy and rewarding. As we left for summer, it was with new friendships, a strengthened commitment to careers in healthcare and great anticipation for what is to come for Michigan Epsilon.

Article by: Megan Pawloski
Michigan Gamma

The Michigan Gamma chapter at Michigan State University has been glad to spend another term working to better our institution and our community. Our participation continues to grow with six newly inducted members and more looking forward to becoming inducted in the spring. The past semester brought some fun, including cooking grilled cheese sandwiches to sell at Relay for Life in support of bringing an end to cancer. This experience allowed us to form relationships with, and show our support for, those affected by cancer in our community.

This upcoming semester looks to provide many opportunities to our members. Already we have had a panel of medical students from the MSU College of Osteopathic Medicine and MSU College of Human Medicine come to discuss their experiences with the MCAT and medical school applications. We have lined up professionals to come speak and give insight into the journey they took to becoming a professional.

We are continuing to provide weekly volunteer services at Haven House, an emergency shelter for one-parent and two-parent families with children that prepare homeless families for permanent housing. It does not take much more than a smiling child to remind us of how our efforts continue to benefit the Lansing Area. We are taking part in the Breast Cancer 5K run/walk and have planned social events, such as a trip to the local cider mill to bring our members together.

Excitedly, we look forward to our medical mission trip to the Dominican Republic this December. There we will have the ability to work and assist physicians and nurses treating people who have been without health care for long durations of time. This experience will give our members the opportunity to witness the state of health care in a foreign nation, as well as take the opportunity to witness the culture of the beautiful city of San Juan De La Manguana.

This semester will provide many experiences that will bring our chapter, our institution, our community, and our international communities together as a whole. We cannot be more excited for the opportunities ahead!

Article by: David Pegouske

Mississippi Beta

The Mississippi Beta Chapter of Alpha Epsilon Delta has always aspired to be actively involved in the medical community both on campus as well as throughout the city of Oxford. We are, however, very excited about our plans to revamp some aspects of our organization in the upcoming year. Some of our chapter’s university and civic involvement include the following: University of Mississippi Health Week, volunteering off campus, and establishing a shadowing network of medical professionals for its members to utilize. During Health Week at the University of Mississippi, AED crafted specialized events every day in order to promote involvement campus-wide. For example, incorporating the theme of dental hygiene, we launched a dental hygiene donations drive benefitting those in need within our city. On another day, we promoted mental health by working with the local humane society to provide the opportunity for students to be able to de-stress by playing with the puppies. Overall, it was an engaging and fun week that we as a chapter could share while bringing community attention to some of the different aspects that make up the well-being of each person. Volunteering off campus is very important to our chapter as well; we stress the importance of community service for all of our members.

To that end, AED regularly incorporates events where the whole chapter can gather in service of the local Oxford community. We are currently planning an outing where we will visit the local hospice and spend time with its residents. Our hope is that by introducing our members to this type of service in the community, they will be able to bond as a group as well as become aware of service opportunities within the medical community.

Lastly, one of the main goals of the Mississippi Beta Chapter is to establish a shadowing network for its members. This new network will be a useful tool for prospective students to get in touch with physicians who can help them complete their shadowing hours. For some, it is a daunting task, trying to find a physician who will be willing to take on an observer. We hope to eliminate this struggle altogether through this new network. We are currently working on creating this new system by asking current members who have shadowed physicians in the past to procure the physician’s permission to add their contact information to our database. This new database will greatly facilitate the process of finding a shadowing position with a physician for our members.

The Mississippi Beta Chapter of AED is very involved on and off campus and is looking forward to the upcoming events and innovations of this school year!

Article by: Alex Adderholt
Missouri Epsilon

This semester we have very high hopes for our AED chapter here at the University of Missouri! We recently have finished recruiting new members. We advertised our chapter with flyers around campus and through social media. We then held several informational sessions where the potential new members could come to meet our executive board and learn a little more about our chapter and what we do. This semester we will be volunteering at the Ronald McDonald house. We will serve dinner to those families who are staying there. At the end of last semester our service chair asked the chapter what kind of service events would they like to participate in the up-coming semester. We received great feedback and will now be volunteering at local shelters and pounds. The thing that we like most about this chapter is that we get to make it our own and are allowed to do that based on what interests our members wish to pursue. We will also be holding socials for our chapter members. The primary focus of these socials is for our new members to connect and network with older members with similar classes and majors. This is important, because we want to see each and every one of our members succeed here at the University of Missouri. We are still expecting our members to attend at least three service events and two socials as required to be in good standing in the chapter.

Article by: Madison Faulkenberry

Nevada Beta

This Spring, Nevada Beta wasted zero time in jumpstarting the semester with a variety of new service endeavors! Our successful Blood Drive Committee continued to work with United Blood Services to host multiple blood collection drives on campus throughout the semester. Several of our members joined together to form a new Bone Marrow Committee in partnership with the Gift of Life Foundation. The Gift of Life Foundation serves as a national registry that facilitates bone marrow transplants to patients in need throughout the globe. With just a simple swab to the inside of the cheek, potential donors are able to be matched to a sickly patient on the registry. After being matched, volunteers have the option of participating in the program by donating blood stem cells or donating portions of their actual bone marrow. The committee’s founding members felt that lessening the nationwide gap between the number of bone marrow transplant seekers and actual bone marrow donors was something that Nevada Beta could personally take part in. Each month this Spring, our Bone Marrow Committee was able to hold multiple on-campus drives to swab and find potential donors. Our members played an essential role in advertising the cause, gathering UNLV students and helping them get swabbed! These drives were a huge success, which led to a handful of matches being found and placed within the registry.

In addition, this Spring saw the formation of another new service committee, one specifically dedicated to educating underserved high school students throughout the Las Vegas valley, about college and more specifically, what it means to be a pre-professional student. During these monthly presentations, Nevada Beta members serve as mentors for the students and advise them on ways to reach their academic goals. Students were given tips for applying to college, attaining scholarships, improving study habits, and various volunteer work and research opportunities which aspiring students need to participate in to be considered for professional schools. Overall, this service endeavor has been a huge success! Nevada Beta members always have a fun time talking with the students, and at the end of the day, many of them feel a sense of fulfillment in guiding a younger student toward achieving his/her dreams.

Lastly, one of the biggest highlights of this semester’s activities was our executive board’s trip to the Alpha Epsilon Delta National Convention in Houston, Texas! As the only chapter attending from the West coast, our officers were extremely excited to represent our district with pride! During the convention, we attended multiple workshops aimed at preparing us for professional school admissions, toured Baylor College of Medicine, and were able to socialize with other AED members from chapters across the country. It was great to see so many other chapters—from Louisiana, and Alabama, to Michigan—arrive and represent Alpha Epsilon Delta in true camaraderie and spirit. Our officers had a total blast in meeting students with similar professional goals and networking amongst our future colleagues. Most of our officers returned from the convention with a heightened appreciation for our national organization, and greater inspiration to achieve our graduate school goals. With the Fall 2016 semester now in full swing, we can only hope to continue to build on the success of the spring semester! We are excited to see where our newest service endeavors will take us and look forward to the many more service opportunities to come.

Article by: Justine Ipac
New Jersey Beta

The New Jersey Beta Chapter of Alpha Epsilon Delta at Stevens Institute of Technology had a productive spring semester and is now gearing up for an even more eventful fall. Fifteen students were initiated into the chapter last spring, representing a significant increase in membership. The newly-expanded chapter had the chance to visit the Gunther Von Hagens' Body Worlds: Pulse Exhibition at the Discovery Museum in Times Square this past April. The exhibit featured donated bodies curated in an attempt to capture the hectic, busy vibe of New York City. Several new editions included the “Tai Chi Man” and the “Flamenco Dancer,” which demonstrated the sheer beauty and power of the human musculature. Members found several of the works featured on the Central Nervous System to be fascinating, some of which included a full spinal cord and all the nerve pathways of the Peripheral Nervous System. Several of the new members of AED were in the middle of a Biological Systems course, and the Bodies exhibition gave an excellent real-world visualization of the various body systems. Those in attendance were very impressed and are hoping to go again sometime in the future! Now that the fall semester has arrived, the new AED executive board is preparing a host of on-campus events for members and interested parties. In mid-October, the chapter will be pairing up with the Stevens Health Professional Club to co-host a Mental Health Awareness and Nutrition information session. The Assistant Director of the Counseling and Psychological Service Center and a nutritionist will be speaking to students about the importance of mental health, warning signs, and the necessity of healthy eating. In addition, a Suture lab has been planned and will be led by a Stevens’s professor experienced in the art of suturing! Our chapter also has a CPR event planned for November and hopes to have guest speakers from the surrounding New Jersey medical and dental schools to come to present about the application process. The fall brings a wealth of opportunity and the NJ Beta Chapter of AED is excited to gain traction in the upcoming months!

Olivia Schreiber, Scalpel

New Jersey Delta

As the fall semester kicks off at Monmouth University, the Alpha Epsilon Delta honor society has held its first meeting as well as its first event. Our first event was a presentation from Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine featuring Paula Watkins, MAS, Assistant Dean for Admissions. This allowed many aspiring physicians to learn about how to prepare for medical school as well as what medical schools are looking for in an applicant and ask questions. We hope to have even more events than we did last semester since it was a huge success. We had several successful fundraisers including a Valentine’s Day bake sale, a Yankee candle fundraiser, and an Applebee’s fundraiser. Students especially enjoyed our MCAT jeopardy hosted by Kaplan that definitely gave them insight on what is to come in terms of preparing for the MCAT. We also held an accepted students panel last semester that gave students the opportunity to ask questions directly to accepted students and get personal feedback on what students went through from their perspective. A huge event that students felt they needed the most, was a personal statement workshop hosted by the Pre-professional Health Advisory Committee, which was incredibly helpful during the stressful application season. Lastly, we made sure to give students a wide range of events that showed the many fields of medicine including a presentation by a pathologist assistant, a physician assistant information session and even a career choices panel. This semester we hope to incorporate many events that expose students to more fields of medicine. Currently we are soliciting volunteers for a blood drive, collecting donations for the flood-effected Louisiana chapter of Alpha Epsilon Delta and cooking dinners on the weekends for residents at the Center in Asbury Park. We are looking forward to what this semester has in store for us.

Article by: Crystal Diaz
North Carolina Epsilon

This past year has been a successful year for the North Carolina Epsilon chapter of AED at East Carolina University. We have volunteered in a wide variety of events throughout both semesters including the MDA muscle walk and a project called Rebuilding Pitt County. This year the Chapter is kicking off the school year by implementing a mentor program, which will involve junior and senior members mentoring the freshman and sophomores. The mentoring program will provide freshman and sophomores the additional resources they need in order to reach their goal of having a career in a health profession. Every year our chapter participates in the MDA muscle walk in order to raise awareness. Last year’s MDA muscle walk was held on Halloween morning at Sarah Vaughn Field of Dreams park, where people could decorate cookies, play corn hole, and decorate pumpkins before the walk started. This year the chapter will participate in the MDA muscle walk that will be held in Raleigh, NC at Pullen Park on September 24th. In the spring of 2016, our chapter participated in a project called Rebuilding Pitt Count. We went out to a local church and helped remodel it. Some members worked on the outside of the building mowing the lawn, trimming bushes, organizing and repainting the playground, or staining the steps at the front of the church. Other members worked on the inside of the building, setting up computers, organizing rooms, or repainting walls. This fall semester, upcoming events include the Random Act of Kindness Project, the MDA muscle walk, medical reader’s theater, and our new mentoring program. Our chapter has grown tremendously in the past year and we look forward to what we can accomplish this year.

Submitted by: Ana Terman

New York XI

The New York XI chapter of Alpha Epsilon Delta at SUNY Oneonta had a wonderful first chartering semester spring of 2016. We had over 50 national members join, as well as several local members. Our chapter had a great response from the school and local community and we hope to continue with this momentum. This semester, a wonderful speaker came to SUNY Oneonta to speak to our members about traditional Chinese medicine and acupuncture. She brought in samples of herbs, which she spoke about. Our biggest event of the semester was our induction ceremony for new members. We had an outstanding turnout of applicants who went above and beyond the requirements of those required to be accepted into the honor society. At SUNY Oneonta, we strive to help both our school community as well as our local community. One way in which we reached out to the community this semester was by cleaning up a local Park the morning after SUNY Oneonta held its Spring Concert there. We collected garbage in hopes that it would alleviate some of the stress and problems caused by the concert being held in this park every year. The New York XI Chapter of SUNY Oneonta has an exciting year ahead of us. We have new E-Board members with many great ideas and plans for the future. We hope to continue to serve the local community and those in need.

Submitted by: David Slone
North Carolina Theta

Alpha Epsilon Delta at Appalachian State University is integrating its way into the campus community with nineteen current members, and we are scouting more recruits for the Spring 2017 induction ceremony. One of the most beneficial decisions of the society has been partnering with the Health Professions Club, allowing an AED interest group to be established within the club, which allows participation in various events such as Relay for Life and the ability to take part in its diverse meetings. The society has blossomed and opened its doors to many opportunities in the past several months, and the upcoming year appears to be just as promising as the last. In April 2016, AED held a Chipotle fundraiser to raise money for the society. By mentioning AED or having a picture of the flyer, 50% of the proceeds were donated and buyers could enjoy a delicious burrito while simultaneously having the warm, fuzzy feeling from helping raise money for a good cause. The event took place shortly after the Spring 2016 inductions, and with the addition of fourteen new eager and engaged members, the fundraiser reached more of the Appalachian student body than it ever had before. Relay for Life is always a major success at Appalachian, and in April 2016, AED had the opportunity to collaborate with the Health Professions Club in setting up a booth at the event. The fundraising activities included selling Krispy Kreme donuts and hot cocoa along with entertaining guests with goldfish water pong. Our volunteer sign-up sheet was complete with members actively participating and managing the booth. During their down time, members enthusiastically mingled with participants and supporters. The event was broadcast aggressively across campus and members of AED even brought friends to participate and volunteer. This was one of the most beneficial events in recent memory and we are looking forward to an even larger turnout next year. Fall 2016 is looking bright for the society with the AED interest group in full swing and with several service opportunities lined up. The society is growing and evolving every year, and this growth fuels more and more excitement as these events unfold and membership soars. AED at Appalachian has established a reputation of health conscious, community-based service that serves as the foundational philosophy for wellness through charity.

Article by: Katie Tally

Ohio Alpha

Coming to you from The Ohio State University, we of the Ohio Alpha chapter are glad to share with you some of the enjoyable events and programs that we get to host here in Columbus for this year’s 2016 Fall Semester. The first being our 4th Annual Summer Opportunities Open House, where we give our students the opportunity to get involved in the many avenues of research, fellowship, internships, study abroad and service trips, and much, much more. This event has had a huge impact on the hundreds of undergraduate students, including myself, that have attended in the past and will continue to have a great impact for as long as the event continues. Four times during the summer, we offer our esteemed Dine with Docs program. Our members get to share a tasty, evening meal with local doctors and physicians from a wide variety of specialties across the healthcare field, while also getting to learn and discover all the ins-and-outs of their preferred specialization through Q and A and group dialogue. For anyone looking for clarification or a head start on their potential, future career, these are definitely the dinners to go to. And last but certainly not least, we feel service is a monumental piece of our organization. That’s why we put so much emphasis on our award winning Buckeye Tutor Team. Our chapter members volunteer their time to be with the chronically ill of the internationally recognized Nationwide Children’s Hospital. We offer any type of aid needed by the children, teaching and tutoring the children in their schoolwork and studies, from scholarly and clinical, to emotional and spiritual, this program focuses on the fundamental reason for why we all choose to take part in the health care world in the first place, the people.

Article by: Byron Spruil
Ohio Beta

AED Ohio Beta at the University of Toledo has improved its general member attendance by marketing specifically to a variety of pre-professional in addition to pre-med. AED Ohio Beta has tried to accommodate other pre-professional undergraduates by inviting professionals such as physician assistants, nurses, and even EMT’s to present at their meetings. The number of general members that are not pre-med is ever expanding, and this is apparent with the impressive turnouts at these types of meetings. Utilizing countless resources in and around the university, this year’s AED executive board has put a strong emphasis on volunteering and networking. AED’s Ohio Beta members recently volunteered at a local community garden, pulling weeds, washing garden utensils, and even caring for chickens. To increase networking, AED Ohio Beta held an organization tables meeting. General members were introduced to opportunities to get involved in and around the university. Information about scribing, shadowing, tutoring, research, and volunteering was shared at the event. Other campus organizations like the American Chemical Society and Global Medical Brigades were also represented. This information-intensive meeting gave students important insight into a number of resources and opportunities. AED Ohio Beta is organizing many more meetings like these. By including more volunteering opportunities, attendance has improved. These successful events have given our members volunteering hours and networking opportunities, which are essential to any pre-professional undergraduate. AED Ohio Beta looks to continue to improve attendance through numerous volunteering opportunities and various activities led by local medical professionals.

Submitted by: Joseph McTague

Picture Above: AED Ohio Beta volunteering at a local community garden

Ohio Eta

At the University of Dayton, AED continues to be one of the most prominent professional fraternities on campus. Throughout the years, AED has been an integral part of many volunteer opportunities, where students not only get involved on campus, but also in the greater Dayton community.

Looking back at all of AED’s accomplishments, one of our most memorable experiences would have to be volunteering at Dayton Children’s Hospital. Here, members of AED go to the hospital once a week to visit sick children and help alleviate their worries of being in the hospital. While there, students engage in activities with the children, such as reading books, playing games and assisting staff members in ways that not only help the children, but the staff too, in terms of making the day go smoothly. This opportunity has had a great impact on our organization. It allows students to feel the hardships of these young children, and appreciate just how lucky they are to be able to help them in their time of need.

Dayton’s own Danny Arnold 5K Walk/Run is another activity that AED has participated in over the past few years. Danny was a bright, young student at the University of Dayton before he suffered a tragic accident that eventually took his life. Every year, Dayton hosts a 5K in his honor, where family, friends, UD students and faculty come together to remember Danny by either walking or running the race. Through this memorable experience, students get to meet those who knew Danny, and appreciate his aspirations and goals in life, so that we can attempt to mimic his hard work within our own organization.

Most recently, AED decided to take part in helping the disaster relief efforts currently going on in Louisiana. LSU has reached out to AEDs across the nation to help with recovery efforts from recent flooding. Dayton’s Chapter answered the call for help by hosting a bake sale. Our members baked cookies and other treats to sell to UD students and staff, donating all of the proceeds to LSU. This project has allowed our Chapter to participate in a way that is meaningful to others, and help provide relief to those in need, no matter where they might be.

Over all, the University of Dayton’s AED program has participated in various volunteer opportunities where AED members have truly been able to make a difference. These are just a few examples of the many ways AED has made an impact not only on the lives of the UD students, but also on the lives of others.

Article by: Jeri Brandy
During the 2015-2016 school year, the Oklahoma Delta chapter of AED at the University of Tulsa, concentrated on providing informative pre-health professions advice to our members and attendees, perhaps the most important step for those just starting out on their medical journeys. Among the most enlightening experiences included a Q&A with local medical students (including recent graduates of the University of Tulsa), an information session with admissions officers from local medical schools, and a mock interview session.

The question and answer session with medical students from local schools was educational to students in a comfortable and relatable way because it offered the students an opportunity to query individuals who had been in their situation not too long ago. MCAT questions, application questions, and interview questions were all answered in a way that hit a little closer to home. The information session with admissions officers from local medical schools was equally as instructive, giving students the hard facts about what it takes to get into medical school, which is something every pre-med student wants to know. Last, but certainly not least, the mock interview session was a huge success. The interview can be one of the most nerve-racking steps in the application process, and learning what kinds of questions could be asked as well as how to answer them is an invaluable skill that every pre-health student could benefit from.

This fall semester, and this coming spring, Oklahoma Delta plans to be just as active, providing many beneficial meetings for our members. Already, we have represented the Delta chapter at our university’s activity fair and had an outstanding number of future members sign up for our e-mail list. Similar events to those hosted last year are planned for this semester and the next, as well as an increased number of social events. Our first AED movie night will be held in late November to promote comradeship among the pre-health students. After all, the journey to any pre-health profession is difficult, but having friends to study with can make the path a little less trying.

Article written by Senna Sous

The Oklahoma Eta chapter of AED at Northeastern State University (NSU) is reorganizing and rejuvenating. There have been two organizational meetings held on the two campuses of NSU. The main campus in Tahlequah, also the capital of the Cherokee Nation, and the Broken Arrow campus, a suburb of Tulsa, both offer several degree programs that allow students to take preprofessional health courses. Recently, the two clubs have been sharing speakers via the University’s Interactive Television system. This has led to a greater variety of information being shared with all the students at NSU and also a greater integration of the two campuses. It is through the same faculty member, Dr. Craig Clifford, sponsoring both clubs and also advising on both campuses that the renewed interest in AED began. AED will meet after the PreProfessional Health Club meetings on both campuses and will meet by ITV as well. A small project already completed by the AED potential members was collecting clothing to send to the LSU AED group after the recent flooding. Two large boxes of new or slightly used jeans and t-shirts were sent by the group. The presidents of the two PPHC groups are leading the reorganization effort for AED. Ryan Ottwell in Tahlequah and Mariam Mamah in Broken Arrow are excited about the possibility of AED serving the preprofessional programs at Northeastern State University.

Article by: Dr. Craig Clifford
As of September 30, 2016, our AED chapter has not been involved in any events or activities for the fall semester. However, we have had one executive board meeting as well as a general meeting for all members. During these meetings, we have established future events.

As a chapter, the plan is to visit the Ronald McDonald house near the University of Pennsylvania the morning of October 8. We plan to bring along breakfast supplies such as eggs and pancake mix. We will be volunteering as a chapter to prepare breakfast for the sick children, including clean up. We have volunteered with the Ronald McDonald house in previous years.

As a chapter, we will participate in the Light the Night Walk around a 5K near the Philadelphia art museum. The walk is in support of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Executive board members are also discussing the possibility of volunteering as a chapter weekly at the Esperanza Clinic near Temple University. It will also be beneficial for achieving clinical hours for our students and benefit the community as well.

Article by: Melinda Phun
The Pennsylvania Rho Chapter at Robert Morris University is entering its third year since installation. Our chapter is recruiting potential members and has many events planned for the upcoming year. In the fall of 2016, the Pre-Med club and AED had a joint meeting, which included a speaker from the University of Pittsburgh, School of Medicine. The speaker told our members what the admissions process to medical school is like, and gave insightful tips on how to start planning for medical school early.

Our future plans include meetings with PCOM (Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine), New York Chiropractic College, and a panel of health professionals. This panel will include MDs, DOs, dentists, PAs, etc. from the area and will give insight to what life is like in these fields of work. We had this event two years ago and it was very successful and a great networking opportunity.

Our chapter has volunteered at West Hills Retirement Home, and will continue volunteering there throughout the year. We also intend to donate goods to the AED Louisiana Beta Chapter to help flood victims.

As for fundraising, we do a finals week food fundraiser where we set up a table and sell food and drinks to students. Our chapter also does a raffle for our members at the end of every meeting (including gift cards, prizes, etc.).

Our older members host a meeting for younger members each year. These older members discuss internships that they participated in and also give younger members insight on how to study for the MCAT. This meeting is very valuable and is a great bonding exercise for our members. Our chapter intends to continue bringing our members together throughout the year in order to make a lasting effect on the community and the University.

Written by: Nicholas Benjamin

AED’s first service event of the year involved joining 1000 Plus in doing community service around Pittsburgh. This year the members were assigned to farm local lands. It was nonetheless a great bonding experience for the chapter! Congratulations to Ashley, Andrea, Jennifer, Kennix, Azmal, Tim, and Rafae for successfully crossing over February 28th, 2016 and proving to be dedicated members to Alpha Epsilon Delta. We look forward to seeing what these members can contribute and lead the Carnegie Mellon Chapter!

AED hosted another one of its MedTalks a couple of weeks ago. This time, we were fortunate to host Dr. Polat. She is actually a Carnegie Mellon University alumnus herself, so listening to her speak was so helpful and relatable. She passed on advice and anecdotes of her past with medicine, and she was simply so awesome. Thank you Dr. Polat!

Currently the members of Alpha Epsilon Delta are working on the interviews and application admissions of our potential pledges! We have met such a bright group of people, we are so excited to really get to know everyone!

In order for our current members to get to know the potential members, we invited our pledges to one of our GBMs. We called this event “Meet & Greet”. We provided pizza (because let’s be real, who doesn’t like pizza?), information, and importantly, a chance to talk to each other. Members and potential members played a telephone charade game. The whole Wean Hall building was filled with laughter!

We are excited to soon welcome new members to our chapter! There is a lot in store for this year, including more MedTalks, blood drives, and team bonding.

Article by: Jiwon Ban

Written by: Nicholas Benjamin
The Furman University chapter of Alpha Epsilon Delta has engaged in a multitude of enriching activities for students interested in healthcare careers. Our organization has hosted several physicians and other healthcare professionals from various fields in giving lectures to Furman students on their respective specialties and about healthcare in general. These events have educated Furman students on the types of opportunities that are available within the healthcare field and connected students with medical professionals throughout the Greenville community. For instance, Dr. Meghann Kaiser, a trauma surgeon at the Greenville Health System, has volunteered her time to talk with Furman students about critical care surgery and to offer Furman students the opportunity to participate in her research on trauma care. As a result, several Furman students are currently conducting research with Dr. Kaiser and participating in experiences that will allow them to gain knowledge of medical research.

Furthermore, Furman’s AED chapter has sponsored health-related events on Furman’s campus such as blood drives, a 5K event, and the showing of a documentary about cancer titled “The Emperor of All Maladies.” Through these events, and many more, Furman students have been exposed to valuable information about healthcare professions, volunteer opportunities, and health awareness campaigns.

One of the more significant events AED has hosted this semester is a Mock Interview for students applying to health professional schools. Our chapter has invited guest interviewers from the Greenville community, including current medical students and physicians, to interview Furman’s pre-health students to better prepare them for graduate school interviews. Students who have participated in this event have received valuable and constructive feedback from their interviewers on how to better improve their interpersonal and interviewing skills.

The Furman University chapter of Alpha Epsilon Delta has been, and will continue to be, very active throughout Furman’s campus to ensure pre-health students have the opportunity to learn and engage in meaningful health-related activities.

Submitted by: Reed Holmes
Each year, our chapter participates in many service opportunities in several branches of the community. However, there is one event that stands out for everyone, including myself, which is our fundraiser for the St. Baldrick’s Foundation. Their mission is simple: taking a seemingly simple dare and raising money around it for children’s cancer research. Each year, hundreds of thousands of children are diagnosed with cancer. Sadly, in the United States, more children also die of cancer than from any other disease. The St. Baldrick’s Foundation is looking to change these sad facts. Their mission is two-fold. Clearly, they receive money from head shaving donations which then goes to fund their research. However, one thing people often overlook is what it does for the children. Healthy, in their own respect, individuals come out each year, to which the chapter here is no exception, to shave their head in honor of St. Baldrick’s. Seeing first-hand what this does for the children’s self-esteem is truly magical. We often take for granted something that some children are severely embarrassed of not having as they undergo various treatments.

As always, our chapter here has grown exponentially and we look forward to this academic year and the many service projects that come along with it. I will end this report on a thought we have left with all our members before undergoing a head shave for the St. Baldrick’s Foundation: shaving your head may not be a big deal to you, but imagine how it could make thousands of children feel after they see what you did in support of them.

Submitted by: Dakota Brown
This semester, Texas Beta welcomed 30 new members into the Fall 2016 cohort to add to its 100 general members. Texas Beta hosted a variety of speakers at general member meetings including a professor of bioethics, an oral surgeon, a flight surgeon, an internist/director of an undergraduate research internship, and an admissions representative from the University of Florida College of Medicine. The chapter served together at 10 different large service events around Waco. Individual members served weekly at a local clinic, a hospice center, an after-school program for impoverished youth, an adult day care center, or at a variety of other locations.

Last semester Texas Beta went on their first inaugural spring break mission trip to the Dominican Republic. 12 students and 3 faculty members partnered with Orphan's Heart to serve the community in El Carrizal, one of the poorest and least educated villages in the Dominican Republic. The team painted houses to help Orphan’s Heart’s long term project of building 100 homes for this community. Students also taught healthy behaviors including basic hygiene, dental care, nutrition, and growth/development to the children of the village that weren’t enrolled in school. Students were also able to shadow physicians in El Carrizal, in a rural hospital, and in the large city hospital in Azua.

Texas Beta hosts a prehealth professional school fair in the spring for all Baylor students interested in a career in healthcare, known as Prehealth Day. This year, Texas Beta hosted 33 medical, dental, PA, PT, OT, and pharmacy institutions as well as local scribing companies looking to hire prehealth students. Over 800 students attended lectures about admissions and networked with the representatives. AED members acted as hosts to these representatives, helping them prepare for their lectures, assisting them throughout the day, and attending a lunch with them.

Texas Beta has dubbed this their Year of Integrity and is challenging their membership to focus on the meaning behind the activities that prepare them for medical school. Too often, students get caught up checking things off a list, solely because that’s what they’re told medical schools want. By prompting small group discussions, reflecting on service events, and encouraging honesty and transparency, Texas Beta hopes to fight this mentality and train purposeful, genuine future-physicians.

Article by: Geordyn Hoge

In the spring semester of 2016, Texas Epsilon at Houston Baptist University kicked off the year with preparations for the AED Biennial National Convention. Our chapter provided members with service and leadership opportunities. The members gained a greater perspective on the issues plaguing both our local communities and the world. We hope to continue serving the community so that they may develop a passion for serving others and continue being a part of something greater than ourselves.

One such event was with Project C.U.R.E., an organization that donates excess medical supplies to developing countries around the world. Our members assisted in sorting and packaging medical supplies and equipment into boxes. These provisions could prove to be potentially lifesaving in developing countries that have underfunded health care.

Texas Epsilon also assisted the local community by volunteering at Loaves and Fishes Soup Kitchen, where our members prepared and served food to the homeless. They also spent time with the homeless and connected with them on a personal level. This volunteering opportunity gave our members a valuable insight on what underprivileged people face and struggle with on a daily basis.

After hearing about what other AED chapters have done to strengthen their presence in both their school and communities, we initiated our own physician shadowing program starting this fall semester. Over the summer, we got in contact with numerous physicians and were fortunate enough to have some HBU alumni join our program and mentor our members, thus giving them the opportunity to learn about and embrace the medical field. In order to prepare our members for the pre-health field, we have also implemented MCAT preparation sessions this semester because we wanted to help our pre-med members feel more comfortable and familiar with the material on the MCAT. Every month there will be an MCAT prep session where we will let our members work on MCAT problems and then go over the questions with them free of charge. Through these new programs, our members can develop a more thorough and deeper understanding of the medical field and what it entails.

We will also be taking our members on a tour of UT Health Science Center in the Houston Medical Center, with our members learning more about medical school as we learned at the Biennial Convention. We look forward to growing more and more and creating even greater opportunities for our members. We hope that we can grow from being a smaller chapter to becoming a national powerhouse.

Article by: Darwin Nguyen
As one of the most prominent pre-health organizations on the University of North Texas campus, the Texas Theta chapter of Alpha Epsilon Delta continues to make strides towards excellence. Since its conception in 1986, AED Texas Theta has effectively encouraged students to participate in community events, establish connections amongst each other and with healthcare providers, and develop into the nation’s leading healthcare professionals. With this year’s team of officers, it is clear that ambition, creativity, and innovation are at the forefront of focus, as we begin to introduce previously unutilized concepts such as new variations of events, larger variety of guest speakers, video production, graphic design, and more. One of our most popular events thus far is the suture clinic, where students are provided hands-on experience and guided instruction in suture technique. As we proceed into the semester, AED officers anticipate a continued rise in participation in response to such events, and renewed sense of motivation for life goals.

At our bi-weekly meetings, AED invites guest speakers from a number of professions, including Physicians of various specialties, Physician Assistants, and Dentists. Following the guest lecture and audience inquiries, students are often provided the opportunity to shadow the provider, which offers them first-hand experience into their target field.

While it is not far-fetched to state that we have some work to do, AED officers are confident that by learning the interests and desires of the members, our chapter as a whole will continue to grow and mold into a more effective organization. In the end, AED Texas Theta prides itself most in knowing that it is not the officers who provide our fuel for success, but it is the members and their desire to learn and explore new opportunities. Together with the acquisition of medical knowledge and an abundant desire to serve humanity, both members and officers alike are confidently proclaiming that it is truth we pursue in this journey of life.

Joshua Austin Johnson

The Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi Texas XI chapter of AED has continued to increase membership and has had high meeting attendance this past semester. The XI chapter members continue to work hard toward achieving their pre-professional goals. Our chapter invites speakers from various fields of medicine in order to expand our members’ knowledge to the wide array of pre-professional careers, and spark the interest of a few who are still deciding which path to follow. Recent speakers included Elissa Meyer who is a second year pharmacy student, and Dr. Barbara Miller from Baylor College of Dentistry.

Campus involvement and participation grew this past year as we had an officer nominated for the title of Homecoming Queen. TAMU-CC’s homecoming festivities included: lighting of the “I”, Friday Fiesta, and decorating a float and participating in the Homecoming parade. Compared to the previous year’s Homecoming, we had a greater attendance of our members at the Homecoming game. We strive to continue improvement in campus involvement by spreading the awareness of the organization and emphasizing that the road to profession school can be fun as well.

Our chapter continues to be consistent with community service involvement. Community service involvement quenches our passion to assist those in need. Service activities we volunteered with this past spring, and will continue to work with, include Habitat for Humanity, the Science Olympiad, and various clothing and canned food drives. Volunteering at various service events increases our skills, from building homes to running a high school scholastic science competition. The students of the Texas XI chapter continue to grow increasingly interested in serving others, and showing their readiness for a career in health care.

Article by: Melina Ortiz
Washington Gamma

We have an exciting fall semester planned this fall at Washington State University Gamma chapter of AED. First, we kicked off the year with an item drive to support the victims of the Louisiana floods in August. We also held a blood drive in September with the Red Cross. We will continue to create community focused volunteer opportunities throughout the semester. We frequently hold workshops in our Health Professions Center that prepare students for applying to professional programs. We have workshops that bolster student’s resumes, provide mock interview questions, and prepare for sending in professional applications to potential schools of interest. The workshops create an opportunity to be a more competitive applicant when it comes to the application and interview process. Finally, we have a WWAMI panel for pre-medical students which provides a unique opportunity to meet current medical students. This allows students to learn about what happens after their undergraduate education. Students can also learn about what attending medical school is like and ask questions about their experiences during the application and interview process.

Overall, Gamma Chapter will have an eventful fall semester as we aim to keep our members involved in the community as well as promote personal growth on their path in the medical field.

Texas Zeta

There has not been a better time to be a part of the Texas Zeta chapter at Texas Christian University than now. This chapter is evolving in areas such as membership development and prospective student recruitment in order to better the activities of current and future chapter members. One new event in membership development was during the first meeting of the fall semester. Rather than having a typical chapter meeting, the executive council decided to have a fun, social meeting in order to formally welcome the students back to campus. With regards to prospective student recruitment, the Texas Zeta chapter has partnered up with the Pre-Health Professions Institute at TCU to create a pre-health student ambassador program. Both of these new events have allowed the chapter to grow in these areas and help the chapter enhance relationships among students.

When deciding on what to do for the first chapter meeting, the executive council decided their fellow members would rather have an active and fun welcome back meeting than one involved with a speaker. This welcome meeting took place in the science building’s courtyard and included free food, selling of T-shirts, and promotion of organizations such as the new PA club, Princeton, Kaplan and PhysAssist. At this meeting, 49 students signed up for associate membership, 25 students signed up for an upcoming CPR class, and 30 students signed up for an AED intramural team! Overall, this welcome back meeting was a huge success in regards to members bonding with other members of the chapter as well as connecting with organizations that can help further their health careers.

In addition to this event, the Texas Zeta chapter and the Pre-Health Professions Institute are pioneering the Pre-Health Ambassador Program; this program allows current TCU pre-health students to connect with prospective students interested in our program. The main duties of these ambassadors are to meet with prospective students individually, show them around campus, and answer any questions about TCU. In addition, ambassadors answer questions on a panel during Mondays at TCU, a day where high school students tour the campus and get an idea of what college is like at TCU. These ambassadors have done a great job showcasing our school to these individuals, and it has allowed the new students to have a more personal connection to the pre-health program on campus.

Reflecting on these two events, the 2016-2017 school year looks bright for the Texas Zeta chapter. This chapter accommodates its 337 members with these events and others such as chapter meetings with amazing speakers, community service opportunities, and a stellar observation program. Be on the lookout for this chapter as they continue on their innovative trend in enhancing their members’ pre-health experience.

Article by: Amanda Seemann
As aspiring physicians, members of the West Virginia University chapter of AED believe that it is our responsibility to make sure people’s basic needs are met so that they can realize their full potential and empower themselves to do greater things. In Morgantown, WV, we have a major homelessness problem. While each of these people has unique reasons for living on the streets, they have all been drawn here by the available services and shelters that Morgantown has to offer. Acknowledging the homelessness problem has made us aware of the discrepancies in the medical field, in which the homeless are rarely receiving the proper primary care that they need to help battle substance abuse and mental health issues. The residents of West Virginia have already taken initiative by the creation of non-profit outreach programs like project “Multidisciplinary Unsheltered Homeless Relief Outreach of Morgantown” (MUSHROOM), where medical students and physicians go around the city to provide the homeless with medical care and food. Although the city does boast several agencies willing to provide shelter and food for the indigent, the numbers continue to increase due to the growing epidemic of alcohol and substance abuse, resulting in increased demand for help.

To support our community, our chapter plans on assembling care packages for the homeless and financially distressed that will contain provisions to meet most of their basic needs. Donation stations will be set up around campus for people to donate hygiene supplies, nonperishable foods, and clean water. The care packages will be distributed among the different agencies around the city, and also directly to individuals living on the streets. Hopefully, these care packages will provide much needed nourishment and encouragement for the less fortunate to get back on their feet.

Article by Natalie Hobeika

West Virginia Alpha

Wisconsin Beta

This past semester, the Wisconsin Beta chapter of AED at the University of Wisconsin, Madison has focused on preparing our members for medical school, uniting our organization, and developing our civic mindedness by giving back to the community. At our general meetings, we were fortunate enough to have various prestigious physicians join us and speak to us about their experiences in medical school, their field of medicine, and life as a medical physician. Through these speakers, our members were able to learn about a variety of different medical fields, including pediatrics, urology, emergency medicine, and more. This opportunity allowed our members to start considering which field of medicine they may be interested in and reminded us all why we are pursuing a career in medicine. Additionally, we also provided our members with various courses and opportunities designed to introduce them to healthcare and medicine. These included a CPR course, a phlebotomy course, and a “Careers in Navy Medicine” session. The phlebotomy course was very popular and allowed our members to learn and practice various blood-drawing techniques. A couple of our members are now employed as phlebotomists at local hospitals and clinics in the area after taking the course. One of the best opportunities to get involved in medicine that we offered to our members was our surgical shadowing program. We are very proud to be the only pre-medical organization on campus which offered this program, in which our active members were able to shadow a surgeon in the operating room for a duration of three months. Not only did this program allow our members to witness countless surgeries firsthand, it also allowed them to build a connection with their surgeon mentor, and gain a valuable role model in medicine. An additional way that our chapter works to support our members on their pre-medical journey is by providing them with a close network of fellow pre-medical students. We held many social events last semester in order to unite our large organization and achieve this goal. Such events included study sessions, ice skating, trivia night, museum tours, basketball games, and an end of the year cookout. Finally, our chapter believes it is very important to promote civic mindedness by giving back to the community. At our general meetings, we were fortunate enough to have various prestigious physicians join us and speak to us about their experiences in medical school, uniting our organization, and developing our civic mindedness by giving back to the community. At our general meetings, we were fortunate enough to have various prestigious physicians join us and speak to us about their experiences in medical school, uniting our organization, and developing our civic mindedness by giving back to the community.
Are you sure you’re a National Member?

The AED National Office receives numerous inquiries asking for verification of membership.

These queries frequently result from a person listing AED membership as part of their credentials.

There are those who may believe that they are members of AED – but are not!

Each AED member has been issued a certificate of membership and is officially registered in the AED National Office.

The National Office will be happy to confirm your membership status if you have any questions.

Contact us:
(817) 257-4550
AEDNationalOffices@tcu.edu

Chapter Reporting Deadlines

• The 2015-16 Financial Audit Report form is located on our website and is due in the AED National Office no later than February 1, 2017.

• The Chapter Information Report form is located on our website and is due IMMEDIATELY after new officers are elected or when there is a change in the Chapter Advisor.

• The Biennial Report is due February 1 for those chapters attending convention.

• If your chapter wants to be featured in the Spring 2017 edition of the Scalpel, article submissions are due in the National Office via email on February 1, 2017.

Forms can be submitted via email to:
aednationaloffices@tcu.edu

or via mail to:

Alpha Epsilon Delta
TCU Box 298810
Fort Worth, TX 76129

Remember:

All new inductees must submit an MRF form to the national office in order to be considered a national member.

If you have any questions, please contact the national office!
The Scalpel publishes Chapter Reports in each issue. Limit reports to 500 words, or 300 words if a picture is included. With this limited space, it will not be possible to describe every event. Instead, please focus on one event that was very successful. Please make sure any photos you send are large, high quality and not blurry or out of focus. If you have a research article or other special article to publish, the word limit can be waived or adjusted. Please contact the national office for more information. Be sure to include the chapter name, state, region number, author and AED advisor.

Submit digital photos and articles to: AEDNationalOffices@tcu.edu
What Region is Your Chapter In?
Alpha Epsilon Delta Chapter Directory

Alabama Alpha
University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa
(Charter No. 1, 04/28/1926)
Advisor: Marion Penham
mcdenham@bama.ua.edu

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Save the Date

Alpha Epsilon Delta National Convention

Bethesda, MD (Washington DC Area)
March 15 - 18, 2018
If your Chapter has not sent the Annual Chapter Information Report shown on the next page to the National Office, please fill out the form as soon as possible.

The form is available on our website at the following address and can be easily downloaded:

http://www.aednational.tcu.edu/images/annual-chapter-report.pdf

Use the email address listed below to send us the completed form.

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Thank you!
The Health Preprofessional Honor Society

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Chapter Website:

**Scalpels — Mailing Address**
Address to which bulk mailing of Scalpels for chapter distribution will be sent.

**Membership Certificates — Shipping Address**
Certificates will be delivered via UPS ground. UPS requires a street address. They will not deliver to PO boxes.

Total Number of Initiates THIS School Year __________
Total Number of Initiates LAST School Year __________

New chapter officers will be elected again ____________________________ (Date)

Submitted by:

_______________________________________  ______________________________  _______________________
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