

Dear Pharmacy Class of 2028,

Welcome to the Doctor of Pharmacy Program at the University of Alberta Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences! Congratulations on reaching this significant milestone in your academic journey. Your hard work and determination have brought you here, and you should be immensely proud of your accomplishments.

My name is Gauhar Ali (he/him), and I am honored to serve as the President of the Alberta Pharmacy Students' Association (APSA) for the 2024-25 academic year. Our APSA team has been working diligently to ensure a memorable and enriching year for all of you. We are committed to creating an environment where you can thrive academically, personally, and socially. APSA is here to advocate for our collective future as pharmacists, provide opportunities to explore various facets of pharmacy, and support you in maintaining a healthy school-life balance.

While academics are undoubtedly important, I encourage you to make the most of these years by engaging in the diverse activities and opportunities available. Pharmacy school offers something for everyone, from intramural sports and photography clubs to community education and beyond. I am particularly excited for you to partake in our cherished traditions such as the RxFactor Talent Show, the Blue and Gold Awards Gala, and the Pharmacy vs. Dentistry Hockey Game.

As you embark on this four-year journey, you will experience significant growth in many aspects of your personal and professional life. My advice to you is to embrace these changes and take in everything this experience has to offer. Pharmacy school is a transformative ride, and the personal development that accompanies it is incredibly special. Remember to be kind to yourself, especially on challenging days. Your hard work will undoubtedly pay off, and the memories and connections you make will last a lifetime.

The first few weeks can be overwhelming, so please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns. I look forward to meeting each of you and witnessing the incredible contributions you will make to our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gauhar', with a horizontal line underneath.

Gauhar Ali (he/him)
President, Alberta Pharmacy Students' Association
gauhar@ualberta.ca





Dear Pharmacy Class of 2028,

Congratulations on your acceptance into the pharmacy program at the University of Alberta! Your hard work has led you to this new chapter in your academic careers, and Max and I are very excited to be part of your journey to become successful pharmacists. As your Canadian Association of Pharmacy Students and Interns (CAPSI) representatives, we would like to introduce you to the organization that, in partnership with APSA, will provide various opportunities to supplement your knowledge, meet new colleagues, and become further inspired to advance the profession as future pharmacists. The best part is — with your APSA membership, you automatically become a CAPSI member as well!

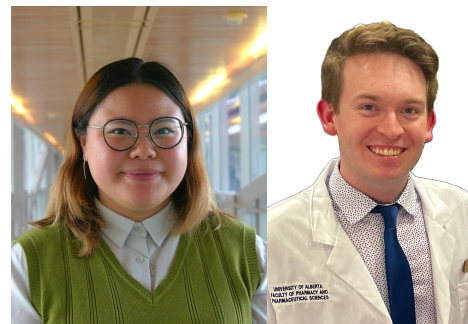
CAPSI is a national organization that brings together pharmacy students from all across Canada. Our organization provides pharmacy students with educational and practical experiences outside of the pharmacy curricula. Here at the University of Alberta, CAPSI is involved in fundraising for events such as CIBC Run for the Cure and organizing Pharmacy Appreciation Month in March to advocate for the profession of pharmacy to the public and other health care disciplines. We also organize professional development activities including CAPSI competitions and the Professional Development Week (PDW) conference in January.

The next four years will be very rigorous but also very rewarding. We strongly encourage you to get involved: participate in events, go to presentations and conferences, network, and meet new people! Please remember that your health and well-being should always remain your first priority and be sure to reach out for help if you find yourself struggling. If you would like to find out more about CAPSI, please visit www.capsi.ca, or reach out to Max or myself as we are always up for a chat. We are happy to answer any of your questions and we can't wait to meet you all at our fall orientation!

Cheers,

Jin He (she/her), VP CAPSI Sr. Representative
Alberta Pharmacy Students' Association | albertasr@capsi.ca

Max Albrecht, CAPSI Jr. Representative
Alberta Pharmacy Students' Association | albertajr@capsi.ca





Dear Pharmacy Class of 2028,

Congratulations on your acceptance to the PharmD program! There is no doubt you have all worked very hard to earn your spots here and we want to extend a warm welcome as you all embark on this short and fulfilling journey into the world of pharmacy.

We have the pleasure of being your student representatives for the Alberta branch of the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists (CSHP). CSHP is a national organization of pharmacists that devotes itself to the promotion of best medical practice(s), education, and advocacy within the hospital and other collaborative healthcare settings. We will be serving as a liaison between the CSHP and the students.

Hospital pharmacy might be unfamiliar or even unheard of to you, but through our various events, we aim to show you what it is all about: how to engage with it as a student and how to pursue a career as a hospital pharmacist. As your interest in hospital pharmacy grows once you start on your journey through this program, I encourage you to consider investing in a CSHP membership. A CSHP membership will provide you entry to the CSHP-AB Student Members Discord page where you will receive exclusive access to many CSHP events and programs. We will be sure to highlight some of these events during your upcoming orientation!

If hospital pharmacy has already peaked your interest, I encourage you to volunteer your time with us! We have a spot reserved for a first year student on our student committee and we would love to get to know you better. On our committee you will work together with a team of pharmacy students to plan hospital related events, symposiums, and awards. You will also be connected with a team of practicing hospital pharmacists who will mentor you through your journey in pharmacy school!

Four more years of school may seem like a long time, but I assure you that it will fly by quickly. So our advice to you is to make the most of your time here. Do as many activities as possible, go to as many events as you can, and spend all your time with the friends you will make. Congratulations again on your acceptance and we look forward to meeting you on your orientation day and filling you in about all things CSHP. If you wish to find out more about what the CSHP has to offer, please visit www.cshp.ca or you can contact one of us directly with your questions.

Sincerely,
Jacob Atienza and Miguel Mariano
CSHP-AB Student Co-Representatives
Alberta Pharmacy Students' Association
cshpabstudentrepresentative@gmail.com

