

Peoria Pons

Bridging communication; Celebrating accomplishments

News and Highlights

Upcoming Events	p. 2
Blood Drive	p. 3
Welcome Back Party	p. 4
Field Day	p. 4
Career Specialty Night	p. 5
2nd Annual Variety Show	p. 6
SGA Announcements	p. 8

Peoria Pons Returns

Last year, students desired to bridge the communication gap between student government and the student body through a monthly newsletter highlighting events and celebrating student achievements. Thus, the Peoria Pons launched in Spring 2018 with the support of many students and administrators. Now, we are excited to introduce an upgraded newsletter layout and to welcome our newest team member, Anna Kolasa, Class of 2022. As UICOMP students continue to expand their medical knowledge and clinical skills, many continue to volunteer in the Peoria community, engage in athletic and electronic competition with peers, and explore research and career opportunities. One of the many misconceptions about medical school is that students only have time to study; however, UICOMP students enjoy a plethora of opportunities for personal, professional, and community growth.

DEAN'S MAILBOX

We updated Dean's mailbox—it is now an electronic form available to anyone with concerns that would like to be addressed anonymously.

Click [here](#) to access Dean's Mailbox

STUDENT EVENTS CALENDAR

Do you know how to add your SIG meeting or event time to the student events calendar? Please contact your SGA rep or Jaymi Belcher (jaymib@uic.edu) from Student Affairs

Click [here](#) for the calendar

Student Government Association (SGA) Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, February 20th
6 PM, UICOMP A100-2



Upcoming Events

Popcorn Sale

Wednesday, Feb 6th

11:30 AM – 1 PM; UICOMP Lobby

Proceeds to Benefit the CSEC community chest sponsored by CSEC

Price: .50¢ / bag

How to Match Successfully in EM (and Generally)

Thursday, February 7th

5 PM; UICOMP Room A215

Two EM attendings discuss common pearls and pitfalls of the match process.

Snowball

Saturday, Feb 9th

6 PM – 11 PM; Embassy Suites, East Peoria

Valentine's Card-Making Event

Monday, February 11th

6 PM – 8 PM; UICOMP Medical Student Lounge

Make a card for a loved one, or one for a pediatric patient delivered to CHOI Child Life Services! Supplies provided. Sponsored by Med/Peds Interest Group, Peds Interest Group, and Art in Medicine.

Hy-Vee Store Tour

Wednesday, February 13th

5:30 PM; 4125 N Sheridan Rd, Peoria

Learn how to make healthier shopping decisions via store tour from Hy-Vee's own dietitian Lauren. Part of the Student Wellness Committee's Heart Health Month.

Popular Diets: Fact or Fiction

Tuesday, February 19th

12 PM – 1 PM; UICOMP Auditorium

Learn from Dr. Anton Grascch about various popular diets and the truths behind them. Part of the Student Wellness Committee's Heart Health Month.

EM Skills Night

Tuesday February 26th

5 PM – 7 PM; OSF (Room TBD)

Featuring knot tying, suturing, airway/intubation, IV access; dinner provided.

Match Day

Friday, March 15th

10 AM – 2 PM; Gateway Building

HIGHLIGHTS

DECEMBER 2018
JANUARY 2019

Blood Drive

A record number of donors present during the Drive

During the Winter Blood Drive, we had 13 donors (comprised of students, faculty, and administration) to thank for taking time to donate! Historically, the drive has seen more and more success since the arrival of the M1s in Fall 2017. During this past Fall Drive, we had 33 donors presenting (a record number!), with similar numbers the year before. Patients will be immensely grateful for the kindness shown by our community.

David Gao, M2



If you would ever like to donate on your own time, the Red Cross Center is located just down the road on 311 W John H Gwynn Jr Ave, Peoria, IL 61605 and open 7 days/week.

HIGHLIGHTS

DECEMBER 2018
JANUARY 2019

Welcome Back Party

UICOMP Students Get Together at the Welcome Back Party: Cheers to Spring 2019

Students returning to campus after Winter Break had the opportunity to relax and catch up at the Welcome Back Party at Bearded Owl Brewing on Friday, January 4th. Approximately 60 students from all four classes enjoyed pizza, popcorn and drinks while swapping stories about their Winter Break adventures and spring semester plans. This event is always a great opportunity to connect with people from other classes in a casual setting, and to take one last breather before diving headlong into the Spring Semester.



All-Campus Field Day

Students from all four campuses got together in Chicago on December 1st for the First Annual All-Campus Field Day. Events included volleyball, soccer, dodgeball, and E-Sports, with the campuses competing for a chance to bring home the Field Day Cup. The Peoria campus had a strong showing at the Field Day but was narrowly edged out 121-120 in the final point tally by Chicago, who used a dominating performance in the E-Sports category to pull off a come-from-behind victory. Good food and good competition were had by all in attendance. Stay tuned for information about next years All-Campus Field Day, and a chance to take back the Cup from Chicago.

Craig Kym, M2



HIGHLIGHTS

DECEMBER 2018
JANUARY 2019

Career Specialty Night

Medical school can be overwhelming for many reasons but exploring specialties shouldn't be one of them. For that reason, Student Affairs held Career Specialty Night on 1/24/19 to allow students to speak with physicians from 11 different specialties about the ins and outs of their field. As Ammar Ujjainwala, M1, puts it, "It was really exciting to see so many physicians show up and represent their specialties. I went to the IR/DR, Psychiatry, and Neurology information sessions, and all were extremely enthusiastic to share their experiences and really wanted to convey the positives and negatives of the field. Each physician there was thankful to share their experiences with us, and that really spoke to how much they loved their jobs and specialties. Even as an M1, with very little understanding on the roles of different specialties, I was able to appreciate the variation within each field and it made me more excited to rotate within the field during my M3/M4 years."

Michelle Butts, M1, adds, "I learned a lot from hearing the physicians speak about what specifically drew them to their specialty. For instance, in the Internal Medicine session, Dr. Mischler spoke about how rewarding it is to spend time discussing a patient with the care team while working through a challenging case. Dr. McLaughlan, a pediatrician, was particularly excited by the prospect of taking care of multiple generations of a family and getting to know her patients on a deeper level. It was helpful to be able to notice trends, as there seem to be common motivations within each specialty, even though settings and subspecialties might differ."

Anna Kolasa, M1



HIGHLIGHTS

DECEMBER 2018
JANUARY 2019

2nd Annual Talent Show Showcases UICOMP Students' Talents

SGA Organized the Annual Talent Show and Raised Money with Bake Auctions.



The 2nd Annual UICOMP Variety Show took place on January 17 at the Contemporary Arts Center. The event featured a wide range of talent by medical students, including musical performances, swing dancing, and juggling in a unique and beautiful venue. Third-year medical student AJ Heaps served as MC, and audience members participated in an intermission gameshow with Thirty-Thirty Coffee gift cards as prizes. Fried rice and egg rolls were donated by Thanh Linh Restaurant, and homemade snacks were provided free of charge. In addition, delicious, fresh-baked goods were available for sale and auction thanks to UICOMP faculty and staff. Thanks to the slew of faculty and staff donations, the event raised \$354 for Córdoba Health Care!

Victoria Lu, M3

\$354 Raised

All proceeds went to the Córdoba Health Care, a medical clinic with dedicated medical professionals and volunteers committed to providing low cost, basic medical care to the Greater Peoria area.



UICOMP

HIGHLIGHTS

DECEMBER 2018
JANUARY 2019

2nd Annual Talent Show Showcases UICOMP Students' Talents

Here are some additional photos from the event! UICOMP's Got Talent!



SGA ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Leadership Certificate

The Leadership Certificate of 2018-19 is due August 2nd 2019. Please make sure to read the email from Angela Delano, Class of 2020, if you are interested in participating, and please contact her with any questions. There's still plenty of time to complete a passport!

THE LIST OF STUDENT INTEREST GROUPS AND CONTACT INFO

Click [here](#)

THE LIST OF ELECTED STUDENT LEADERS 18-19

Click [here](#)



YOUR SGA 2018-19

* Not pictured: Ian Magruder, Austin Rim, Nam Dao, Sean Park, Angela Delano, Matt Schaeffer

2018-19 Peoria Pons Team

Michelle Famakinwa

M2

famakin2@uic.edu

AJ Heaps

M3

aheaps2@uic.edu

Anna Kolasa

M1

akolas2@uic.edu

Craig Kym

M2

kym2@uic.edu

Victoria Lu

M3

vlu4@uic.edu

Christine Pak

M2

pak6@uic.edu

Amith Rao

M2

arao35@uic.edu