

Chicago State College of Pharmacy Student Selected for Walgreens Pharmacy Corporate Internship

(CHICAGO) - Kimerlyn Ariwodo, a Chicago State University (CSU) Doctor of Pharmacy Candidate for 2013, has been chosen to participate in the Walgreens Pharmacy Corporate Internship Program.

This summer, Ariwodo will work closely for 12 weeks with professionals and other pharmacy students at Walgreens' corporate headquarters gaining hands-on experience, partaking in case studies, and contributing to additional projects. Walgreens is an established drugstore chain located in various cities of the United States. The corporation considers itself one of the most advanced pharmacy companies in the nation.

"This internship is an once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," said Ariwodo. "To be able to do a corporate internship will not only be enlightening, it will be a fruitful experience that allows me to see pharmacists in non-traditional roles, implementing the care of patients beyond direct communication."

The pharmacy student was introduced to the program through CSU's Pharmacy Career Fair organized by the Career Development Center which is located in the Cordell Reed Student Union. "Career services on campus have always been a great help to me emphasizing the importance of networking, having well structured resumes, and providing adequate feedback," said Ariwodo.

Walgreens is a supportive entity of CSU and its pharmacy program. CSU's Career Development Center is constantly collaborating with the company to provide students with enriching opportunities for their chosen profession. The director of the Career Development Center, Lee A. Junkans, upholds the company's partnership with CSU. "Walgreens has been one of the lead sponsors and key supporters of our College of Pharmacy," said Junkans. They also offer financial support, student scholarships and advisement to the senior management team in the college of pharmacy.

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The Doctor of Pharmacy Candidate also acknowledges CSU as a fundamental influence that has contributed to her acceptance of the internship program. “I am currently the president-elect of the Chicago State chapter of the Student National Pharmaceutical Association and hold various leadership positions within the College of Pharmacy,” said Ariwodo. I believe all of my positions and advisors have assisted with my growth as a professional and helped me remain persistent in the quest to be an excellent pharmacist.”

CSU’s College of Pharmacy offers smaller classes with 90 students compared to other programs in the area with an average class size of 200. Students are able to get more experience because of the low student-to-faculty ratio. “We bring diversity to the student body and faculty on campus,” said Dr. Mobley-Smith, Dean of the College of Pharmacy. After three weeks in the program, pharmacy students begin practical experience through community pharmacies, public health centers, hospitals, and other pharmacy practical sites.

The first College of Pharmacy class will graduate in May of 2012. Dr. Mobley-Smith is happy with the direction the program is going in. “Every step of the way is a milestone,” she said, “and it’s exciting that we are being successful at creating a dynamic program the university can be proud of.”

For more information on Chicago State University’s Doctor of Pharmacy program, call (773) 821-2500 or visit csu.edu.

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*Chicago State University was founded as a teacher training school in Blue Island, Illinois on September 2, 1867. Today, the University is a fully accredited public, urban institution located on 161-picturesque acres in a residential community on Chicago’s Southside. CSU is governed by a board of trustees appointed by the Governor of Illinois. The University’s five colleges—Health Sciences, Arts and Sciences, Business, Education and Pharmacy—offer 36 undergraduate and 25 graduate and professional degree-granting programs. CSU also offers an interdisciplinary Honors College for students in all areas of study and has a Division of Continuing Education and Nontraditional Degree Programs that offers extension courses, distance learning and not-for-credit programs to the entire Chicago community.*

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