CAPEHART RECEIVES OMCPA PHARMACIST OF THE YEAR

By Matt Rafa

Vice President, West Virginia Pharmacists Association

The last in-person pharmacy event in West Virginia pre-pandemic and the first since the pandemic, the Ohio-Marshall County Pharmacist Association was excited to resume the Spring Seminar Program Sunday, May 2nd at Oglebay Resort in Wheeling. The line-up included two great presentations.

The morning program included "Drug Diversion" by Dr. Michael O'Neil. Dr. O'Neil is a professor and department chair in the Department of Pharmacy Practice and a Consultant for drug diversion, substance abuse, and pain management at the South College School of Pharmacy in Knoxville, TN. His presentation detailed current trends and topics in medication-assisted therapy, addiction, and medication misuse.

The 90 pharmacists in attendance enjoyed lunch together and socialized in person for the first time in long time - something many attributed as a result of the efforts of our state's pharmacists!

The afternoon program included "COVID-19 Essentials: What You Need To Know in 2021" by Dr. Krista Capehart, PharmD, MS, BCACP, FAPhA. Dr. Capehart is the director of the Wigner Institute for Advance Pharmacy Practice, Education and Research, a Clinical Associate Professor, and the faculty advisor for the APhA Academy of Student Pharmacist chapter at West Virginia University. Additionally, she serves as the Director of Professional and Regulatory Affairs at the WV Board of Pharmacy and a member of the WV Joint Interagency Task Force (JIATF) for COVID-19 Vaccines. Her presentation included where we were, where we are, and where we may be going with regards to COVID-19 and vaccine rollout.

Dr. Capehart was also honored as the recipient of this year's OCMPA Pharmacist of the Year award for her efforts in advocacy, regulation, and the COVID-19 vaccine rollout. President Katie Kacmarik said it best when she said she has been "The Voice of Pharmacy in West Virginia". Dr. Capehart was joined by her daughter, Ainslee, for the special recognition. Congratulations, Krista!



Want to share a congratulatory message with Krista? Add a message <u>here</u>!

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