

DIA and EAT- From a student

Do you know how to identify good opportunities? The way we spent our time as students will affect what follows, so we should be making the most of these years. However, as students, we often let great opportunities pass us by due to thoughts such as “this is not for me yet”. So I challenged myself and applied to DIA EuroMeeting.

My experience started in Amsterdam with an amazing “Pre-congress Students’ and Young Professionals’ reception”. Here I had the chance to meet fellow students from other countries, as well as DIA Board Members, all ready to engage in conversation.

The congress itself started with special sessions for students the next day. Here we had an introduction of what DIA is and what it stands for.

I was presented with an image of an active and respected association, which made all who were already acquainted with it proud, and dazzled those who hadn’t yet heard about it.

We learned how to make the most of this event from these students’ sessions, such as the recruiters’ point of view and the importance of our emotional intelligence for our professional lives.



Besides the students’ sessions, we had the other parallel sessions, with an impressive range of 17 themes. The challenge here was not finding a session you liked, but choosing just one from so many great topics. Although some of the topics were too specific and thus a little hard to follow, it was a great opportunity to further develop my insight on important matters. Moreover, there were no worries when we could not understand something in the session, since everyone was available to explain it in the network coffee breaks afterwards. These

breaks were perfect to meet new people and expand our network. As for the ones who were not very comfortable with engaging conversation with strangers, all they needed to say was that they were

students as everyone looked keen to talk to us, students.

Overall I was very pleased with this event.

I was amazed by all the concern for students and the interest in making us participate actively in this event.

And this is what this event meant to me: I got the chance to meet a lot of people, become inspired by their stories and experiences and by doing all this, discover what I may want to do, or not to do, in my future as a pharmacist.



HP Congress 's point of view

The moment you want to know more about Hospital Pharmacy is the moment you register for the European Association of Hospital Pharmacists Congress. Held once a year, this professional event is the finest one about Hospital Pharmacy in Europe.

France welcomed us in the beautiful city of Paris to discuss the topic "Improving patient outcomes - a shared responsibility".

For those who think this congress was only focused on professionals: make no mistake, it was not!

After the first day's morning, a Student Seminar took place in order to discuss how students can become Hospital Pharmacists.

This congress had a handful of opportunities. You could choose between attending lectures, visiting the poster exhibition hall or networking in the booth floor.

If you were interested in the educational content, you had Seminars, Workshops or even Satellite Sessions structured in parallel sessions. In each one you could topics ranging from Inter-Professional Collaboration, Antibiotics (mis)usage, the Prescription Process, or even How to Write an Abstract! The diverse background of speakers blended with the distinct subjects on the sessions made each day into a unique learning experience.



If you were not in the mood to attend a lecture, you could always opt to walk between the posters in the Poster Exhibition Area with entire floor of innovative and interesting posters and hundreds of publications in the Hospital Pharmacy area to discover.

But of course no Congress is complete without the networking concept. Mingling with the exhibitors, asking questions and changing business cards is an important part of the event too. Anytime you wanted to meet other fellow students, you just had to pass by the EPSA Booth. At this students' meeting point, you could always find some friendly faces to talk with, discuss upon some topics of the sessions.



I came back from the Congress with a clear insight about what is the Hospital Pharmacy in Europe in the XXI century. Moreover, I brought home the concept of the Pharmacist role and the ways that we - as students - could contribute and empower the development of our profession. With this in mind, one question remains: am I going to see you in Barcelona for the 19th EAHP Congress in 2014?