

UMBrella

2017 Recipients



Name	Title	Scholarship
Juliet Dickerson	Director of Staffing, HRIS, and the HR Service Center	Professional Leadership Program for Women
Sanchari Ghosh	University of Maryland School of Pharmacy, Class of 2019	National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL)
Marianne Gibson, MS	Program Manager, School of Pharmacy's Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research	ACUI Women's Leadership Institute
Emily Lee, MSW		ACUI Women's Leadership Institute

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Sanchari Ghosh Reflection

Dear UMBrella Group,

When I applied to the UMBrella scholarship to attend the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders, I was very optimistic to meet women leaders from around the country and from various college campuses. However, my experience at the conference was so much more than just meeting these amazing leaders.

The first day of the conference, we had an opening ceremony, and from the ceremony, we realized how empowering it is to have so many women from so many different backgrounds; there were women from different states and countries that brought so much perspective into our discussion. We talked about all topics, ranging from the political climate to mental health.

Each day, we were given the opportunity to choose various lectures we wanted to attend. One of the most memorable lectures I had the good fortune of attending was based on how to navigate the world being an introvert. This lecture spiked my personal interest, because I consider myself to be an introvert, and many times, when people hear the word "introvert," they feel that it is a negative trait to possess. However, from this lecture, we learned of the amazing positive qualities that we have the opportunity to showcase to the world and how to best bring about those positive qualities. For example, introverts are able to listen to people, and this is a crucial skill to have when

working in the health care field.

The final ceremony was perhaps the most inspiring — from all that we talked about taking action and advocating for what we believe in, the final ceremony inspired us to do exactly that, as we were moved to speak and act so that we can achieve our goals.

My favorite moment at NCCWSL was on Saturday morning. NCCWSL arranged a morning yoga class outside on a field, and it was the most meditative and peaceful experience I have had in a long time. Just being surrounded by the trees, the rising sun, and a field full of students doing yoga with peaceful sounds — I could not think of anywhere else that I would want to be at that moment. I felt at peace.

This experience was truly a blessing, and I feel so fortunate to have had the opportunity to be a part of such an amazing conference that is so inspiring. Most of the conferences I attend give me the opportunity to express myself scientifically, but this conference gave me the chance to learn about and express myself as a woman leader, and that truly empowered me to pursue greater goals in

my leadership career. In fact, I plan to start writing a book — which I have wanted to do for years — but I have become so inspired by this experience that I have started planning and outlining what I would like to write.

NCCWSL was truly an eye-opening experience for me, and I hope every woman student leader on this campus considers applying for the scholarship next year to experience this amazing conference!

Thank you,

Sanchari Ghosh

University of Maryland School of Pharmacy
Class of 2019

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2017 ACUI Reflections

Marianne Gibson, MS



Marianne Gibson, MS, joined the University of Maryland, Baltimore in 2014, serving as a program manager with the Behavioral Health Resources Team, which is housed in the School of Pharmacy's Department of Pharmaceutical Health Services Research. As a program manager, Gibson is responsible for providing technical and evaluation assistance to local health departments in Maryland as they apply a public health planning model to address substance use and misuse. On campus, she has been involved with the Emerging Leaders Program and the Baltimore Area Health Education Center's Interprofessional Education (IPE) Planning Committee, which coordinated two IPE events to educate students on the opioid epidemic and train students on how to administer the life-saving drug naloxone.

Emily Lee, MSW

Dear UMBrella Group,

I want to start by thanking you for the scholarship and the opportunity to attend the Women's Leadership Institute. The experience was life transformational for me. This was my first experience with any type of professional development event like this and it was wonderful to make connections and network with so many different women leaders in academia. All of the workshops, speakers, and networking events were so good.

I feel as if there is so much I gained and could share with the group, one of the main workshops was one done in a Ted Talk format where four different women from different universities shared their stories and nuggets of advice/strategies for advancing your career. One of the strategies that really resonated with me was "be the architect of your own life, you decide what it is that you want to do." Presently I am at a crossroads in my life personally and professionally. For the majority of my career, I have made career decisions based on circumstances and for other people. Being the architect of my own life spoke to me in a way that I can clearly see that it is really my time to make decisions for my career, no longer just waiting for things to happen, I get to decide my next steps. Therefore, I am going to be the architect of my life.

I have made a definitive concrete decision to pursue a Ph.D. in Higher Education. In the next year, I will prepare myself, take the GRE and apply to at least three programs I am interested in for fall 2019. In one of the workshops, we were encouraged to dream bigger than our biggest dream for ourselves professionally. At the time, my biggest dream was to one day be Dean of a



School/University, I have expanded this – first Dean, then Provost, then President. I know that I will need my Ph.D. in order for this dream to become reality.

Along with receiving so much personally, I also want to give back because I received so much. I want to be an ambassador for the UmBrella group, putting the word out about UmBrella, I would love to share more with others ways they can be involved or activities on campus they can join in. I have already started to share with colleagues how amazing my experience was and have encouraged them to apply for the scholarship next year. Additionally, I plan to start a book club for women staff and faculty. I still need to flesh out the details but I wanted to ask for any reflections/advice on that idea, and how I might be able to collaborate/dovetail with others across campus who might be interested.

Thank you again for this life-changing opportunity.