Carolyn Parton
Class of 2018
Rock Springs, WY

Student Bio
Carolyn is a third year student from Rock Springs, Wyoming. She says “when I first chose to pursue pharmacy, I was 11 years old and I could see my parents’ jaws hit the floor. Most kids at this age don’t have an idea of what pharmacy is or its purpose in health care, and frankly, I had no idea at the time. I had no idea that I would later see the value in patient interactions, the ability to contribute to a patient’s overall health, and the valuable role a pharmacist has on the health care team.”

Carolyn is interested in a variety of patient care electives for the coming year. She says “I want to work with patients and help improve their lives. I am looking forward most to working with a doctor’s office in Rock Springs to help give back to my hometown community.” She notes that the Vandel Scholarship will be a great help with her travel and living expenses while completing rotations in new locations and new pharmacy settings.

During her first year in pharmacy school Carolyn joined Phi Delta Chi, and she points to this as a valuable experience where she gained friends and role models. She now serves as an officer, and shares “I have learned to handle responsibility and leadership in a way that school alone would not have prepared me for. I look forward to taking the skills that I have learned by being in a professional organization and transitioning those skills to my future career.”

John and Joyce Vandel Pharmacy Scholarship
Natives of Torrington, 1957 alum John (pharmacy) and Joyce (business) owned Vandel Drug from 1966-2010. John served as the dean of the School of Pharmacy from 2003 to 2012. During his time as dean, Joyce took over the management of the store. John was very involved in pharmacy organizations including the Wyoming Board of Pharmacy, the Wyoming Pharmacy Association, the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education, the American Pharmacists Association (APhA) and National Community Pharmacists Association (NCPA). John was also very active in the development of the Pharm.D. program when he served on the boards of the APhA and NCPA. John and Joyce first started giving scholarships to pharmacy students when they owned Vandel Drug. The Vandels then endowed the scholarship in 2000.