



## New Practitioners Forum Executive Committee Message – July 2011

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**Chair, New Practitioners Forum Executive Committee**

*“All right everyone, line up alphabetically according to your height.”*  
Casey Stengel, former Major League Baseball Player and Manager

Greetings! I hope the summer is off to a great start for you. I know that many of you are in a state of transition. This transition could be from student to pharmacist, from resident to practitioner, or pharmacist to preceptor. These transitions can be very stressful, especially if you feel like you don't have all of the information, or if you have been given unclear direction (such as the poor players to which Mr. Stengel was speaking).

Thankfully, the ASHP New Practitioners Forum is here to help. In case you are unfamiliar with the Forum, here is a brief introduction: it is a home for new graduates transitioning into the "real world" of pharmacy practice. The purpose of the ASHP New Practitioners Forum is to integrate new practitioners into the pharmacy community by acknowledging their unique needs and providing an opportunity for collaboration and professional development. ASHP members who have graduated pharmacy school within the last five years are automatically members of the Forum.

The leadership of the New Practitioners Forum includes a five person [Executive Committee](#) and six [Advisory Groups](#). The other members of the Executive Committee include Katherine Palmer (Vice Chair – CA), Nick Bennett (KS), Karen Berger (IL), and Kayla Hansen (NC). The six Advisory Groups include Membership and Outreach, Communications and Technology, Science and Research, Leadership and Career Development, Public Affairs and Advocacy, and Professional Practice. These groups work to ensure the Forum continues to meet the needs of new practitioners.

There is a wealth of resources available for new practitioners on the [resources](#) page on the [Forum's website](#). Available resources include information on advocacy, leadership (including a Leadership Journal Club which was developed by the Leadership and Career Development Advisory Group), information to assist with research (which current residents may find especially helpful!), clinical resources, information on precepting, and much more.

Another resource I'd like to briefly highlight is [ASHP Connect](#), which is ASHP's own social network exclusive for ASHP members. It features blogs, discussion groups, user-created communities, document sharing, and soon will even feature a mobile application!

If you find yourself unable to find a resource which you think would be helpful, let us know. You can just send a quick email to [NewPractitioners@ashp.org](mailto:NewPractitioners@ashp.org). You can also use this email address if you are wondering how to get involved with the Forum.

If there is anything that I can ever do for you, please email me at [little.jd@gmail.com](mailto:little.jd@gmail.com). Enjoy the summer!