

As I departed for my first policy week in Bethesda, MD on September 22nd, I thought about the events planned for that week. Was I prepared to participate? What would be asked of me? Would I be able to get the job done? Upon arrival to my first session, my mind was put at ease by the ASHP folks as they warmly welcomed me. As the week's planned events unfolded I had the privilege of meeting and working with great clinicians from across the nation. I served as New Practitioner for the Council on Therapeutics. It was amazing as I felt a kinship between myself and my committee grow as the hours we all spent together added up. One of the highlights of my week was on Wednesday when my colleagues and Kevin Colgan sang "Happy Birthday" to me. While I was not thrilled to be another year older, I was touched by this thoughtful act of kindness! On Legislative Day, I participated in 3 very positive sessions with the North Carolina legislators. In fact, I had the opportunity to meet the Honorable Elizabeth Dole herself! I was impressed by each Legislator's knowledge of health-system pharmacy and inspired by their desire to help ASHP achieve their goals. I left for home on Thursday feeling a sense of accomplishment and a renewed motivation to advance health-system pharmacy.