



Message from the Chair – February, 2011

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Dear Colleagues:

It is hard to believe that it is already February and we hope that there will be a break in the weather soon. I know that many of you are deep into residency position interviews but I did want to highlight some of the events at the 2010 Midyear. As you know the Midyear is the largest gathering of pharmacists in the world and many Section of Clinical Specialists & Scientists (SCSS) members participate in the various Midyear activities including Personnel Placement Service, Residency Showcase, poster and educational sessions. The SCSS leadership conducted, coordinated, or participated in many events including:

- The Section's 2009-2010 Educational Steering Committee (ESC) developed more than 47 hours of educational programming on current issues in antimicrobial stewardship, infectious diseases, critical care, and Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategies (REMS). The committee also planned a session devoted to debates in areas of therapeutic controversy and coordinated the Clinical and Emergency Pharmacy Clinical Pearls sessions. The ESC is charged with developing programming at an advanced level that will be of interest to clinical specialists and scientists. The 2010-2011 Committee met while at the Midyear and developed top educational needs for Section members. We look forward to seeing many of those topics at the 2011 Midyear.
- The Section held 18 specialty networking sessions throughout the week. Sixteen of the specialty networks encompass most areas of specialty pharmacy practice. Women's health was added as a new specialty area in 2010. The networks meet regularly at the Midyear, with over 1,620 meeting attendees participating this year. In addition, the Advisory Groups on Preceptor Skills Development and Clinical Leadership held networking sessions to discuss issues in their interest area.
- Distinguished Service Award – The Section honored Rita K Jew, Pharm.D., FASHP upon receiving the sections highest award. Dr Jew served the section previously as a delegate-at-large and Chair and has contributed a number of years of service to various section committees. Read more about Dr Jew under the spotlight profile.
<http://www.ashp.org/DocLibrary/MemberCenter/ClinicalSpecialistsandScientists/Spotlight-Rita-Jew.aspx>

On behalf of the Section Executive Committee, I would like to thank all of the committee members, network facilitators, program chairs, and speakers for a great meeting.

In addition to all of the Midyear activities, the SCSS Executive Committee convened prior to the meeting in Anaheim. Committee members spent the day focusing on the Section's member needs assessment survey, reviewing Advisory Group activities, discussing board certification activities, the PPMI Summit and building residency capacity. Discussion also included succession planning and cultivating section members for leadership roles within ASHP and thinking about potential programming for the 2011 Summer and Midyear meetings.

Highlights of the discussion on board certification included ASHP's role as a sponsoring organization, potential standardization of credentialing eligibility and recertification requirements, and identification of potential future areas for board certification. The January 2011 newsletter addressed more in-depth the perspective of the committee related to the ongoing PPMI initiative. The Section leadership will continue to advocate for section participation in all future endeavors of this project. The committee also spent some time discussing residency capacity issues and what tools or resources may be beneficial to members to facilitate increasing the number of postgraduate training opportunities.

Call to Serve the Section

Are you interested in serving the section in a formal capacity? If so, the Committee on Nominations is accepting names of interested candidates to serve in an SCSS Executive Committee office. As you can see from this and previous messages, the Section's Executive Committee provides the leadership and strategic planning on behalf of our members and the oversight of the Section's Advisory Groups and Committee. The Section's Executive Committee is also responsible for communications to you and the ASHP Board on the value and work that our members are providing to support ASHP's and the Section's mission. Held in conjunction with the regular ASHP Board elections, the Section will elect a Chair and Director-at-Large. The deadline for submission is **March 20, 2011**. For more information on the Section Executive Committee offices and responsibilities, time commitments, and submission forms please visit <http://www.ashp.org/nominations>.

The Section Executive Committee also encourages you to participate in other Section activities and to become involved in Section leadership. For a list of opportunities, go to ASHP's Section of Clinical Specialists and Scientists Web site at <http://www.ashp.org/Import/MEMBERCENTER/Sections/SectionofClinicalSpecialistsandScientists/GetInvolved.aspx>

Sincerely,

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