



Message from the Chair – April, 2011

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Dear Colleagues,

Although many of you are winding down the residency and academic year, the Section and ASHP is still moving full steam ahead. I wanted to call your attention to a number of ASHP News items that may be of interest to you.

- Whitney Award Announced – The Section extends congratulations to Dan Ashby on being named this year’s recipient of the Harvey A. K. Whitney Award. Through Dan’s leadership he has directed programs responsible for training a number of our sections clinical specialists and for designing pharmacy services that emphasize the need for clinical specialty practitioners.
- BPS announced the practice areas of pain and palliative care, critical care and pediatrics to be evaluated for a specialty exam. These will be long term projects with the initial steps being the role delineation study that will begin in the near future. Should these areas be identified as a specialty, an exam would likely not occur before 2015.

<http://www.ashp.org/menu/News/NewsCapsules/Article.aspx?id=381>

http://www.bpsweb.org/news/pr_041911.cfm

ASHP and the Section remains committed to the development of a sound process for the development of new specialty credentials for the profession and will continue to work with BPS in its process to explore developing these new specialties.

<http://www.ashp.org/menu/AboutUs/ForPress/PressReleases/PressRelease.aspx?id=631>

- Committee on Nominations met and reviewed applications for slating the Section's leadership. This process will finish up over the next few months and be announced at the upcoming Summer Meeting. Election ballots will be sent out to primary members of the section in mid-July. Likewise Network Facilitator and Chair positions for the Section Advisory Groups will be determined in May and announced following the Summer Meeting.

ASHP Connect: Do you currently utilize the listserv? As a reminder the list serve will be phasing out in early May and you will need to transition to ASHP Connect for future activities. To set up your profile and start using this new ASHP tool go to <http://connect.ashp.org/ASHP/ASHP/Home/> Once you've set up your profile, join a variety of communities in your interest areas. There is even a community for the Section to discuss broad issues concerning the membership. Once you've signed up for the communities you'd like to follow, go to the "subscriptions" tab in your profile and decide if you would like to receive e-mail notices when messages are posted. Remember, you will need to sign in to ASHP Connect to respond to the posting.

The Sections voice at the House of Delegates: Preparations are underway for the Summer Meeting and I am beginning to prepare notes for comments the section would like to make related to policies and recommendations made by ASHP Councils. This information is available at <http://www.ashp.org/menu/PracticePolicy/HOD.aspx> and I encourage you to take a look and let me know if you have comments or concerns you would like the House membership to be made aware of. I have selected a few policies I thought would be of interest to the majority of our Section and challenge you to join me and the rest of the Executive Committee in a discussion via Connect.

- Pharmacist Accountability for Patient Outcomes (Council on Pharmacy Practice) – I encourage you to read the policy being put forth. When I first saw this I was intrigued because it seemed to state the obvious. Over time, I began to drift in thought to recognizing that it makes a bigger statement to our healthcare teammates, at least those who don't practice with an interprofessional approach. Then I wondered if on the other side of the coin,

the message was being sent to our own, trying to reinforce that they need to take more ownership in providing patient specific care and not just process what is arrives at the work station.

- Residency Equivalency (Council on Education and Workforce Development) – Stated directly from the proposed policy “To affirm that there are no objective means to convert or express clinical experience as equivalent to or a substitute for the successful completion of an ASHP accredited residency.” This policy is sure to spark discussion, particularly once postgraduate training is required for hiring.
- Pharmacy Internships (Council on Education and Workforce Development) – This policy is intriguing. I would venture most would be in agreement regarding a standardized requirement related to internship hours but the intriguing part of the policy have to do with development of structured requirements of an interns experience and to further expand the roles of pharmacy interns.
- State-Specific Requirements for Continuing Pharmacy Education (Council on Education and Workforce Development) – The second part of this policy is a request to move the preferred format to continuing professional development (CPD). In concept this too seems a logical recommendation although it may be a challenge to implement. The point of CPD is that the practitioner is being continuously updated in the area of direct focus of practice. I understand the process is not up for discussion but it brings many questions to my mind that I think relate to the policy such as, how generic will the practice areas be, professionally how do we define specialties, and what happens if you have been trained in one specific area but practice in another?

Please join the Executive Committee in a discussion related to these proposed policies on Connect.

Sincerely,

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