



Message from the Chair – May, 2011

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Dear Colleagues,

So much has happened in the past month and still there is much to look forward to. Here are a few things that I'd like to highlight for you.

Congratulations Dr. Abramowitz

On behalf of the section, I would like to congratulate Dr Paul Abramowitz on being selected the CEO, Executive Vice-President of ASHP. Dr Abramowitz will start at ASHP on September 1, 2011 and will become the organizations third CEO. Dr Abramowitz has consistently been a contributor to this organization throughout his professional career. He is currently the Director of Pharmacy at the University of Iowa Health System.

<http://www.ashp.org/menu/AboutUs/ForPress/PressReleases/PressRelease.aspx?id=632>

SCSS Announces Slate of Officers for 2012

On behalf of the Section, I would like to thank the Committee on Nominations chaired by Past-Chair Jim Trovato for their time and effort in reviewing the applications submitted for next year's officers. The committee members include: Kate Farthing, Kimberly A. Galt, Michael W. Kelly, Jean M. Scholtz, Teresa Seo, and Kelly M. Smith. The slate for Chair is: Lea Eiland and Paul Szumita. Slated to run for Director-at-Large are Michelle Allen and Douglas Slain.

Congratulations to these candidates on their nomination and to the many who expressed interest in serving this section. Without your contribution, the interests of the section would not be met. The slate of candidates for ASHP President and Board of Directors may be found at <http://www.ashp.org/DocLibrary/Policy/HOD/CandidatesMemo.aspx>.

BPS Call to Critical Care and Pediatrics

The Board of Pharmacy Specialties has issued a call for members of the Critical Care Pharmacy and Pediatric Pharmacy Practice Analysis Taskforce. Please note ASHP passed this information along via a Section NewsLink message on May 5 and the response is due June 8, 2011. If you are interested I encourage you to submit your information via the following links:

Critical Care Pharmacy <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BPSCC>

Pediatric Pharmacy <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BPSPed>

Section Activities at the upcoming Summer Meeting

- **Network Session**

The section will host a network session at the upcoming Summer Meeting on Sunday, June 11th, 12:15 pm-1:15 pm. <http://www.ashp.org/SM11/Events/Networking-Sessions.aspx> The session is entitled “An Opportunity to Advance Practice: Examples for Pharmacy Services” and will focus on examples that pharmacy departments have implemented that correspond with the recent PPMI Summit. A range of ideas have been identified and the session will utilize a panel format to share concepts. The following will be included:

- *Changing the service paradigm, presented by Scott Knoer
- *Incorporating postgraduates into service models, presented by Katie Muerie
- *Advancing technician roles, presented by Linda Tyler
- *Providing proportional depth and scope for a 24/7 model, presented by Steve Rough

▪ **House of Delegates**

The Section Executive Committee has drafted a new business item to be presented at the House of Delegates (HOD) session on Tuesday, June 14th. The Policy statement is “Board Certification for Pharmacists.” The current policy statement may be found on the HOD Connect page. <http://connect.ashp.org/ASHP/ASHP/Discussions/Message/Default.aspx?MID=457> The concept was introduced to HOD members at the past Regional Delegate Conferences for discussion and input by all.

As the Executive Committee (EC) reviewed the executive summary results of the PPMI Summit <http://www.ashp.org/DocLibrary/PPMI/PPMI-Summit-Proceedings.aspx>, we also took inventory of current ASHP policy to find that nothing formal is stated for pharmacists regarding board certification yet policies do exist for pharmacy technicians. This along with the PPMI recommendation (B10) that pharmacists who provide drug therapy management should be certified through the most appropriate Board of Pharmacy Specialties board-certification process, guided the EC to develop this new business item. The other focal points in the policy statement are a result of the EC’s review of current structure for existing board certification examinations (see April 2011 Chair message for previous discussion).

Why should the section lead the effort? Anyone could make a recommendation for board certification to be required. It would then be reviewed by the Board and could be assigned to a Council for further evaluation and/or development or become interim policy. Given that the section represents a large component of ASHP members it seemed like a positive action for the section to make.

What does all of this mean? First it is important for there to be a policy. ASHP uses the policies to address questions that come to the organization and policies represent ASHP formal position on issues. Policies are also utilized when ASHP is lobbying others for consideration of broad or specific action and when engaged with other professional organizations.

How quickly might this become ASHP Policy? Policy development takes time. Even post discussion and review at the HOD at this Summer Meeting, this request could be sent back to a Council for further development and/or would then come forward to the HOD in 2012.

How can I assist the section in getting this approved? Talk it up would be the best place to start. You can do that by joining in the discussion on the HOD Connect group <http://connect.ashp.org/ASHP/ASHP/Home/Default.aspx>, then select “Directory” from the top blue tabs, choose “All Communities”, then “House of Delegates” and offer your support. Speak to your HOD representative and inform them that this is important to your practice and the professionalism of what you do.

I look forward to reading your comments on ASHP Connect!

Sincerely,

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