



## Message from the Chair – January 2010

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Dear Colleagues,

During the Section Executive Committee meeting at the 2010 Midyear Meeting, it was reported that Section membership continues to grow over the past year. At the time of the meeting, our Section had almost 5,000 total members and closing in on 1,000 primary members. In fact, last week we welcomed our 1000<sup>th</sup> official primary Section member, Lori Moore, Pharm. D., a Pharmacy Informaticist Consultant and LCDR in the U.S. PHS Indian Health Service's Office of Information Technology in Albuquerque, NM. To celebrate this landmark for the Section, we will be sending her copies of the following:

- [Smart Infusion Pumps: Implementation, Management, and Drug Libraries](#)
- [Pharmacy Informatics Primer](#)

From the ASHP membership, we have over 120 members that are active participants on our Section Advisory Groups (SAG). The strength of our section is not in our sheer numbers but in the quality of our membership. We are an extremely talented group, and much of this talent and energy is channeled and focused within our SAGs – [Ambulatory Care Informatics](#), [Clinical Information Systems](#), [Pharmacy Informatics Education](#), and [Pharmacy Operations Automation](#). During the next few Chair messages, I will spotlight some of the project work currently underway within our SAGs.

This month's message spotlights the Pharmacy Operations Automation (POA) advisory group which is led by Chair Gwen Volpe and Vice-Chair Barbara Giacomelli. The POA SAG currently has 6 projects underway and are described as follows:

- Automation Quality Measures – Bob Locke is leading this group which is focusing on 3-4 quality goals and how to measure once automation is implemented.
- Policy and Procedure Templates – this team is focusing on policy and procedure template development for automated medication dispensing cabinets and is led by Doina Dumitru.
- Standard Reports – Ron Burnette and his team are developing an inventory of standard reports automation systems should provide including a description of each report and report specifications.
- Smart Pump Resource Guide – this team, led by Tom Cooley, is updating the Intelligent Infusion Devices/Smart Pump section of the ASHP Pharmacy Automation Medication

Management Technologies website, to enhance the site to become the smart pump technology resource and reference guide.

- Define Interoperability, Interface, and Integration – The goal of the group, led by Rhonda McManus, is to provide an article for the Informatics interchange or similar AJHP forum that explains the three terms, gives real-life examples, and pharmacy specific examples.
- Robotics – This Group, led by Gwen Volpe, is currently finishing up outstanding items from last year that include compiling web page content for robotics and finishing an article on robotics for the Informatics Interchange column.

This advisory group also conducted a networking session at the 2010 Midyear Meeting on contracts and RFPs, is planning a webinar on project management. Thanks to Leslie Brookins' coordination of a column for the AJHP "Informatics Interchange" Column which has recently published titled "[Formulary and Database Synchronization](#)".

Many thanks to Gwen, Barbara, and all of the POA SAG [workgroup members](#) for their time and efforts this past year.



For more information about the Section of Pharmacy Informatics and Technology, please visit our website at [www.ashp.org/informatics](http://www.ashp.org/informatics).