

ASHP Section of Pharmacy Informatics and Technology

The mission of the Section of Pharmacy Informatics and Technology (SOPIT) is to improve health outcomes through the use and integration of data, information, knowledge, technology, and automation in the medication-use process. In that role, the Section continually seeks to define and promote the optimal synergy between technology and the pharmacy professional in an effort to enhance and support practice models that bring the full benefit of the pharmacist's training and experience to the medication-use process. The Section is dedicated to achieving a vision in which members will (1) be enabled by technology to focus on providing optimal pharmaceutical care to each patient, (2) participate in all aspects of medical informatics that support the medication-use process through multidisciplinary collaboration across the entire health care system, (3) collaborate domestically and internationally with other organizations and governmental agencies to promote the use of medical informatics in the provision of quality health care, (4) take a leadership role in medical informatics, at all levels of health care, to ensure that health information technology (IT) supports safe medication use, (5) promote the development of a set of practical medical informatics competencies to manage medication-related data and information challenges across the continuum of care, and (6) stimulate an environment that focuses on setting the agenda for designing and conducting research to expand medical informatics knowledge and its use in supporting patient care. The Section is dedicated to improving health outcomes through the use and integration of data, information, knowledge, technology, and automation in the medication-use process. This Section is excited to carry its mission forward in an area that is quickly changing the face of health care.

2008–2009 Section Highlights. During 2008, the Section added more than 3100 members. About 19% of the Section's members have selected this group as their primary membership group. In the 2008 elections, the Section's membership elected Dr. Hardy as Chair-elect. Ms. Bobb was elected as a Director-at-Large; both will be installed at the June 2009 ASHP Summer Meeting.

The Section also selected Kevin Marvin as the winner of the Section of Pharmacy Informatics and Technology Distinguished Service Award. Established in 2007, the ASHP Pharmacy Practice Sections Distinguished Service Award recognizes a member of the Section whose volunteer activities have supported the mission of their Section and helped advance the profession. The award was presented at the 2008 Midyear Clinical Meeting (MCM).

Mr. Siska was appointed as the Section representative to the advisory committee that is charged with helping to plan the ASHP/ASHP Foundation Practice Model Summit. The Section Executive Committee has also developed a commentary on technology-enabled practice for publication in 2009.

Educational Programming. The Section's programming for the 2008 MCM consisted of over 14 hours of continuing education. Topics that were presented included bar-code medication administration (BCMA), lessons learned from the Veterans Administration, clinical decision support, intelligent infusion devices, role of the pharmacist in computerized provider order entry (CPOE), and IT collaboration. Beth Fields of the Section's Programming Committee coordinated the Informatics Bytes: Pearls Session. Michael Schlesselman was the Chair of the Section's 2007–2008 Programming Committee.

Planning for the 2009 MCM is currently in progress. The Programming Committee is developing programming on the following topics: BCMA and CPOE deployment in unique patient care settings, complex order sets and protocol management, informatics education in the Pharm.D. curriculum, informatics research, managing vendor relations, switching vendors, and technology solutions in the emergency department. Maritza Lew of the Section's Program-

Executive Committee

Dennis A. Tribble, Chair (Florida)
 J. Chad Hardy, Chair-elect (Texas)
 Mark H. Siska, Immediate Past Chair (Minnesota)
 Anne M. Bobb (Illinois)
 Brent I. Fox (Alabama)
 John C. Poikonen (Massachusetts)
 Stanley S. Kent, Board Liaison (Illinois)
 Karl F. Gumpfer, Secretary

ming Committee will coordinate the Informatics Bytes: Pearls Session. Michael Schlesselman is the Chair of the Section's 2008–2009 Programming Committee.

Dr. Fox, working with ASHP Educational Services Division, planned an informatics series at the 2008 Summer Meeting. An informatics session was scheduled during all six of the meeting's educational opportunities. Topics that were presented included the Section's IT survey, robotic IV automation, CPOE implementation, managing clinical decision support, bar coding, and formulary management.

Dr. Fox and Dr. Fortier planned an Informatics Series for the 2009 Summer Meeting, whose topics include: quality improvement through CPOE, implementation of new technology, telepharmacy, medication reconciliation and electronic prescribing, closed-loop medication management systems, and clinical surveillance systems.

The Section also planned and implemented four networking sessions at the 2008 MCM. The networking sessions were on bar-coding, CPOE, and pharmacy informatics residencies, with one general session that engaged members to discuss a vision of the technology-enabled pharmacy practice model of the future. A networking session is planned for the 2009 Summer Meeting.

Electronic Networking Opportunities. The Section's electronic NewsLink is distributed monthly to more than 3000 ASHP members. The NewsLink provides current issues relating to informatics and technology, research, legislative and regulatory facts, and health policy and health care news. The Section's electronic discussion group, which includes 2300 participants, provides a forum for Section members to exchange information and ideas on a wide variety of topics related to pharmacy informatics and technology. The participant list is also used to communicate urgent information from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, the Food and Drug Administration, and The Joint Commission that may have an impact on the Section's membership.

Advisory Group on Clinical Information Systems. Activities of the Section Advisory Group (SAG) on Clinical Information Systems included the development of CPOE guidelines and resources on the electronic medication reconciliation process and clinical decision support systems (CDSS). Draft guidelines on planning for and implementing CPOE are being developed by the SAG and should be completed in 2009. The SAG will be developing member resources on CDSS involving allergy processing and drug interactions and investigating areas of collaboration with existing ASHP committees and external groups.

Advisory Group on Automation and Documentation. Activities of the SAG on Automation and Documentation include management of the medication supply chain process, preparation of medications and dispensing of medications with robotics, medication administration with bar-code medication technologies and smart pumps, formulary management with multiple applications within multiple hospital settings, and clinical documentation. The SAG is currently revising the ASHP Guidelines on Safe Use of Automated Medication Storage and Distribution Devices and developing guidelines for the appropriate labeling and repackaging of unit-dose medications. The Executive Committee and the SAG are developing a statement on bar-code-assisted dispensing

as a result of a recommendation from the Council on Pharmacy Management.

Advisory Group on Ambulatory Care Informatics. The SAG on Ambulatory Care Informatics was formed by the Section's Executive Committee in June 2008. The activities of this SAG include electronic prescribing, documentation of medication therapy management, and radio frequency identification integration/epedigree compliance. The Executive Committee will further define the SAG's charge as the group meets more regularly and defines the scope of its work.

Advisory Group on Pharmacy Informatics Education. The Section's Executive Committee approved changing the Task Force on Education and Publications to the SAG on Pharmacy Informatics Education to better meet the needs of the Section's members. There are many issues related to education of practitioners, residents, and students that this new SAG will address. This SAG will work with the Section's Programming Committee on educational offerings at the Summer Meeting and MCM. The SAG will work with the other groups and committees of the Section to develop Webinars and continue to be responsible for updating the Section's Web site and resource areas. The SAG has been busy with the following activities: updating and maintaining the Section's Web site and resource centers; supporting the development of informatics residency programs and other educational opportunities for pharmacists, students, technicians, and vendors; and establishing a column in the *American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AJHP)*. The column was launched in June 2008, and *AJHP* staff has had success in receiving manuscripts for publication. The Informatics Interchange column was changed from an every-other-month publication to a monthly publication starting January 2009. The SAG was also involved in updating and providing new content for the Section's Web site. This task was accomplished in November 2008. The SAG was responsible for planning the November 2008 Webinar on Innovations in Chemotherapy Preparation Safety: Telepharmacy and Barcode.

Task Force on Standards and Regulations. The Section Task Force on Standards and Regulations has been productive, making comments to governmental agencies over the past year on topics involving health IT. The task force is charged with the following: (1) establishing a process to make comments to aid ASHP staff on upcoming governmental regulations and other standards groups, (2) providing examples of best practices for members to meet regulations and standards, and (3) working with standards organizations to develop standards that affect the medication-use process. The task force has made recommendations to ASHP for comments on the Certification Commission for Healthcare Information Technology's draft criteria for inpatient electronic health records and ambulatory care health records. The task force has also made recommendations to ASHP staff on e-prescribing to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services and to the Drug Enforcement Agency on the use of e-prescribing for controlled substances.

ASHP Survey of Pharmacy Informatics, Technology, and Automation in Health Systems. Findings of the IT National Survey were published in the December 1, 2008 issue of *AJHP*. Hospitals appear to be moving toward an enterprise approach to IT adoption and away from a best-of-breed approach. Although nearly half of hospitals have components of an electronic medical record (EMR), a complete digital hospital with a fully implemented EMR is far in the future, with only 5.9% of hospitals being fully digital (without paper records). An estimated 12% of hospitals use CPOE systems with decision support, 24.1% use BCMA, and 44% use intelligent infusion devices (smart pumps). The Section is determining the feasibility of repeating the survey in 2009.

Committee on Nominations

Kevin C. Marvin, Chair (Vermont); Denny C. Briley (Illinois); Kevin A. Scheckelhoff (Ohio); Scott R. McCreadie (Michigan); Mark H. Siska (Minnesota)

Programming Committee

Michael D. Schlesselman, Chair (Connecticut); Robert Christiansen, Vice-Chair (Pennsylvania); Maryam Behta (New York); Alan Chung (Virginia); Elizabeth A. Fields (Tennessee); Maritza Lew (California); John Manzo (New York); Dallas Moore (Utah); Ian Orensky (Virginia); Lynn C. Sanders (District of Columbia); Armen I. Simonian (California); Lolita G. White (Maryland)

Advisory Group on Clinical Information Systems

Tommy J. Mannino, Chair (Louisiana); Denis J. (Jeff) Ramirez, Vice-Chair (Virginia); Matthew D. Balla (Indiana); Anne M. Bobb (Illinois); Jennifer Boehne (Minnesota); Denny C. Briley (Illinois); James D. Carpenter (Oregon); Charles R. Downs (Maryland); W. Lynn Ethridge (South Carolina); Randy Herring (Alabama); John R. Horn (Washington); Bonnie Levin (District of Columbia); Rane M. Runnebaum (Missouri); Andrew C. Seger (Massachusetts); Sylvia Thomley (Wisconsin); David L. Troiano (Texas); Kevin B. Waite (Kansas); Lori Wright (Tennessee); Jayson J. Przybyła, New Practitioner Member (Virginia); Jason Kinyon, Student Member (Maryland); J. Chad Hardy, Executive Committee Liaison (Texas)

Advisory Group on Automation and Documentation

Christopher J. Urbanski, Chair (Indiana); Arash T. Dabestani, Vice-Chair (California); James L. Besier (Ohio); Leslie H. Brookins (Missouri); Ron Burnette (Florida); Thomas W. Cooley (Massachusetts); Charles De la Torre (Florida); Kimberly Dove (California); Craig P. Frost (Texas); Rick K. Glabach (Maryland); Gary L. Johnson, Jr. (Washington); Brad Rognrud (Minnesota); Paul M. Seelinger (California); Gwen R. Volpe (Illinois); Ray Vrabel (California); Denise H. Mckenzie, Technician Member (Missouri); Matthew Marshall, New Practitioner Member (Tennessee); Marvin H. Choi, Student Member (Maryland); Dennis A. Tribble, Executive Committee Liaison (Florida)

Advisory Group on Ambulatory Care Informatics

Marc T. Young, Chair (Maryland); Jennifer Boehne (Minnesota); Tim R. Brown (Ohio); Janet Crawford (Missouri); Doina Dumitru (Texas); Sharon L. Ellison (North Carolina); Barbara Lane Giacomelli (New Jersey); Sarah Glamm (Wisconsin); Anne Johnston (Florida); Kevin C. Marvin (Vermont); Teresa (Teri) Ann Miller (California); Sandra Mitchell (Maryland); Kirby K. Stiening (Virginia); Ronald Schneider (Maryland); Abraham Gilbert, Technician Member (Georgia); Co Lai, New Practitioner Member (Florida); Ed Chin, Student Member (Ohio); John C. Poikonen, Executive Committee Liaison (Massachusetts)

Advisory Group on Pharmacy Informatics Education

Helen L. Figge, Chair (New York); Kevin Clauson, Vice-Chair (Florida); Louis D. Barone (Ohio); Carol Hope (Utah); Patrice S. Johnson (District of Columbia); Douglas B. Kent (Pennsylvania); Ingrid K. Lewis (Colorado); Terry L. Seaton (Missouri); David A. Tjhio (Illinois); Ross Edward Vanderbush (Arkansas); Mai-Chi Tran, Student Member (Pennsylvania); Brent I. Fox, Executive Committee Liaison (Alabama)

Task Force on Standards and Regulations

Michael E. McGregory, Chair (Michigan); Michael A. Jones, Vice-Chair (Colorado); Brian W. Dennis (Michigan); Susan M. Gugliotta (New Jersey); Joan E. Kapusnik-Uner (California); Timothy W. Lynch (Washington); Edward D. Millikan (Maryland); Alan M. Portnoy (Pennsylvania); James A. Russell (Wisconsin); Suzanne B. Shea (Texas); Douglas R. Smith (Texas); Mark H. Siska, Executive Committee Liaison (Minnesota)