



Section of
**PHARMACY PRACTICE
MANAGERS**



Message from the Chair – July, 2011

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Chair, Section of Pharmacy Practice Managers (2010-2011)

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The last hurrah

As the outgoing Chair, this is my last official message to the Section membership. It has been an honor to serve the profession on the Executive Committee of the ASHP Pharmacy Practice Managers Section. I am truly impressed with the breadth and depth of leadership in the Section. Our Section Advisory Group (SAG) members, Chairs, and Vice-Chairs have been prolific in creating and disseminating information, programming and tools for members to use.

Thanks

I would like to take this time to thank several colleagues that I have shared the honor of serving with on the Executive Committee. Foremost among those who receive my gratitude are the recent past Chairs Kathy Pawlicki, Jim Rinehart and Steve Rough. During the reign of these Chairs, the Section has significantly grown in membership, improved our member satisfaction, and created innumerable tools and programs to help our membership manage and lead their departments (such as the Managers Boot Camp and the Student Leadership Development Workshop). I would also like to thank the recent Directors-at-Large with whom I have served during my role as Chair, Tricia Killingsworth, Paul Mosko, Todd Karpinski, and Laura Mark. I have never worked with such an engaged, goal oriented group of volunteers who are so determined to make a difference during their opportunity to serve. While I will stay on the Executive Committee for a year in my role as Immediate Past Chair, I pass the baton and leave you in the extremely capable hands of our newly installed Chair, Mike Powell. Please welcome and support Mike as he takes the reins of the Section mpowell@nebraskamed.com.

I would also like to express my sincere appreciation to David Chen, ASHP Director of the Section of Pharmacy Practice Managers and Pharmacy Practice Sections. Without Dave's council, organizational skill and political savvy the section would not have flourished as it has.

Section Advisory Groups (SAGs) work

As I have mentioned in previous Chair's Messages, the SAGs are the workgroups that create Section tools and programming. The Executive Committee creates a strategic plan and defines Section goals. These goals are then given to the appropriate SAGs where the Chairs lead the group to accomplish the Mission and Vision of the Section. For more on the SAGs visit:

<http://www.ashp.org/menu/MemberCenter/SectionsForums/SPPM/AboutThisSection.aspx>

Leadership Conference

Now that I have paid homage to the past leadership of the Section it is time to look forward. The premier event of the Section, the ASHP Leadership Conference, is right around the corner and I can't

wait to go again! As you would have imagined, we will have amazing programming by national experts with a focus on the Pharmacy Practice Model Initiative (PPMI). For those of you who have not previously attended, it is a great place to learn and network. The relatively small crowd (capped at around 400) allows much greater access to national leaders and peers than at larger meetings. Everyone there shares your goals of elevating practice and implementing change.

Top level change

Let's continue to honor our past and welcome our future as we thank Henri Manasse for his extraordinary service to the Profession as he retires as Executive Vice President and CEO of ASHP. Henri's leadership has dramatically expanded the scope and reach of ASHP and his leadership has guided us through the worst financial crisis in modern history, allowing us to emerge as a stronger and more agile organization.

As Henri steps into his much deserved retirement, please join me in welcoming Paul Abramowitz as he takes the helm as Executive Vice President and CEO. Paul has already shown extraordinary leadership in the profession as ASHP Past President and Treasurer and in his leadership of various high functioning pharmacy departments including the University of Iowa, the University of Minnesota, and Virginia Commonwealth University.

More thanks

In keeping with the past and future theme, I would like to thank the two incredible management teams that I have had the good fortune of being associated with during my tenure on the Section Executive Committee. Thank you to the leadership teams at the University of Minnesota Medical Center, Fairview and the Cleveland Clinic. Without the depth of leadership in these high functioning departments, I could not have been so actively engaged in the business of the Section.

The challenge

I know that my closing remarks will resonate with the self-selected high performing leaders who have chosen to be active in the ASHP Section of Pharmacy Practice Managers. We have a professional obligation to move the practice of pharmacy forward. We have inherited an amazing profession, a profession dedicated to excellence. Because of the efforts of leaders preceding us, health-system pharmacists are recognized for their unique knowledge and contribution to patient care. This did not happen by accident, nor did it happen overnight. It happened through long term dedicated leadership at the local, state and national level.

Now it is our turn. The stage has been set. The PPMI Summit in Dallas laid out the direction for the future. It is up to this generation of pharmacy leaders to drive practice model change to ensure that we are not only relevant but are essential patient care providers in the new world of health-care reform. In order to be successful, pharmacy leaders must have the courage to take the lead on several initiatives. We must put the patient at the center of every decision we make. We must take the lead on all things medication related in our health-systems. We must take ownership of medication histories and medication reconciliation. We must expand our decentralized coverage to include evenings and weekends. We must provide clinical coverage 24 / 7. We must educate all patients at discharge, helping to prevent readmissions and ensuring medication compliance. We must implement safer systems through automation. We must leverage well trained technicians and automation, allowing all hospital staff to practice at the "top of their license". We must partner with our nurses and our physicians to provide optimal care. We must expand our residency capacity to train tomorrow's practitioners and leaders. We must dedicate ourselves to developing the next generation of leaders through focused

mentoring of students, residents and practicing pharmacists. We must spread the great work that we do in our hospitals to our ambulatory sites. We must adapt to the changing landscape by expanding our pharmacists into our health-system's clinics where they will manage chronic disease, improve quality and reduce costs like we do on the inpatient side.

Change will be difficult. There are those who are happy with the status quo. There are those who are unsure of their abilities in the new roles that we will require. Some will attempt to undermine the process. I challenge you to be bold, to hold the course, to drive positive change, to push the limits of conventional wisdom, and to empower your team to excel. The leaders before you were not satisfied with the status quo, nor should you be. We are the stewards of an amazing profession and we are at a professional crossroads. Will we successfully step up and succeed by demonstrating our value to our patients or will we be marginalized and made irrelevant. The success of the profession rests on your shoulders.

With that I leave you in the capable hands of your new Chair of the ASHP Section of Pharmacy Practice Managers, Mike Powell.

Regards,

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Chair, Section of Pharmacy Practice Managers 2010 - 2011