



My journey to become an ASHP Council member actually began with me applying to for a different position. When I got my appointment, I quickly realized what an honor it was to be selected to serve on the Council of Pharmacy Practice. I soon discovered that I was among a select group of students that would help to construct the Policies and Statements that ASHP is so well known for.

My preparation for policy week began long before the actual week of events. I was responsible for reviewing current ASHP Policy and reading background on the new topics that my council would be discussing. When I arrived in Bethesda, I felt very confident in my ability to discuss the topics scheduled. The days were intense, but so exciting. I felt like an equal to all of my colleagues, offering an alternative student view to many of our discussions. Everyone listened and took into consideration all of the suggestions and opinions that were voiced. It was such an amazing experience to be working with some of the most influential pharmacists of my time. I know that the friendships that I made during that week will continue throughout my career.

After two full days of meetings, we all went to Capitol Hill to lobby to our legislators on behalf of our profession. I attended two of my meetings alone. While I was nervous at first, I quickly felt at ease discussing the issues that were near and dear to my heart.

My experience during ASHP's 2009 Policy Week was truly amazing. I learned so much and met so many wonderful people. I recommend that any student passionate about Health-System Pharmacy seriously consider applying to be a student Council member.

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