



**MELISSA ORTEGA**  
**Chair, Communications Advisory Group**

**School:** Nova Southeastern University

**Graduation Year:** 2010

**How and why I became interested in being appointed to the Pharmacy Student Forum Executive Committee:**

I have been blessed with great mentors as a pharmacy student, most of which I have met by being involved in ASHP and my state affiliated society, FSHP. I admired my mentors' passion for our profession and their abilities to visualize the next step for improving patient care. I started off by taking small steps and became highly involved in our student society and realized what an impact as students we have not only in our community but on each other. As I progressed through pharmacy school I realized I would love to share my passion for pharmacy and help other students become aware of all the great opportunities and resources ASHP has to offer, and found that being involved in the student executive committee was the best means to do that.



**Professional interests:**

I plan to pursue a two year combined residency program in pharmacy administration.

**How being a member of ASHP has assisted in my personal and professional development:**

ASHP has played a great role in my personal and professional development. ASHP educated me on career options and provided me with endless resources so that I can pave the road to my pharmacy career. They provided me with tools and mentors so that I can find a career that will satisfy both my personal, professional goals, and ignite my passion for pharmacy. ASHP has brought to my attention the leadership shortage in our profession and how pursuing a pharmacy administration pathway can go hand and hand on helping me become a better clinician, leader, and patient care advocatory.

**Goals for the year as an Executive Committee member:**

To create a personal relationship with our student members and help provide resources through ASHP to help empower our members with knowledge and the motivation to get involved and advocate for our profession; so that together we can keep our profession moving forward by preparing them to become the next pharmacy leaders.

**Fun fact:**

Sadly, I am not such a big fan of reading novels (lack of time or too tired) but I love listening to audio books and you will always catch one in the CD player in the car. It makes the long commutes seem a lot shorter!

**Contact email:** [ortegame@nova.edu](mailto:ortegame@nova.edu)

