Overview

An important part of being a pharmacy student is striving to continually improve and promote the practice of pharmacy. Practice Advancement Initiatives (PAI) strives to bring recommendations to ensure that the pharmacy profession meets the demands of future practice and patient care delivery models as the healthcare landscape continues to evolve with new opportunities arising to expand pharmacy service and practice.

Members of the Advancement of Professional Practice Advisory Group collected PAI stories of various SSHP’s to help pharmacy students understand the importance of PAI and how to inspire their peers to drive change.

Questions addressed:

- When did you start planning?
- What events did you hold?
- What was your most successful event?
- How was the turnout?
- What would you do differently?
- Advice for other SSHP societies?

Thank you to:

Louis Becton, President-elect
Roxy Duan, Vice President-elect
Pacific University School of Pharmacy

Hana Sacic, President-elect
Ameé Joshi, President
Jenn Philippon, Immediate Past President
The Ohio State University

Harriet McGowan, President
Medical University of South Carolina

Alan Luu, President
University of Houston College of Pharmacy
When did you start planning?

Pacific University School of Pharmacy
Approximately two weeks ahead of time.
This was our first event held as elects, so we came up with a timeline to keep track of the event planning process. We prepared event materials (questionnaires, flyers, etc.) during the first week, promoted advertisement and collected student responses to share their thoughts on promoting health literacy and published selected responses on our class page, weekly newsletter, and hallway.

The Ohio State University
This year was a little more difficult since we were waiting for the official roll out of PAI 2030 at ASHP Midyear. We were also waiting to see if ASHP wanted to implement an official PAI week still or not. Once we got more information from ASHP and PAI 2030, we started planning the second week in January when we came back from winter break and our PAI week was held from 2/24-2/28.

Medical University of South Carolina
Planning for PAI week began just after the ending of our last PAI week. The ASHP Liaison at the time gathered feedback on what went well, what we could do better, and what resources we utilized. More specifically, the planning process began with our first executive committee meeting in August. Picking a date as far in advance was crucial in setting an event up for success, especially when involving a large number of people and practicing pharmacists. Planning picked up in early January with students’ return to campus, which began to include specific details for the event.

University of Houston College of Pharmacy
After hosting a successful PAI week last year with such positive feedback we knew early on we wanted to host it again for this upcoming year. We started planning during our officer transition in August and continued to follow up with our team via consistent email and in-person meetings.
We invited students to enjoy pies on the first day of PAI week. PAI 2030 flyers were present to facilitate the discussion of PAI.

Our theme aligned with PAI 2030 recommendation 45: "the pharmacy workforce should partner with patients and the interprofessional care team to identify, assess, and resolve barriers to medication access, adherence, and health literacy." We designed a survey to gather responses insight and experiences related to health literacy from our peers.

David Chen, BS Pharm, MBA from ASHP presented on Pharmacy Advancement Initiatives 2030 and Practitioner Resilience. After class, David Chen, BS Pharm, MBA and Kristy Butler, BCPS, BCACP, FASHP hosted a Q&A session for students.
What events did you hold?

The Ohio State University

1 **DAY 1**  
**Technology & data science**  
Technology Tour at OSUWMC

2 **DAY 2**  
**Leadership in medication use & safety**  
Pharmacogenomics Speaker & Activity

3 **DAY 3**  
**Pharmacist role, education, & training**  
Residency Round Table

4 **DAY 4**  
**Pharmacy technician role, education, & training**  
Panel for non-traditional technician roles

5 **DAY 5**  
**Patient-centered care**  
Social and Cards for Kids to be delivered to Nationwide Children's Hospital
What events did you hold?

Medical University of South Carolina

1. Psychiatry
   Psych Mix & Match Game
   Match commonly used psych medications to indications

2. Oncology
   Chemo Man
   Match common adverse events of chemo meds to a stick figure poster

3. Pediatrics
   Fluid & Feedings
   Match tubes & feedings to proper age recommendations

4. Ambulatory Care
   Crossword puzzle
   Identify terms associated with ambulatory care services

5. Infectious Disease
   Bugs & Drugs
   Match antimicrobial agents to bugs they cover

6. Transplant
   Pre-transplant test
   Actual competency exam given to pre-transplant patients to assess readiness for transplant

7. Inpatient/Internal Med
   Balloon Pop
   Throw a dart at a balloon board with facts of duties & match the description with the practice

8. Hospital Administration
   Leadership Matching
   Correctly showcase random leadership styles and identify 3 styles students align with

9. Critical Care
   Tackle Box
   Display of crash cart contents & play scenarios of when to use different contents
For our patient-centered care pillar, we hosted a transitions of care (TOC) workshop with a TOC pharmacist speaking about his daily responsibilities and common challenges. From there, students broke out in groups to participate in a mock discharge medication reconciliation activity created by our faculty advisor.

The following day, we hosted a social media campaign for the pharmacist education and training portion where we reached out to local clinical specialists with a questionnaire that was shared on social media platforms. To capture the technology and data science aspect, we invited informatics pharmacists from a large academic institution to share their practices and where they see technology advancing in the future.

To highlight the diverse role of pharmacy technicians, we interviewed several technicians from a nearby hospital and had them share their experiences. This showed the importance of technicians to pharmacy students, as we had students participate in a tech check tech crash cart activity where they competed to check a tray similarly to how technicians would in a hospital.

Lastly, we finished the week off by giving back to our university and provided education on the role of a pharmacist to our fellow students at the local university student center.
How was the turnout?

Pacific University

We had 14 students reply to our survey and we published ~7 responses. We then selected 5 "winners" to receive a small prize to reward their high-quality reflection on health literacy.

Additionally, our speaker series with David Chen, BS Pharm, MBA had roughly 40 attendees. Students were engaged, asked questions, and enjoyed local Mexican food.

The Ohio State University

I think SSHP does a great job with PAI week because of all the strong leaders we have had over the last few years!

Our secretary made some great infographics for our events and always amazes me how well she does with keeping everyone up to date on our events so this also helped us out a lot.

- Technology Tour - 27
- Pharmacogenomics speaker - 23
- Residency Round Table - 37
- Non-traditional Technician Panel - 22
- Social & Card Writing - 17

Medical University of South Carolina

The turnout was less than hoped. However, it was not due to lack of enthusiasm about the event from the student body, moreover the excess of events and exams on campus that week hindered students from attending.

Having a very involved College of Pharmacy and clubs on campus, we decided promoting other events was in the spirit of what PAI is all about. In total we had about 30 attendees including SSHP members, clinical specialists, and residents in attendance.

University of Houston College of Pharmacy

By planning early, we had a variety of students with varying levels in the curriculum come to our events to learn more about PAI and how this initiative can impact them moving forward.

We had lots of P1s come out to our tech check tech event who wanted to learn what a crash cart was and how it impacts them. This contrasted with the multiple P2s and P3s who came to get practice on medication reconciliations after learning about them in class. Finally, we had opportunities for our P4s to hear from local clinicians about their thoughts on residency and the future of pharmacy.
What was your most successful PAI event?

Pacific University

Our "Promoting Health Literacy Q&A" had a pretty successful turnout based on the quality of responses.

The Ohio State University

This is hard to answer. I would say our most successful event was probably Residency Round Table just because it’s so meaningful to students and for residents. It’s also a reoccurring event so I think students recognize it and are more willing to come and join.

Residency Roundtable was probably our most successful one because we had a lot of P1s and many residents, and I think there were a lot of good conversations going on that facilitated successful networking. The event that I really enjoyed was the social; this year I added writing encouragement cards for Nationwide Children’s Hospital. I have included some of the pictures of the adorable cards that our students came up with.

Medical University of South Carolina

The most successful event was the SSHP PAI Special Interest Group (SIG) event with various practices as it was the main focus of the week and planned by SSHP.

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University of Houston College of Pharmacy

Hosting the tech check tech crash cart activity during our lunch break was by far our most successful event.

Initially, many students were not familiar with a crash cart and its place in the hospital. However, after participating in the activity students gained a basic understanding of crash carts while seeing the importance of a pharmacy technician.
What would you do differently?

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<td>After the speaker series, I would have announced students about the Q&amp;A session after class. When we arrived at the Q&amp;A session, there were about four students in total including SSHP executives. If we had reminded my peers about the time and location, in case they missed the information or they were unable to attend the speaker series, more students would be benefited since the Q&amp;A session turned out to be informative in terms of self-improvement and career development.</td>
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<td>When publishing survey responses, I would include more PAI 2030 resources in order to emphasize the importance of those recommendations and to instruct how to refer to those resources when it is necessary to apply them.</td>
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<td>If we had more time, I would definitely wish to advertise earlier so we can provide more detailed information to our members during our meetings.</td>
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<td>I also hope to incorporate more education about PAI during the year and our meetings so more students can get excited about our events.</td>
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<td>Next year, we hope to increase the budget for PAI week and to also incorporate events that have been successful from the past two years. As for the PAI Special Interest Group (SIG) event, we hope to reserve a space more compatible with moving around and setting up tables. MUSC-SSHP works with interprofessional groups on campus and could be an opportunity to educate our peers on what PAI is and why it is important for our future patients.</td>
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<td>For future years to come, we would love to incorporate more interactive activities for students to participate in. Additionally, collaborating with other organizations would have opened platforms for us to spread the message and educate to.</td>
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Advice for other SSHP societies?

Start early.
Include general information about PAI in general board meetings - what it means for students and pharmacists. There are many students unaware of the initiative, but the more you talk about it, the more they will become familiar and willing to attend events.

Promote the events.
Utilize platforms that garner much of your peers' attention - Instagram, Facebook, newsletters. Word of mouth. Get the word out.

Accessibility.
Aim to keep events on-site and during professional/school hours.

Ask for feedback.
Promptly after the event, get feedback to best accommodate the audience. Without feedback, changes can lack direction and even waste resources. Aim to structure events around what works best for student members.

Incentives.
Serve complimentary food. Invite residents to speak. If applicable, get the events to count towards professional development hours.

Develop a timeline.
A strong plan of action with specific goals backed by the PAI 2030 recommendations will facilitate a successful PAI week!

Consider creating a PAI committee with subgroups to address each pillar handled by a specific team to allow for creativity and diversified ideas.

Take photos.
You can utilize these photos to promote the benefits of attending and they help make advertisements more appealing.

Get the e-board involved.
The elects are primarily in charge of overseeing PAI week, but for each event/day, involve at least one other person with planning.

Advice was collected from the SSHP executive members from Pacific University School of Pharmacy, The Ohio State University, Medical University of South Carolina, and University of Houston College of Pharmacy.