

Mayor Proclaiming “Hospital Pharmacy Week”

University of Kentucky College of Pharmacy

WHAT WE DID:

Objective:

The objective of having Mayor Jim Gray of Lexington sign a proclamation recognizing ASHP Hospital Pharmacy Week was to increase awareness to the public of the role of pharmacists in hospital pharmacy.

Plan:

The leaders and members of UK’s ASHP-SSHP chapter initiated communication with the Mayor’s office in August, well ahead of time to plan the event and give the Mayor plenty of time to recognize schedule conflicts. Furthermore, we explored options of the actual proclamation and decided to use ASHP’s template available on ashp.org/pharmweek. The idea for the mayor to sign the proclamation actually came from the ASHP website. In addition to contacting the mayor, we informed our state organization as well as pharmacists working in health-systems in the city of Lexington. Our advisor assisted in creating connections within city so that every major health system would be invited to attend.

Outcome:

On October 23rd, 2015 Mayor Jim Gray signed a proclamation recognizing October 18-24th as Hospital Pharmacy Week in Lexington. Planning ahead allowed us to have all of the major health systems to have a representative in attendance. Eleven individuals, including four students from our chapter as well as our interim dean, attended the signing.

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

- Plan Ahead, it is never “too early”
- Select a location and date to host the event – Some spaces will require reservations, etc.
- Develop campaign and advertisement materials including informational handouts and flyers.
 - Look for helpful resources that are already available through ASHP-SSHP
- Advertise your initiative to generate interest
 - Use the social media outlet that is most popular at your school
- Remind your participants (students, residents, and pahrmacists) prior to the event, and further explain to them the importance of the event.
- Keep administration well informed and update them after the project is complete
- Involve your state organization
- Thank participants via written “Thank you” letters
- Follow up with local, state, and national organization to have your event recognized in newsletters, etc.

Available ASHP Resources to Assist in Accomplishing Your Project:

- ❖ <http://www.ashp.org/pharmweek>

Questions? Contact UK SSHP President at Andrew.dennis@uky.edu