2020
VOTER’S GUIDE

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ALL BALLOTS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN 12:00 NOON, EDT, MONDAY, MAY 11, 2020.

SAVE TIME . . . CAST YOUR VOTE ONLINE
All ballots must be received by 12 Noon, EDT, Monday, May 11, 2020

“Ask the Candidate!”
Find out where the candidates stand on the issues that matter most to you and your area of practice. Contact the candidates at the email addresses provided to learn more about their campaign goals and professional interests.

Who is Entitled to Vote?
Each ballot is customized according to the information found in the voting member’s online membership profile. APhA members and select Student Pharmacist members are entitled to vote for the candidates for the APhA Board of Trustees and for the leadership of their designated primary Academy and Section (if applicable). Technician members are only entitled to vote for the leadership of their designated primary Academy and Section (if applicable). APhA members and select Student Pharmacist members are entitled to vote on amendments to the APhA Bylaws.

How to Vote

**Voting Online**
Each eligible member will receive an individualized email from Election Services Co. (ESC) with candidate and ballot information. Online voting is highly encouraged. If you prefer to receive a paper ballot at your home address, please contact ESC at aphahelp@electionservicescorp.com, as paper ballots will only be sent upon request.

- Go to [https://www.esc-vote.com/apha](https://www.esc-vote.com/apha) to access the log-in page of the official 2020 APhA election.
- Log-in using your Election Validation Number (EVN) and your Member Number (MN) located in your email.
- Follow the online voting instructions.
- Your vote must be received by 12 Noon, EDT, Monday, May 11, 2020.

**Voting by Mailing Paper Ballot**

- Please contact ESC at aphahelp@electionservicescorp.com to request a paper ballot.
- Mark your selection by placing an “X” in the box to the left of the candidate’s name.
- Detach the bottom panel. Do not mail with ballot.
- Return ballot in the enclosed envelope.
- Fill in your return mailing address on the envelope. Affix appropriate postage (airmail, if foreign).
- Mail your ballot to Election Services Co., P.O. Box 9020, Ronkonkoma, NY 11779.
  - Please allow one week for delivery.
- Ballot must be received by 12 Noon, EDT, Monday, May 11, 2020.

Confidentiality
Ballot confidentiality is provided through processing and tabulating by an independent firm.

Remember, your vote counts!
Make your voice heard.
Candidates for President-elect and Trustee were asked to respond to the following question. The candidates’ responses are italicized. (See pages 3–8.)

What unique attributes and skills would you bring to the APhA Board to support the advancement of the Association’s priorities?

APhA Mission

As the voice of pharmacy, the American Pharmacists Association leads the profession and equips members for their role as the medication expert in team-based, patient-centered care.
Theresa Tolle, BPharm, FAPhA, is owner of Bay Street Pharmacy in Sebastian, Florida since 1999. Prior to owning an independent pharmacy, she had practice experience in chain, long term care (consultant) pharmacy and hospital. Her pharmacy focuses on patient services such as counseling, MTM, compounding, durable medical equipment, immunizations and pharmacogenomics testing. Her professional activities have spanned local, state and national pharmacy associations including serving as President of Florida Pharmacy Association in 2003, Treasurer of the Florida Pharmacy Political Committee since 2009, APhA-APPMM Community & Ambulatory Chair 1995–96, PAC Region 2 Board of Governors 2009–12, Speaker-Elect/Speaker of the House 2014–17 and current Trustee. Other APhA service includes appointments including House of Delegates Policy Committee Chair in 2010–11, AMCP Model Audit Guidelines Task Group, 2010–11 and Center for Pharmacy Practice Accreditation (CPPA) Oversight Committee 2012–13. Additional professional involvement includes Lead Luminary of CPESN Florida since 2017, membership and committee work with NCPA, Cardinal Health National Advisory Board and Health First Health Plans P&T Committee. Activities outside the profession include Sebastian Chamber of Commerce Past Board Chair & LGA Chair, American Cancer Society Treasure Coast Council, and Sebastian River Medical Center Trustee. Tolle graduated from University of Florida in 1988. She has won several professional awards including 2019 Outstanding Alumnus for University of Florida College of Pharmacy, 2018 NCPA Preceptor of the Year, FPA Bowl of Hygeia in 2012, APhA Fellow in 2011, APhA Good Government Pharmacist of the Year in 2004 and Cardinal Health’s Ken Wurster Community Leadership Award in 2011.

Email: Theresa.tolle@baystreetpharmacy.com

Recognizing that a strong association supports the advancement of the profession, what areas would you focus the organization’s limited resources on to achieve APhA’s current mission and vision and to advance the profession?

APhA’s vision can be summarized to state that pharmacists are the health care provider who ensures optimal medication use to improve quality of life. I believe that APhA has focused its resources on this vision through its priorities of ensuring pharmacists become providers of record within Medicare and also helping develop practice resources for pharmacists to succeed in the evolving value-based health care models. Our association, through its leadership and members has been visionary in looking to provide solutions and opportunities to position pharmacists as the medication experts. I feel that APhA has its priorities correct and should continue to provide quality education programs, advocate on behalf of its members and patients and collaborate with related organizations to ensure pharmacists role within the health care team.
Valerie Prince, PharmD, FAPhA, BCPS is a clinical pharmacy specialist at St. Vincent’s East Family Medicine Residency Program and a professor at Samford University. She completed an ASHP accredited residency at Regional Medical Center at Memphis. A graduate of Mercer University, she has enjoyed practicing in acute care, ambulatory, independent, chain, and long term care pharmacies. Her primary areas of interest are mentoring, interprofessional practice, and substance use disorders. Her current practice setting allows her to mentor resident physicians and student/resident pharmacists while working on interprofessional practice and education in a larger scope. She has an 18 year history of national level involvement in APhA that encompasses two terms on the APhA Board of Trustees, APhA-ASP national office, numerous positions in APhA-APPM including President, and extensive involvement with the APhA House of Delegates including Speaker. She is currently Chair APhA-HOD Rules Review Committee. She has held numerous offices in the Alabama Pharmacy Association including APAREF President, APA Board of Trustees and she currently serves as APA HOD Parliamentarian. She is a past national president of Phi Lambda Sigma Leadership Society. She currently serves on the Governor’s Task Force on Opioids subcommittee and served many years on the Alabama Board of Pharmacy Committee on Rehabilitating Impaired Pharmacists. She is the recipient of the Tice Friend of APhA-ASP Award, APPM Distinguished Achievement in Clinical Practice Award, APA Distinguished Service Award, and she is an APhA Fellow. She has a long record of community service and mentoring including 14 years as a Girl Scout leader.

Email: vtprince@samford.edu

Recognizing that a strong association supports the advancement of the profession, what areas would you focus the organization’s limited resources on to achieve APhA’s current mission and vision and to advance the profession?

APhA must facilitate financially viable traditional and innovative practice models that allow us to practice at the top of our license while in a safe environment. We must solidify interprofessional relationships, promote the value of pharmacists, develop practice models that embrace technology within the context of interprofessional care and public health while addressing the current and projected pharmacy job market. All very inter-related priorities. Cultivation of interprofessional relationships promotes the value of pharmacists in team-based care and contributes to financially viable practice models for all team members, improves patient care and decreases professional burnout. All outcomes that will have them fighting beside us instead of against us. The value of pharmacists must be promoted to a wide audience including patients, payors, and legislative/regulatory bodies. A leadership role in a major public health initiative such as the opioid crisis provides an avenue and strategy on a global level for APhA to engage in interprofessional patient care and promote the value of pharmacists to a broad audience. Innovative use of technology can be a tool for advancing the profession, mitigating the effects of mass and impersonal distribution of medications, and providing better patient care. Finally, it is critically important to address the current suboptimal job market and aggressively pursue solutions. The highest priority issue for an unemployed pharmacist is to find a way to support his/her family using the education and licensure for which he/she worked so hard. Development of innovative financially viable practice models will create new roles and potentially new positions for pharmacists. We must cherish and defend our present practice models for the sake of patients who count on us and we must invent our own future of maximum impact in a changing health care system.
Betsy Elswick, PharmD, is Associate Professor at West Virginia University (WVU) School of Pharmacy and residency director for WVU School of Pharmacy's Community-Based Pharmacy Residency Program. She coordinates WVU School of Pharmacy’s Alumni Association and Alumni Affairs and oversees the outreach and engagement of the School’s 3,500+ alumni. She received her Pharm.D. from WVU and completed a PGY-1 Community Pharmacy Residency with Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, VA. Elswick has a strong record of pharmacy advocacy having served as Past-President of the West Virginia Pharmacists Association (WVPA). She was an ad hoc committee member to the WV Board of Pharmacy to ensure that their state’s pharmacy practice act was updated and that collaborative practice legislation was passed. She worked tirelessly to gain WV pharmacists and pharmacy interns the opportunity to provide immunizations and coordinates a course on “Pharmacy Advocacy and Leadership.” Each year, she takes her students to Capitol Hill and WV Pharmacists Day at the Legislature. She is a voice for provider status at both the state and national levels. For these efforts, Elswick was awarded APhA’s Good Government Pharmacist-of-the-Year award in 2011. Her volunteer service to APhA has been extensive including appointments to the House of Delegates (HoD) Policy Review Committee (two terms, current chairperson), HoD Policy Committee (two terms), HoD Policy Reference Committee (three terms), HoD House Rules Review Committee, APhA-APPM Awards Committee, APhA-APPM Policy Committee, and APhA’s Government Affairs Committee. Her past awards have also included WV’s Innovative Pharmacy Practice Award, Distinguished Young Pharmacist Award, and Bowl of Hygeia.

Email: belswick@hsc.wvu.edu

What unique attributes and skills would you bring to the APhA Board to support the advancement of the Association’s priorities?

I have had the honor of serving my profession of pharmacy in various roles over my nearly 20-year career. Following my community pharmacy residency training, I worked as a diabetes educator in a rural community in West Virginia. I understand the important role that the pharmacist has in serving underserved patients, particularly in a state that is overridden with the opioid crisis. As Past-President of our state’s pharmacist association, I have worked with important stakeholders at our Board of Pharmacy, State Legislature, Congress, and PBMs to ensure that the voice of our profession and our patients is heard. As Residency Program Director, I have been involved with training young graduates in becoming more engaged in their profession and am most proud of the accomplishments that these individuals have had in their own communities. Engaging and encouraging others in our profession is truly the only way to guarantee a pathway of success for the future.

It has been said over and over again that the pharmacy profession is at a crossroads. However, I disagree. I believe we are not at a crossroads but rather on a trajectory to success with some challenges that need to be addressed along the way. There is no “crossroads” if we are truly setting a goal for health care provider status and being recognized as valued/compensated members of the health care team. Two years ago, I co-authored and introduced two critical New Business Items in our APhA House of Delegates to address “gag clauses” that hindered pharmacists from discussing pricing with their patients, as well as policy statements related to DIR fees. I believe our HoD has worked hard to address some of these challenges and look forward to the work that our House and Board of Trustees will continue to do in the future.
Magaly Rodriguez de Bittner, PharmD, FAPhA, FNAP is Professor, Associate Dean for Clinical Services and Practice Transformation and Executive Director of the Center for Innovative Pharmacy Solutions at the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy. A current APhA Board of trustee and Vice-President of the Forum of the Americas. An APhA Fellow who served on many APhA committees and taskforces. Currently, a Fellow in Population Health at the University of Maryland Health System working in interprofessional value based integrated networks. She has developed and implemented many nationally-recognized programs, pharmacy services in the UMMS Quality Care Network and Maryland P3 Program, a pharmacist-directed MTM and disease management program, site of Ten City Challenge, in partnership with the Maryland Pharmacists Association, government and business organizations. Past director of the Community Pharmacy Residency Program and current preceptor. Her work includes collaborations with the CDC and other government agencies. She is past President of the Maryland Pharmacists Association and APhA Foundation Board. Recipient of the 2019 Creativity in Practice and Education Award from the National Academy of Practice, 2015 APhA Foundation Pinnacle Award for Individual Career Achievement, 2014 Maryland Innovator of the Year, 2013 University of Maryland Entrepreneur of the Year, the 2013 American Pharmacists Association Daniel B. Smith award, the 2010 Group Pinnacle Award; 2007 APhA Community Pharmacy Residency Excellence in Precepting Award; Distinguished Achievement in Pharmacotherapeutic Practice Award in 2006; Bowl of Hygeia 2005 and 1999 Innovative Pharmacy Practice Award by MPhA. She has dedicated her career to advance pharmacy practice and the development of innovative and sustainable patient care programs.

Email: mrodrigu@rx.umaryland.edu

What unique attributes and skills would you bring to the APhA Board to support the advancement of the Association’s priorities?

My experience as a current APhA trustee has provided me the opportunity to familiarize myself with all aspects of the organization. I have been able to participate and contribute my expertise in the creation of our new Strategic Plan and initiatives.

My background in the development of innovative pharmacy programs and most recently my work in population health and value-based contracts provides real life perspectives of these new and evolving models at the Board table. It is critical that pharmacists are included in these payment models.

In addition, as a patient care provider I bring a very diverse and extensive knowledge base and skills to serve the APhA membership. I am not only an educator, but I have experience providing care to patients in a variety of practice settings. I am able to relate to practitioners, educators and student pharmacists and assist with the development of programs to engage members and meet their needs. Our work with the P3 Program, the recently launched eHealth Center and the UMMS Quality Care Network has provided an opportunity to lead a team and create a sustainable and successful partnership between employers, governmental agencies, professional organizations, academic institutions and practicing pharmacists. This work has increased my passion to work towards provider status and embracing technology such a Telehealth.

My diverse cultural background, ability to speak Spanish and my community work with underserved populations brings a unique prospective to the Board to better serve its members.

My experience in Latin America and in global pharmacy education provides a deep understanding of global issues allowing APhA an opportunity for collaboration and expansion of their leadership role around the globe. I have vast experience advocating for pharmacy issues and legislation at the local and national level including changes in DIR fees, collaborative practice and provider status.
Deanna Seiler, RPh, PharmD has been dedicated to the pharmacy profession for the past 35 years beginning her career as a technician in her uncle’s independent pharmacy at a very young age. She has been employed by Walmart for the last 15 years in several different capacities. Dr. Seiler is a passionate and strong leader that encourages authentic conversations. She loves to teach and train and consistently motivates leaders at all levels to achieve their highest level of performance. Dr. Seiler attended St. Louis College of Pharmacy where she earned her bachelors in Pharmacy and Doctorate of Pharmacy degrees prior to moving on to complete a 1 year post graduate residency program. While putting herself through college she had the opportunity to experience several areas of pharmacy including hospital, independent, mail order and mass merchant, to name a few. Dr. Seiler is a team player and enjoys working on diverse teams. Using her active listening skills she is able to understand different points of view and verbalize her ideas clearly and concisely. She assists in coordinating the two Walmart Pharmacy residency programs. She works closely with the residency coordinators at Chicago College of Pharmacy and University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences to support the three PGY1 residents. Dr. Seiler played a critical role in the creation and implementation of the Immunization program at Walmart. She has completed all APhA certification programs and trained over 300 clinical pharmacists in them. In her spare time, she enjoys spending time with her family.

Email: Deanna.seiler@walmart.com

What unique attributes and skills would you bring to the APhA Board to support the advancement of the Association’s priorities?

I have created and implemented several clinical programs for Walmart with the ultimate goal for all pharmacists and technicians to be able to practice at the very top of their licenses. I believe that this provides greater access to healthcare for individuals where there is lack of primary care as well as ease of access for people with busy schedules. I am a respected leader and influencer given my approachable personality and my ability to create and foster relationships. Those relationships span from vendors and colleges of pharmacy as well as the different teams inside of Walmart, for example Legal, Practice Compliance, Privacy, Human Resources, Recruitment, Workforce, Communications and beyond. I am the program director of our ASHP Accredited Pharmacy Technician training program as well as involved with our PGY1 residency program and have been deeply involved in gaining accreditation as well as reaccreditation.
LCDR Andrew Gentles, PharmD, BCPS AQ-ID is a United States Public Health Service Officer at the FDA where he is a Senior Regulatory Program Coordinator within the Division of Antiviral Products and Medical Countermeasures Ebola Therapeutics Regulatory Team Lead. In this role he oversees the FDA’s portfolio of investigational drugs to treat emerging infectious disease outbreaks such as the 2018 Ebola Virus disease outbreak in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

LCDR Gentles is an ASHP Residency trained, BCPS credentialed pharmacist with added qualifications in infectious disease. With over 10 years of public health and clinical pharmacy experience including the Indian Health Service, he is a proud District of Columbia (DC) resident where he continues to practice in an underserved community clinic as a credentialed healthcare provider. He is also a passionate pharmacist leader with a forward thinking mindset. Having served as the 1st USPHS Officer to become President of the State Pharmacy Association for DC, he successfully spearheaded an advocacy initiative that resulted in the passage of regulations for Collaborative Practice Agreements between Physicians and Pharmacists. As a result, this historic legislative victory now advances the District’s pharmacy profession for 2,000 licensed pharmacists and stands to increase access and quality of care for 600,000 residents in the District of Columbia. The recipient of the prestigious 2019 National 40 under 40 Health Leaders Award and RADM George Lythcott Award for public health impact, LCDR Gentles’s wealth of experience and dedication has provided him with a progressive and collaborative mindset to address the challenges and opportunities facing our pharmacy profession today.

Email: Andrew.gentles@gmail.com

What unique attributes and skills would you bring to the APhA Board to support the advancement of the Association’s priorities?

Over 10 years of leadership experience in acute care, ambulatory care, pharmacy consulting, fiscal management and development of innovative programs to advance the role of the pharmacist as a healthcare provider. Other areas of expertise include non-traditional roles that highlight the impact we as pharmacists can have on public health locally and nationally. Additional areas of expertise not often reflected in my CV is my love for expanding the roles of what we can do as community leaders in our communities through the use of actionable population health data such as a Community Health Needs Assessment Report.
Gregory J Higby, PhD, RPh

Gregory J Higby, PhD, RPh earned a BS in Pharmacy degree from the University of Michigan in 1977. After 9 months in practice as a pharmacist, he returned to graduate school at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, receiving an MS in Pharmacy (1980) and a PhD in Pharmacy (1984). He did his graduate work in the history of pharmacy under Glenn Sonnedecker. From 1984 to 1986, he served as a research associate at the UW, teaching the then required history of pharmacy course (Pharmacy 401) and serving as the Assistant Director of the American Institute of the History of Pharmacy. In 1986, he became the Associate Director of the Institute, which is American pharmacy’s historical society, founded at the UW-Madison in 1941. In 1987, he became Acting Director of the Institute, and full-time Executive Director in 1988. In this capacity, he served as Editor of Pharmacy in History, the quarterly journal of the Institute. Greg retired as Executive Director of the AIHP at the end of 2018 and assumed his new position as Fischelis Scholar. In this new part-time role, Greg curates the Institute’s collection of reference materials, books, and artifacts. He also continues to teach the pharmacy history course at the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Pharmacy as well as serving as Senior Curator at the School.


Greg’s honors include the Edward Kremers Award, the Antoine-Augustin Parmentier Medal, the Hermann Schelenz Plakette, and the George Urdang Medal. In 2011, he received the University of Michigan College of Pharmacy Distinguished Alumni Award. He was elected to the honorific International Academy of the History of Pharmacy in 1991.
Candidates for APhA-APRS office were asked to respond to the following question. The candidates' responses are italicized. (See pages 11–19.)

What are the top three priorities of the Academy and what experiences and expertise can you contribute to meeting these priorities?

APhA-APRS Mission Statement

The APhA Academy of Pharmaceutical Research and Science stimulates the discovery, dissemination and application of research to improve patient health.

Who is Entitled to Vote?

All members of the American Pharmacists Association who have designated a Primary Academy and Section (if applicable) are entitled to vote for the leadership of that Academy and Section.

Members who have not designated a Primary Academy and/or Section (if applicable) are encouraged to follow the steps below to fully participate in the 2020 APhA Election:

1. Log-in to your member profile at www.pharmacist.com.
2. Select “My Account” in the top right corner.
3. Select “Academy, Sections, and SIGs” in the menu bar on the left side.
4. Click on “Edit” in the top right corner to be able to choose your Primary Academy and/or Section (if applicable).
5. Designate your Primary Academy and Section (if applicable).
6. Designate your Secondary Academy, Section, and/or Special Interest Group preferences (if desired).
7. When your selection(s) are complete, click on the purple “Save” button in the top right corner or the bottom left corner.
Spencer E. Harpe, PharmD, PhD, MPH, FAPhA is Professor of Pharmacy Administration at Midwestern University Chicago College of Pharmacy where he teaches courses in practice development and evaluation, epidemiology, and statistics. He holds a BS in Pharmaceutical Sciences and a PharmD from the University of Mississippi. Harpe earned his PhD in Pharmaceutical Administration with a focus on health outcomes research from the Ohio State University, as well as an MS in Pharmaceutical Administration and an MPH with a concentration in biostatistics. His scholarly interests include pharmacoepidemiology, outcomes research, health care quality, educational research, and meta-research. Harpe frequently collaborates with colleagues in various practice settings to evaluate the outcomes of pharmacy services. He has a keen interest in improving research and evaluation capacity among pharmacists. His research has resulted in numerous peer-reviewed publications and presentations at national and international meetings. Harpe has served on committees for several professional organizations. He has previously chaired the APhA-APRS ESAS Contributed Papers Review Committee, the APhA-APRS ESAS Awards and Nominations Committee, and the APhA-APRS Education Committee. He is currently finishing his term as APhA-APRS ESAS chair. Harpe was selected as a Fellow of APhA by APhA-APRS in 2017. In addition to serving as a peer-reviewer for a variety of healthcare journals, he has served on the editorial boards of several pharmacy-related journals, including the Journal of the American Pharmacists Association (JAPhA), the American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy, the Annals of Pharmacotherapy, and Currents in Pharmacy Teaching and Learning. He is currently Deputy Editor for JAPhA.

Statement of Candidacy

APhA’s mission to lead the profession and equip members for their role as medication experts in team-based, patient-centered care draws on the unique talents of the three Academies. Pharmacy practice stands on a foundation of science—the medications our patients use, the design of practices or health benefits, the education of future pharmacists. The continuing success of APhA-APRS depends on three factors: collaboration, communication, and member engagement. Collaboration is crucial to allow achievement of a common goal. Given the diversity within APRS, our collective scientific experience and efforts are necessary to the success of APhA. Collaboration between APRS and APPM is vital to advancing the profession of pharmacy. Collaboration can only be successful when communication is effective. Communication channels between academy members and APhA leadership must remain open, allowing for two-way conversations. Member engagement is important for any professional organization. One way to promote member engagement is to demonstrate the value that members receive from the organization and acknowledge the value they provide. Although each of these factors is necessary, no one is sufficient individually. The leadership of APRS must work to support collaboration, communication, and member engagement. It is also important for the APRS President to advocate for the academy at the broader APhA level. I believe my past experiences have helped prepare me to serve as APhA-APRS President. As a researcher, I have collaborated with researchers and practitioners on a variety of projects. As an educator, I have helped prepare students to keep their sights on improving practice and advancing patient care. As an editor, I have helped others tell their own stories in effective ways. I am excited to be considered for this position and look forward to bringing a spirit of collaboration, a focus on improvement, and a dedication to others should I be elected.
Jenny Lamberts, PhD is an Associate Professor of Pharmacology and Chair of the Pharmaceutical Sciences Department in the College of Pharmacy at Ferris State University. She joined Ferris State in 2014 and since that time, she has been extremely interested in how the basic sciences can integrate with and support the practice of pharmacy. Specifically, Jenny recently led a year-long research project that examined perceptions of college/school of pharmacy faculty toward programs that orient non-practice faculty to the profession of pharmacy; the results of this work were presented at the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) Pharmacy Education 2019. In addition, Jenny has been actively involved in several professional pharmacy organizations, including the Michigan Pharmacists Association (MPA), AACP, and APhA-APRS. Through her work with MPA and APhA-APRS, Jenny works hard to advance the profession of pharmacy through the dissemination and application of scientific research. Specific areas of contribution include, but are not limited to, pharmacotherapy of opioid use disorder, gluten content in pharmaceutical preparations, and compounding pharmacy education.

Statement of Candidacy

If elected as President-elect of APhA-APRS, my top three priorities will be as follows:

1. Increase APhA-APRS membership and member participation. My main priority as President-elect will be to develop an effective and sustainable communication program that encourages new memberships and membership renewals from basic, clinical, and ESAS scientists. This program will focus especially on research students and trainees, to encourage their career-long participation in and engagement with the Academy. As Chair of the Pharmaceutical Sciences Department, I established a formal communication plan to interact with and inform members of my department. Given this experience, I believe I can make an informed contribution to the development of an Academy-wide membership communication program.

2. Continue and expand collaborations with APhA-APPM. During my tenure as Basic Sciences Section Chair-elect and Chair, I led several collaborations between APhA-APRS and APhA-APPM, including interactions with the Pain, Palliative Care and Addiction (PPCA) SIG, Compounding SIG, and members of an ad hoc Gluten Working Group. These collaborations resulted in the development and dissemination of several evidence-based deliverables, such as a handout on the pharmacotherapy of opioid use disorder and a CPE webinar on gluten content in pharmaceutical preparations. One of my priorities as President-elect will be to continue these fruitful collaborations and to expand them to additional SIGs and interest areas within APhA-APPM.

3. Develop current and future APhA-APRS leaders. To ensure the continued success of the Academy now and into the future, it is important to develop current and emerging leaders. Given my recent participation in the Michigan Pharmacy Foundation Health Professional Leadership Academy and the Leadership Development Program AACP Institute, I have the relevant skills and expertise needed to prepare and train leaders within APhA-APRS. Specifically, I will focus on effective mentorship and development of rising leaders during my tenure as President-elect.
After receiving a doctorate in chemistry from Syracuse University, Anthony J. Di Pasqua, PhD, was a Ruth L. Kirschstein Postdoctoral Fellow in the Oncology Department at the Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center at Georgetown University, and a postdoctoral research associate and then research assistant professor in the Department of Molecular Pharmaceutics and the Center for Nanotechnology in Drug Delivery in the Eshelman School of Pharmacy at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Di Pasqua joined the University of North Texas System College of Pharmacy in November 2012, where he was involved with the development of the school, including all facets of the curriculum, admissions, procedures and policies, and faculty hiring. He then moved to Binghamton University in August 2016, to contribute to their new School of Pharmacy. Di Pasqua is also the CEO and President of the biomedical device startup company, DB Therapeutics. He has expertise in teaching and directing Pharmaceutics 1 and 2 and non-sterile extemporaneous compounding, and is committed to teaching his students to think critically about science and how it applies to the practice of pharmacy. In 2015, Di Pasqua’s Radiotherapeutic Bandage for the Treatment of Skin Cancer work was highlighted as a EurekAlert!, and Di Pasqua was Chair of the Basic Sciences section of the American Pharmacists Association (APhA) in 2016/17.

Statement of Candidacy
In my opinion, the three top priorities of the SIG should be: 1) Increase collaboration between PharmD’s and PhD’s in academia to enhance pharmacy education; 2) Increase collaboration between PharmD’s and pharmaceutical scientists to further the aims of both professions; and 3) Grow scientist participation in the APhA.

It is critical that we understand and appreciate the role that both PharmD’s and PhD’s have in molding pharmacy students’ minds and attitudes. Too often, pharmacy practice and pharmaceutical science departments are siloed. I have always been a proponent of working closely with other departments for the good of our students and for making healthcare advances in the laboratory. In 2019, I published works with members of Pharmacy Practice and Health Outcomes at the BU School of Pharmacy; such opportunities allow for me to grow as a professional and be a more effective instructor to both my PhD- and PharmD-candidate students.

I was recently able to launch a company around a biomedical device that me and my colleague’s laboratories developed. We invented this technology in an attempt to help patients achieve better health outcomes. Since I started working in pharmacy academia, improving health outcomes has been at the forefront of my mind.

Lastly, I enjoyed my time as Chair-Elect and Chair of Basic Sciences in the past and feel that with my colleagues, we have laid the groundwork for a greater presence of scientists in APhA. With your support, I hope to pickup where the current leaders have left off.

What is the APhA-APRS Section on Basic Pharmaceutical Sciences?
This Section serves academic and industrial scientists with wide-ranging basic science research programs. The research interests of Section members span chemical structure/biological activity and chemical structure/physicochemical property relationships, concepts in pharmaceutical technology and drug delivery, and the basic physical chemistry upon which these are based.
Mark Decerbo, PharmD, BCPS, BCNSP received his Doctor of Pharmacy degree from Northeastern University in Boston, Massachusetts and went on to complete a PGY-1 pharmacy practice residency at Duke University Medical Center in Durham, North Carolina. He currently provides direct patient care with the internal medicine service at University Medical Center of Southern Nevada as an Associate Professor of Pharmacy Practice at Roseman University of Health Sciences and Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine with the University of Nevada School of Medicine. He is credentialed by the Board of Pharmacy Specialties (BPS) as both a Board Certified Pharmacotherapy Specialist (BCPS) and Board Certified Nutrition Support Pharmacist (BCNSP). Decerbo currently serves a member of both the NABP NAPLEX Review Committee and Advisory Committee on Examinations (ACE), and has been appointed to 2015–2020 United States Pharmacopeia Healthcare Quality & Safety Expert Committee. The current Chair of the State of Nevada Medicaid Pharmacy & Therapeutics Committee, he is additionally active through this role with the National Governor’s Association, assisting key Nevada stakeholders with access to prescription medications. An APhA-ASP Chapter Advisor since 2002, Decerbo was a past Non-Specialist Member on the BCNP Nuclear Specialty Council, and was honored in 2015 as a Pharmacy Times NextGeneration Pharmacist™ finalist, and in 2017 as the recipient of APhA’s Bowl of Hygeia Award for the State of Nevada.

Statement of Candidacy

Clearly, any and all approaches which serve to support pharmacist provider status and/or reimbursement for pharmacist clinical services is a must. While unprecedented efforts are underway in this arena on the national front, equally important is a renewed focus on studying and replicating individual successes which have occurred on the state level over the past several years. While piecemeal in nature, these statewide victories and incremental advancements for our profession can serve as a roadmap of sorts, allowing us to reverse engineer successful strategies which can now be applied on the grassroots level across the country. With our Academy’s overarching goal of dissemination and application of research which improves patient health, what better priority than to ensuring our SIG’s customary historical focus can now also be wielded to help achieve more such victories? Perhaps an evolutionary, yet not revolutionary approach is called for here. Based upon past successes, what research can we prioritize which will successfully serve to support state-level initiatives which advance provider status/reimbursement for pharmacist clinical services? In the states that have expanded scope of practice, what proactive support can we provide in order to better tell the story of said changes have positively influenced patient care? Essentially, how can we best harness the power of patient care initiatives and research initiatives our group is already conducting on a daily basis and overlay such on known outreach needs at the state level? With continuing changes in our profession, I believe a more targeted effort is needed to advance our top priorities, and that such can be perhaps achieved not through new initiatives or programs, but rather through a more thoughtful redeployment of the very things our Academy is achieving every single day.

What is the APhA-APRS Section on Clinical Sciences?

This Section provides unique multidisciplinary interaction between clinical scientists and practitioners committed to expanding knowledge of the safe and effective use of drug products. A particular interest of members is how the application of pharmaceutical sciences in organized healthcare settings and controlled research environments relates to evaluation and development of drugs and drug delivery systems.
Behnaz Sarrami, PharmD, MS possesses an unmatched passion and eagerness to serve her community and is paving the way for pharmacists to take a more hands-on personal approach to patients. Behnaz is an unconventional thinker and within a few years of being a pharmacist, she has already started a pharmacogenomics consulting business with the aim of building a team of compassionate pharmacy leaders dedicated to personalizing patient medication regimen. She is currently managing multiple projects that involve educating and bringing awareness to other healthcare providers about personalized therapy and chronic care coaching. She has excellent communication skills and has been successful in setting up many meetings and conference calls with physicians in her area to start collaboration agreements. She has unique leadership skills yet knows the value of teamwork and importance of delegating tasks. She is very active in her community, volunteering her time to set up health fairs, and staying involved in Washington University’s research projects that serve the older adults who are home-bound. Behnaz beautifully balances patient-care and corporate directives while embracing compassion and selflessness. Her mission is to help unprivileged older adults who have no voice for themselves and who lack health literacy to self-manage their chronic conditions. She also sympathizes with physician burnout and is actively finding ways to help close the gap between the community’s need for better healthcare management and physician’s exhaustion and lack of time. Behnaz leads life by the premise, “know what sparks the light in you. Then use that light to illuminate the world.”

Statement of Candidacy
1. Helping each other build collaboration practice models to use in physicians or wellness clinics. I know many who are interested in this space but do not know where to start and what it entails. It is not commonly executed and challenging to build that relationship which entails trust on both parties. I have been able to create and currently working on building that model individualizing it based on the needs of each practice setting. I have reached out to many pharmacists even outside my state to help not only see the value but to replicate that model in their own state.

2. Educate the public, healthcare providers, and lawmakers of the importance of using the expertise of pharmacists to help decrease the medical burden to the country and improve patient outcomes. This can be done by actively speaking in social events, to peers, neighbors, and friends. I have set up many conference calls, set up health fairs, given talks, and written pertinent articles in St. Louis Health and Wellness Magazine to educate. I have also written an article posted on Washington University blog geared to medical students about the need for collaboration and a better transition of care. I am in the process of creating a social media network to further bring awareness.

3. Reach out to other potential resources to help delegate tasks. We have to think outside the box. For example, to develop a great business model, pharmacists might need to use medical coders or business developers who can work together with pharmacists to develop the best collaborative practice model. Pharmacists are not thought to think business in school so we would need to delegate tasks and work as a team. I am currently working on that using resources that I have to make a team.
Benjamin D. Aronson, PharmD, PhD is Assistant Professor of Social and Administrative Pharmacy at Ohio Northern University’s Raabe College of Pharmacy. Prior to joining the faculty at Ohio Northern, he earned his PharmD in 2011 and PhD in Social and Administrative Pharmacy in 2016 from the University of Minnesota College of Pharmacy. Ben is passionate about advancing the profession of pharmacy, moving towards health equity, serving those who are underserved, and engaging students in the profession to help them find their fit. His research centers on improving health in underserved communities by understanding the social and structural determinants of health care, healthcare quality and outcomes, and understanding factors that lead to success in both the pharmacy workforce and student pharmacists. Ben teaches about a variety of topics including health equity, health behaviors, healthcare systems, the principles of pharmaceutical care, quality in healthcare, leadership, and professional development of student pharmacists. He has a long track record of active involvement in several state and national professional organizations including, the Ohio Pharmacists Association (OPA), American Pharmacists Association (APhA), American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP), and the Pharmacy Quality Alliance (PQA). Ben also serves as the co-advisor for the ONU APhA-Academy of Student Pharmacists. In 2017, Dr. Aronson was welcomed as an affiliate member of the Wulling Center for Innovation & Scholarship in Pharmacy Education.

Statement of Candidacy

The economic, social and administrative sciences section has been my home in APhA for 8 years, and I want to do more for my home. I come to the table with an unending passion for advancing the profession of pharmacy, a desire to see every pharmacist doing what they love, and a commitment to move towards health equity. I have experience serving in leadership roles in the Minnesota Pharmacists Association, American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy, and Pharmacy Quality Alliance. From these experiences, and from mentors and peers with incredible talents whom I have learned from, I believe I am well prepared to serve in this role.

I hope to engender an increased feeling of connection and community within our section year round. I hope to continue promoting and highlighting our members valuable contributions to the scientific community. And I hope to promote collaboration across the sections of APRS. I am proud of where we are as a section, and am excited to take the next steps forward with you.

What is the APhA-APRS Section on Economic, Social and Administrative Sciences (ESAS)?

This Section is home to those interested in health services research, policy and administration with application to pharmaceutical treatments and pharmaceutical care. Membership is multidisciplinary, including the fields of public health, epidemiology, economics, health services research, biostatistics, medical sociology, law, healthcare administration and management, operations research, pharmaceutical marketing, marketing research, technology assessment and applications, and public and private reimbursement programs. Membership affords the opportunity for interaction among scientists, educators and practitioners, government managers, and other healthcare system representatives.
Marc Fleming, PhD, MPH, RPh is Associate Professor and Chair Department of Pharmacotherapy at the University of North Texas (UNT) System College of Pharmacy in Fort Worth, Texas. He has over 15 years of pharmacy practice experience, including working in both community chain and independent pharmacies as well as hospital pharmacy. He is a licensed pharmacist in Texas and Virginia, where he completed a Master of Public Health degree in 2000. Currently, he is working with Texas Health and Human Services Commission and collaborators at the University of Houston College of Pharmacy on SAMHSA funded projects aimed at preventing prescription drug misuse and promoting safe disposal of unused controlled substance prescriptions. Throughout his academic career, Dr. Fleming has excelled at bringing together multidisciplinary groups of clinicians and researchers to address pharmacist and physician behavior related to pain management care and prescription opioid misuse prevention. His research has been presented internationally and he has numerous publications in addition to presentations regarding prescription drug monitoring programs at the local, state and national level. Dr. Fleming is currently working to develop a pharmacists’ education plan to enhance pharmacists’ controlled substance prescription counseling as part as the SPF-Rx grant. In addition to research, Dr. Fleming has been recognized for his service to the community and profession for his involvement in working with local substance abuse coalitions, presenting at community college career day and serving as student chapter advisor for multiple organizations, including the Industry Pharmacists Organization.

Statement of Candidacy
The top 3 priorities of the economic, social and administrative sciences section should address the following: 1) the changing landscape of pharmacy, as job demand wanes in the midst of increasing pharmacy programs and decreased student enrollment nationwide; 2) financial literacy of pharmacy students and new practitioners; 3) research, education and outcomes related to new technologies (e.g., wearables) and opportunities in pharmacy. My past experiences in pharmacy practice and my involvement with students and residents across a breadth of specialties gives me insight into ways that we can address pharmacy employment moving forward. Population health initiatives represent an opportunity for pharmacy involvement; from collaborative practice agreements to outcomes research. Pharmaceutical industry, managed care and telepharmacy are ripe for growth and APhA should be leading the way in educating students and practitioners regarding the opportunities that exist and being cultivated. Financial literacy is a critical element that is missing from many curricula throughout pharmacy. Student loan burden has been a constant in the media and APhA can lead the way toward educating students, new practitioners and faculty in the areas of debt management, and investing. Technology related to health care is transforming how patients are managed. Wearable health devices, from watches, to continuous blood glucose monitoring and digital health that allows providers to know if patients are being adherent to their medications is increasingly adopted. This represents a significant opportunity for pharmacists to be even more involved in improving patient outcomes and patients’ quality of life. My background in pharmacy health outcomes lends itself well to providing guidance on research related to health care technology. Currently, I am active in project development related to the “pharmacy of the future,” which entails telepharmacy and pharmacogenomics. My current involvement and past experiences will serve me well in the role of ESAS Chair Elect, if given the opportunity.
Logan T. Murry, PharmD, RPh is a third-year PhD student at the University of Iowa College of Pharmacy in the Department of Health Services Research. He received his PharmD from the University of Iowa College of Pharmacy in May of 2017. Upon graduation, Dr. Murry transitioned into the APhA academy and began serving on the APhA-APRS Postgraduate Advisory Committee, which he has done for the past two years. This is his second time running for the Postgraduate Officer position, obtaining valuable experience while serving under the leadership of Dr. Tony Olson and Dr. Tessa Hastings. During this time, he has published papers on a variety of topics, most recently: pharmacy student mental health, advanced pharmacy services, and Medicaid and Medicare reimbursement in a community pharmacy setting. Additionally, Dr. Murry has begun exploring consumer and patient experience in the community pharmacy setting, with the intent of improving various components of service delivery and design. Through his research, he hopes to continue advocating for patients and pharmacists, ultimately working to improve the healthcare system. As an avid Dr. Brené Brown reader, Dr. Murry is a proponent of courage and vulnerability in scholarship and in the academic setting. He believes that uncharted territory is where we spend the vast majority of our time as researchers, and to succeed, we must be courageous in our pursuits of exploring the unexplored. One of Dr. Murry’s most enjoyable experiences during his time in the academy have been developing collaborations and hearing about the impactful work of his colleagues.

Statement of Candidacy

Now in my 3rd year of the PhD program at Iowa. I am realizing the importance of community and collaboration for professional development. While the resources immediately available to us in our respective institutions are invaluable, we as an academy have much to offer our peers. APhA-APRS has introduced me to research that has inspired and guided my own interests. By fostering collaboration and community, we have the potential to improve our research as graduate students and develop friendships and networks that are essential to fulfillment in our personal and professional lives. For these reasons, I believe the top 3 priorities of the academy should be:

1. Increase Access to Research and Opportunities for Collaboration
2. Develop a Sense of Community for Graduate Students within APhA-APRS
3. Mental Health and Experience of Graduate Students

During my time on the APhA-APRS Postgraduate Advisory committee, we have worked diligently to begin accomplishing these goals. In order to develop a sense of community and collaboration, we are in early phases of developing a Podcast that features graduate students in our respective institutions to provide an opportunity for researchers to share their interests and potentially identify like-minded peers. Additionally, with burnout and mental health becoming increasingly important for pharmacists, it is also important to understand in the graduate student population. Often facing multiple stressors, providing additional tools and resources to graduate students to help manage a variety of emotional states is crucial to success and fulfillment. In order to accomplish this goal, we have begun to develop a survey to assess the graduate student experience and perceptions of mental health resource availability. Within the University of Iowa, we have begun teaching a mindfulness elective to our pharmacy students and developed an online course to increase engagement with a potentially beneficial self-care activity.
Meena Murugappan, PharmD, MPH is a pharmacist, public health professional, and an aspiring Health Policy and Outcomes researcher. She is passionate about promoting the rational and safe use of medications across populations worldwide and ensuring medication accessibility and affordability among underserved communities, through a policy-driven approach. She conducts research to inform the development, implementation, and evaluation of health policies that impact health care delivery, quality, and outcomes. During her Pharm.D., Meena was an active member of APhA-ASP, serving as her chapter’s Policy Vice President and later as the Regional Delegate for Region 5. Upon graduation, she worked as a clinical pharmacist at the University of Utah Hospital, gaining experience in critical care, HIV, and transitions of care. She also worked as a community pharmacist at Rite Aid Pharmacy in Salt Lake City, serving a community of low-income migrant workers. She later completed her MPH with a minor in Epidemiology and certificate in Global Health at the University of Minnesota. Meena currently serves as a Mixed-Methods Research Associate in Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders at University of Minnesota College of Pharmacy. Her most recent work focuses on the safety of psycho-stimulant use during pregnancy. She is also in her second year of the PhD program in Social and Administrative Pharmacy and is excited to further her research skills in the area of commercial claims database analysis. She is looking forward to continuing her work with APhA, to expand the role and impact of pharmacists in public health.

Statement of Candidacy

Priority #1: Exploring and defining the role of pharmacists within public health. Pharmacists play a critical role at the micro- and macro- levels of public health. We as a profession have a systems level impact on the health of the American people and beyond. But, how do we define, measure, and describe our unique role and impact in public health? My background in clinical pharmacy as well as public health practice and research has fueled my passion for this topic and I am excited to spark conversation on this important and timely subject.

Priority #2: Improving membership engagement. How do we foster a sense of community and belonging among our members? My top signature strengths are woo and communication. I enjoy inspiring a shared vision and as President Obama would say, “getting people fired up and ready to go”. I challenge us to think about what drives us as a profession and how we can improve the quantity and quality of our engagement with each other (the level of communication and activity around our core values and ideals). I propose engaging with members through new and innovative mediums such as Photovoice campaigns, podcasts, and social media ‘stories’. 

Priority #3: Fostering research collaborations, training, and mentorship across institutions and disciplines. We need to develop stronger infrastructure to encourage innovative and scientifically rigorous research studies and methods in order to bridge the gap between theory and practice - research and the real world. For example, how can we increase the number of well designed studies to demonstrate causality between MTM and reduced hospital readmission rates? Better yet, how can we scale up successful research findings into applications during everyday clinical practice?
Academy of Pharmacy Practice and Management (APhA-APPM) Elections

Spring 2020

Candidates for APhA-APPM offices were asked to respond to the following question. The candidates’ responses are italicized. (See pages 21–28.)

What are the top three priorities of the Academy and what experiences and expertise can you contribute to meeting these priorities?

APhA-APPM Mission Statement

The APhA Academy of Pharmacy Practice and Management is dedicated to assisting members in enhancing the profession of pharmacy, improving medication use, and advancing patient care.

Who is Entitled to Vote?

All members of the American Pharmacists Association who have designated a Primary Academy and Section (if applicable) are entitled to vote for the leadership of that Academy and Section.

Members who have not designated a Primary Academy and/or Section (if applicable) are encouraged to follow the steps below to fully participate in the 2020 APhA Election:

1. Log-in to your member profile at www.pharmacist.com.
2. Select “My Account” in the top right corner.
3. Select “Academy, Sections, and SIGs” in the menu bar on the left side.
4. Click on “Edit” in the top right corner to be able to choose your Primary Academy and/or Section (if applicable).
5. Designate your Primary Academy and Section (if applicable).
6. Designate your Secondary Academy, Section, and/or Special Interest Group preferences (if desired).
7. When your selection(s) are complete, click on the purple “Save” button in the top right corner or the bottom left corner.
Amy Kennedy, PharmD, BCACP is an Assistant Professor in Pharmacy Practice and Science at the University of Arizona College of Pharmacy (UACOP). Dr. Kennedy earned her Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and completed a community practice residency and community-based participatory research fellowship at Virginia Commonwealth University School of Pharmacy. She is Board Certified in Ambulatory Care. As a Clinical Pharmacist, Dr. Kennedy provides care to her patients at El Rio Health in a patient centered medical home model specializing in chronic disease care and pain treatment. She also serves as the Residency Program Director for the Post-Graduate Year 1 (PGY-1) Pharmacy Residency and PGY-1 Community Pharmacy Residency at El Rio Health. She was recently awarded Clinical Educator of the Year at UACOP and the Arizona Pharmacy Association (AzPA) Excellence in Innovative Practice Award. Dr. Kennedy is passionate about policy and has served as a member on the following APhA policy committees: APPM policy standing committee, House of Delegates Policy Reference and House Rules Review committees. She has also served on the APhA New Practitioner Advisory Council, the APhA Community Pharmacy Residency Advisory Council, as a New Practitioner mentor to her ASP chapter, and, most recently, on the Board of Directors for her state association. Her current teaching and research interests include preventive health, harm reduction, outpatient pain management, pharmacists’ professionalism and well-being, and the pharmacist’s role in caring for the underserved.

**Statement of Candidacy**

The ability of pharmacists to find meaning in their daily roles, promote the safe use of medications and vaccines, and to be compensated for their healthcare contributions are vital for the health of patients and the sustainability of our profession. The Academy’s top priorities include (1) leading initiatives that promote pharmacist well-being to ensure optimal patient outcomes; (2) preparing pharmacists to address safe use of medications including the use of vaccines to reduce the spread of infectious diseases and (3) empowering pharmacists to obtain appropriate reimbursement for their role as the medication expert. The profession of pharmacy is changing rapidly. As an academy, we must aid our members in preparing for and addressing these changes. Through my work with our state association and state university, I am promoting initiatives to provide additional and diverse opportunities for pharmacists. As pharmacists, we are trained to hold an integral role in the public health arena. With the abundance of misinformation circulating about vaccines, it is more critical than ever that pharmacists serve as a trusted voice for health information. My current work within our clinics related to vaccine safety and drug supply integrity will enable me to address this issue nationally. While provider status will not correct all concerns we have about our role in the healthcare system, obtaining it can open doors to expand our reach to more patients. We also need to address the current compensation structure, which erects barriers to patient care and reduces patient access by forcing pharmacies to close. My work with multiple interest groups including students, pharmacists, and other healthcare providers allows me to be well positioned to help the academy achieve these priorities. I am eager to contribute to the success of the academy to aid pharmacists in reaching these goals. Thank you for your consideration.
G. Blair Sarbacker, PharmD, BCACP, is currently working as an Associate Professor of Pharmacy Practice and Director of Interprofessional Education at Presbyterian College School of Pharmacy. She is practicing as a clinical pharmacist at Advanced Family Medicine, a rural primary care clinic. Here she practices medication and disease state management. She received her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from Wingate University School of Pharmacy in 2008. She completed an ASHP-accredited residency in Community Pharmacy Practice at the Community Healthcare Center by Kerr Drug in Lenoir, NC, in association with Wingate University School of Pharmacy. She obtained her Board Certification in Ambulatory Care in addition to completing certificate training in the areas of immunizations, and diabetes management. She is also certified to teach APhA’s Immunizations and Diabetes Certificate Programs. She has served as an advisor for APhA-ASP for 6 years.

Statement of Candidacy

I believe the top 3 priorities of the Academy of Pharmacy Practice and Management are:

1. To advance the role of the pharmacist, the role of the pharmacist is ever-changing as we adapt to the changes in the health care climate. As a profession, we need to come together to create new avenues to expand our services to increase job opportunities. In my job, I have had the opportunity to create different clinical services as a pharmacist. I have been advocating for the need for pharmacists to expand into the primary care field, as there is such a need for interprofessional health care. As we continue to fight for provider status, we need to prepare ourselves to expand into new areas of practice (e.g. primary care, urgent care, rural health, etc.) so that when we achieve our goal of provider status we are able to not only have a greater impact in patient care, but increase patient access to health care.

2. To advocate for the profession of pharmacy APhA creates a strong voice for the profession of pharmacy. As an Academy, we need to support APhA’s efforts with grassroots advocacy. Understanding the issues surrounding pharmacy practice in all areas is important to help provide a collaborative voice as an academy. I have been fortunate to serve as a delegate in the APhA House of Delegates and the Texas Pharmacy Association House of Delegates. I have been able to help with the policy decisions in these Houses, as well as through my grassroots efforts. As an advisor for the Academy of Student Pharmacists, I work with the students to host local legislators to discuss issues and learn about the legislative process. Through this, I hope to instill my passion for advocacy to the future generation of pharmacists.

3. To support pharmacist growth through education, as our professional role continues to develop and a new and innovative drug therapies come available to patients, continuing education is vital for professional growth. The Academy should continue to support clinical education, certificate training offerings, and leadership education. As an educator, I understand the importance of teaching at different levels. In many ways, our profession is tiered like our learners; while we may be an expert in one area of the field, we may be a novice at others. To stay well-rounded educational offerings should occur at all levels, from novice to expert. I would also like to see some educational offerings on advocacy to range from where to start to current issues in pharmacy. I absolutely love my profession and want to be a part of the change process. The Academy’s dedication to assisting members in enhancing the profession of pharmacy, improving medication use, and advancing patient care closely align with my professional priorities. I look forward to the opportunity to continue my service within APhA on the academy level.”
Chris Johnson, PharmD, MEd, BCACP is an assistant professor of pharmacy practice at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences College of Pharmacy. His practice site is the UAMS Family Medical Center where he provides chronic disease management under collaborative practice agreements for a variety of disease states and precepts pharmacy students, pharmacy residents, medical students, and medical residents. Dr. Johnson utilizes his rotations as an opportunity to prepare learners to work in interprofessional teams to provide high quality care to our most vulnerable patients. Additionally, Dr. Johnson serves a co-chapter advisor for the award-winning UAMS APhA-ASP chapter. Dr. Johnson graduated from Oregon State University and completed his Doctor of Pharmacy degree at Concordia University Wisconsin School of Pharmacy. After graduation, he completed the 24-month Practice and Academic Leadership residency at Concordia. As part of the residency, Dr. Johnson developed pharmacy services at a Federally-qualified Health Center in the Milwaukee, WI, area. This residency program also provided him with the opportunity to complete a Master of Science in Education. Dr. Johnson’s thesis for the M.Ed program was entitled, “Identifying student learning competencies for urban underserved practice using a Delphi process.” Dr. Johnson has been involved in a number of service opportunities within APhA and the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy since beginning his pharmacy career. He has been involved in multiple SIG and Academy committees within APhA, including the APhA-APPM Policy Standing Committee and CUP SIG Communications. Dr. Johnson currently chairs the AACP Junior Faculty Learning Community Committee.

Statement of Candidacy

I believe the most urgent priority of the Academy should be fair reimbursement practices. Reimbursement dramatically impacts, what I believe are, the next two priorities of the Academy: promotion of advanced pharmacy services and workforce well-being. DIR fees and unfair reimbursement are adversely affecting the financial health of our nation’s pharmacies. Pharmacy closures across the country are making it more difficult for patients to access life-saving medications, leading to poorly treated diseases, lower quality of life, and increased healthcare costs. Many companies value the quality that pharmacists add to the healthcare team. However, many healthcare entities currently do not have the financial incentive to adopt advanced pharmacy services due to the lack of reimbursements from payors. These also cause staffing issues since pharmacies can’t afford adequate staffing that, along with job uncertainties, cause workplaces to be more strenuous, have a higher potential for errors, and decreased well-being. To address these critical issues, the Academy needs to conduct a PR campaign to raise awareness of the patient harm being caused by unfair reimbursement practices and the barriers this causes for access to pharmacists and their services. Additionally, the Academy should work to include other professions in their advocacy efforts to describe the impact this has on their patients. In my career, I have been deeply involved in advocacy in multiple states through speaking to legislators, involvement in professional organizations, and advising student leaders. I have had the opportunity to develop advanced pharmacy practice settings to improve the care delivered to underserved patients and use these to teach pharmacy students to do the same. APhA is well positioned to bring other professions to the table to advocate for changes to improve patient care and well-being, and I believe that my experiences have prepared me to help serve the Academy in this endeavor.

APhA-APPM Executive Committee

Member-at-large (2021–2023), Pair II
Olivia Kinney, PharmD, is a community-based pharmacist who is passionate about helping people live healthier lives. She graduated with her Doctor of Pharmacy degree and an area of emphasis in Gerontology from West Virginia University before continuing her education as a pharmacy resident with Virginia Commonwealth University and Kroger Pharmacy. After completing her residency, Olivia remained with Kroger as a pharmacist and Patient Care Coordinator where her focus was on coordination, pharmacist training, and implementation of clinical services in a district of 18 pharmacies. Olivia now works on the Clinical Services Team at Kroger Health in Cincinnati, Ohio. In this role, she designs preventive health programs which close gaps in medication therapy, increases access to health screenings, and promotes safe opioid use. She is also completing a master’s degree in Health Outcomes Research through the University of Cincinnati James L. Winkle College of Pharmacy. Olivia is committed to simplifying healthcare by evolving pharmacy practice from product preparation to service provision that optimizes medication use.

Statement of Candidacy
I believe the top 3 priorities of the Academy are:

1. Equipping pharmacists to expand scope of practice at the state level
   a. National Provider Status efforts are essential to recognize pharmacists as members of the healthcare team, but we can also move the needle with state-level scope of practice. The Academy can rally, educate, and equip pharmacists through the Special Interest Groups to advocate at a local level and facilitate opportunities to learn from each other for further advancement in our profession.

2. Expand the pharmacists’ role in the Opioid Epidemic
   a. As the most accessible healthcare provider, pharmacists must continue to educate and promote appropriate medication use. We must maintain the need for increased access to naloxone through expanding state and federal regulations and encouraging safe opioid use.

3. Engaging current and potential members to promote resiliency and passion for pharmacy
   a. Burnout prevention should remain a top priority. Engaging current and prospective Academy members in our profession builds connections. As Member-at-Large, I would work to empower and connect pharmacists to resources that inspire change so we can practice, not work.

Each of these priorities fits into the mission of APhA-APPM: to assist its members in enhancing the profession of pharmacy, improving medication use, and advancing patient care.”
Hillary Blackburn, PharmD, MBA is a clinically trained pharmacist who’s been practicing for almost a decade in a variety of healthcare settings. She has experience in healthcare strategy, business development, formulary development and management, consulting, and establishing successful medication access programs. Dr. Blackburn is a graduate of the University of Mississippi School of Pharmacy and completed a PGY1 Pharmacy Practice Residency at the University of Mississippi Medical Center. She currently serves as the Director of Pharmaceutical Services at Dispensary of Hope, a national non-profit medication distributor hosted by Ascension where she oversees the formulary, leads research initiatives, and manages the network of strategic advisors on Dispensary of Hope’s Pharmacy Advisory Council. She also precepts Belmont University student pharmacists and serves on the Dean’s External Advisory Committee. Additionally, she serves as Co-Chair for the Advocacy Committee for APhA’s Care of the Underserved Special Interest Group and as a member on the Membership Engagement and Legislative and Policy committees for the Tennessee Pharmacist Association. Hillary is passionate about promoting the pharmacy profession and delivering expert patient care which led her to found the Pharmacy Advisory Group which provides pharmacy expertise in consulting and education. Her popular podcast, Talk to Your Pharmacist, has over 100 episodes highlighting successful pharmacy leaders and sharing about current healthcare trends. In 2012, Hillary returned to her Tennessee roots and met her wonderful husband, Chad, in Nashville where she enjoys staying involved in her community through volunteering, living an active lifestyle, traveling, and spending time with friends and family.

Statement of Candidacy
There are a number of changes affecting the pharmacy profession, but the three areas of focus for the Academy should be centered around value of the pharmacist by establishing payment models, improving pharmacists well-being, and serving as a unifying voice for the profession. It is essential that the pharmacy profession is well informed and advocating for key priorities. As the Director of Pharmaceutical Services for a medication distribution company, I speak with pharmacy directors across the country to understand their pharmacy structure and operationalize strategies involving medication access programs. My experience on Capitol Hill and HRSA has provided knowledge on advocacy which I use regularly to develop partnerships with universities, health systems, and other large businesses. To support the key focus areas of the Academy, I can bring my expertise to tie pharmacist’s role to the following: access to care, population health, and the pharmaceutical supply chain. Pharmacists play important roles in helping patients access and adhere to medication through services such as MTM and knowledge of medication access programs such as 340B and Patient Assistance Programs. My experience building collaborations between stakeholders within communities serves as a good background for understanding and helping to share the pharmacists’ role. The drug supply chain has an industry wide impact affecting pharmaceutical manufacturers, distributors, and pharmacies. My experience with a medication distribution company has provided insights into this developing initiative. This will have a key impact on pharmacy, and pharmacists should be at the table to bring a well-informed perspective. For the past 2 years as the Talk to Your Pharmacist podcast host, I have been committed to helping prepare our profession for the changing healthcare landscape by sharing from industry leaders about current trends and roles that pharmacists can play to bring value to the healthcare system. It would be a privilege to serve with the Academy as a guide to support our APhA membership.
Marci Strauss, PharmD is a 2012 graduate of the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy and began serving as a staff pharmacist for Supervalu Pharmacies, providing MTM and immunization services to patients in the Greater Baltimore area. In 2014, she began serving as MTM Coordinator with EPIC Pharmacies, through which she developed a pilot program to increase engagement and utilization of MTM programs among independent community pharmacies. The success of that pilot program, coupled with her passion to help independent pharmacists continue to demonstrate how they impact patients, led to the creation of EPIC Pharmacies’ first Clinical Programs Department. As Manager of Clinical Programs, she leads the department in the implementation and expansion of clinical services, while working to increase pharmacy network performance in quality measures. Her ongoing objective is to increase community pharmacy engagement with, and understanding of, the importance of services such as MTM, immunizations and medication synchronization and how those will advance the role of community pharmacists across the nation. She is an active member of APhA, currently serving as Coordinator of the Medication Management SIG and as a member of the Pharmacy Today Editorial Advisory Board. She previously served as a mentor for APhA’s Mentor360, chair of the SIG’s business model committee and on multiple Association work groups. She also currently serves as a trustee on Maryland Pharmacists Association Board of Trustees, co-chair of MPhA’s Membership Committee, is a preceptor for the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy and board member on OutcomesMTM’s National MTM Advisory Board.

Statement of Candidacy

The profession of pharmacy continues to be in the midst of a great transition, notably the continuation of advocacy for provider status and DIR reform, expansion of pharmacist-provided services and pharmacists having to adapt their practices and diversify their skill sets to stay ahead. With this in mind, I believe the three priorities the academy should focus on are 1. the advancement of the profession including pharmacists as providers and continued advocacy for pharmacy reform 2. growing membership for pharmacists as well as technicians and driving engagement 3. the development of resources/training programs to help pharmacy teams thrive and transform their practices. In my current role as Manager of Clinical Programs with EPIC Pharmacies, I continually witness the struggle community pharmacy teams face to get reimbursed for services and be able to make a profit so they can continue to provide for their patients. I would want to work with the academy to continue to advocate for reform and practice advancement so pharmacy teams can not only survive, but thrive. Working with my state association, I was able to help develop a new membership structure that would help meet current needs and enhance the value of membership. I was also able to help community pharmacy teams learn how national associations like APhA can benefit them, resulting in many new pharmacists engaging with the association. Active, engaged members are key and I would like to work with the academy to create new initiatives to help the association better connect with current and prospective members, including the expansion of the APhA Ambassador program. Drawing on my experiences of developing educational programs and resources, I would also want to work with the SIGs to develop new resources and training programs to help pharmacists and techs build their knowledge-base to stay ahead.
Zach A. Pape, PharmD, BCACP is an Assistant Professor of Clinical Sciences at the Medical College of Wisconsin School of Pharmacy in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He received his Doctor of Pharmacy degree from Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa before going on to pursue two years of residency at West Virginia University/Waterfront Family Pharmacy in Morgantown, WV and Nova Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale, FL. During his residency years he specialized in community-based pharmacy care as a PGY1 and ambulatory care as a PGY2. He now teaches at MCW with the majority of his time spent in the self-care and wellness and renal & cardiovascular integrated sequence courses. He currently holds a practice site at Froedtert Hospital’s Center for Advanced Care in the outpatient Heart and Vascular Clinic as a pharmacist resource within the various specialty cardiology teams. Zach has been involved in APhA since his time as a student at Drake University, and has continued to serve in committee roles as a new practitioner throughout his residency and early academic years. He continues to have a passion for promoting the profession of pharmacy among students and participates in mentoring pharmacy students within his role at a newly established school of pharmacy.

Statement of Candidacy

As a potential new practitioner candidate for a officer position in the Academy of Pharmacy Practice and Management I feel that it is most important to continue to focus on the successful integration of new graduates, continue the growth of the academy SIGs, and work on developing a consistent awareness and connection with the student academy to foster leadership from the ground up. I feel that as a new practitioner and someone who has served on the communications standing committee within a new practitioner leadership position I am a qualified candidate for representing a point of view that resonates with other new practitioner members. Having been involved in APhA as a student and being a first hand recipient of mentoring that fostered my continuous involvement in the organization, I believe I can bring a perspective that can be beneficial with collaboration from other more experienced officers that can best benefit the organization as a whole. Maintaining a pipeline of leadership and committed new pharmacists is an important consideration for any organization, and with ASP, new practitioner, and APPM academies I feel that APhA is optimal for fostering continuous engagement. We can continue to build on this by engaging younger members to become involved earlier and with increased roles. SIGs are an excellent avenue to keep all members engaged and I feel that the continued growth and development of content is vital to keeping that engagement active. Finally, with collaboration from NPN and ASP, I feel that continued development of engagement through regional meetings and the ENGAGE platform, we can reach expanded audiences and encourage integration of young leaders. As a APhA-ASP chapter adviser, current NPN standing committee member, and longstanding APhA member I feel I am well positioned to help in each of these areas.
Jordan Rowe, PharmD, BCACP is an assistant professor in the Division of Pharmacy Practice and Administration at the University of Missouri–Kansas City. She provides comprehensive chronic disease management within the endocrinology and internal medicine clinics at Truman Medical Centers (TMC) in Kansas City, Missouri, an urban safety-net health system dedicated to providing interprofessional, patient-centered care for all. At her clinic sites, she precepts third- and fourth-year pharmacy students as well as PGY-1 TMC pharmacy residents. She also serves as a volunteer preceptor and faculty advisor to the board at Sojourner, a free, student-run, interprofessional clinic for the uninsured and homeless of Kansas City. Jordan was born and raised in Arkansas. She received her bachelor of science in chemistry degree from John Brown University and her doctor of pharmacy degree from the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences College of Pharmacy in Little Rock, Arkansas. She completed a PGY-1 residency at the University of Tennessee Medical Center in Knoxville, Tennessee, and a PGY-2 ambulatory care residency at CoxHealth in Springfield, Missouri. Jordan has been an active member of APhA since her first year of pharmacy school in 2012. She currently serves as a faculty advisor for the UMKC chapter of APhA-ASP. She held multiple leadership roles in her alma mater’s APhA-ASP chapter while in pharmacy school and volunteered as a preceptor and mentor to the UMKC-Springfield’s chapter of APhA-ASP during her PGY-2 year.

Statement of Candidacy

As both a practitioner and an educator of future pharmacists, I believe the biggest priorities of the Academy all come down to nurturing connections so that new and seasoned pharmacists alike are not just prepared, but confident in their ability to meet the challenges of today’s evolving healthcare landscape. A critical step in successfully equipping pharmacists is promoting collaboration through structures already in place, such as the Academy’s special interest groups (SIGs). These groups help connect pharmacists who otherwise may have never communicated, sharing expertise and new ideas much more rapidly than traditional publication routes. The SIGs have already made a huge impact on pharmacists’ ability to offer high-level patient-care. The Academy should continue to adapt the SIGs and evaluate the potential need for new or additional structures to connect pharmacists, especially considering those working outside traditional dispensing roles. Another critical step is to fortify the zeal of student pharmacists to ensure it remains firmly planted during the stressful transition into the workplace. The Academy is already supporting pharmacists professionally through the New Practitioner Network, and I envision that this support can continue to expand to address the fourth aspect of the Quadruple Aim, provider well-being. As a profession, we must foster resiliency in order for the passion and creativity of early practitioners to thrive long. Lastly, I believe it is critical to promote connections between pharmacists and other professions. We need to seek out opportunities to expand beyond the pharmacy bubble and truly engage collaboratively. Instead of feeling that we have to convince others of the importance of pharmacist provider status, such collaboration will naturally recruit champions who already understand the benefits of interprofessional patient care. The Academy can help fuel such collaboration by seeking partnerships with other professional organizations and giving collaborating pharmacists platforms for sharing partnerships and opportunities.
Academy of Pharmacy Practice and Management (APhA-APPM)
Special Interest Group (SIG) Elections
Spring 2020

Candidates for APhA-APPM SIG offices were asked to respond to the following question. The candidates’ responses are italicized. (See pages 30–45.)

What are the top three priorities of the SIG and what experiences and expertise can you contribute to meeting these priorities?

Who is Entitled to Vote?

All members of the American Pharmacists Association who have designated a Primary Academy and SIG (if applicable) are entitled to vote for the leadership of that Academy and SIG. Voting period opens at the start of the APhA Annual Meeting & Exposition. Current SIG members who designate APhA-APPM as their primary Academy are eligible to vote.

Members who have not designated a Primary Academy and/or Section (if applicable) are encouraged to follow the steps below to fully participate in the 2020 APhA Election:

1. Log-in to your member profile at www.pharmacist.com.
2. Select “My Account” in the top right corner.
3. Select “Academy, Sections, and SIGs” in the menu bar on the left side.
4. Click on “Edit” in the top right corner to be able to choose your Primary Academy and/or Section (if applicable).
5. Designate your Primary Academy and Section (if applicable).
6. Designate your Secondary Academy, Section, and/or Special Interest Group preferences (if desired).
7. When your selection(s) are complete, click on the purple “Save” button in the top right corner or the bottom left corner.
KayLynn Bowman, PharmD, MS, MEd, MS is a Community Pharmacist for Smith’s Food and Drug Store in Henderson, Nevada. Dr. Bowman serves as a member of Smith’s clinical team, providing clinical services at local Smith's pharmacies including immunizations, medication therapy management (MTM) and chronic condition coaching/management services. Dr. Bowman received an advanced degree from the University of Florida, Master of Science in Pharmacy, Medication Therapy Management allowing her to provide both students and patients extended educational and clinical services. Dr. Bowman is a preceptor for both introductory and advanced pharmacy practice experiences for students attending Roseman University of Health Sciences College of Pharmacy where she also obtained her Doctor of Pharmacy degree. She previously obtained her Masters of Health Education in Health Promotion and Masters of Science in Chemistry from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Her career has focused on finding unique strategies to combine her educational, health and pharmacy experiences in developing professional clinical services in the pharmacy setting that benefit the members of her community. Dr. Bowman has been an active member of APhA and served as the co-chair, and current chair of the Care for Underserved Patients SIG Education Committee where she was a co-presenter of the webinar “Caring for Underserved Patients with Diabetes: Addressing Barriers to Care.” She also participated as an abstract reviewer for the APhA Contributed Papers Program. Currently she is collaborating with other state organizations in advancing MTM Best Practices for pharmacists practicing in rural and urban underserved populations in Nevada.

Statement of Candidacy

I am excited at the opportunity to be considered as the coordinator-elect for the the Care for Underserved Patient (CUP) SIG. The CUP SIG is in it’s second year and I have served on the Education committee as the co-chair and and then chair position. During this time, the committees provided educational resources and a forum for discussion on APhA Engage. The Education Committee provided a Diabetes Webinar highlighting social determinants of health, Diabetes Standards of Care when working with underserved populations, and how to provide patients resources for their diabetes care and medication needs. As coordinator-elect, I plan to continue to support our top 3 priorities of the CUP SIG that include the following: Education: Provide opportunities to educate pharmacists, residents and students on caring for patients from underserved health populations. The provision of equitable resources, and the use of social determinants of health, are needed to encourage healthy outcomes for vulnerable patient populations. The creation of resource folders, webinars, and tool kits are just some of the projects being developed by the Education Committee to advance the CUP SIG. Communication: The Engage platform has provided a forum for the pharmacy profession to discuss and communicate advances in caring for underserved patients. Participating in discussion threads promotes the CUP SIG goals for advancing the health outcomes of underserved populations. Advocacy: Being a voice for those that are under-represented is a focus of this committee. Identifying the structures in place and advancing legislative and regulatory policies to address gaps in care for vulnerable populations are needed to improve patient outcomes. I look forward to taking a larger role in the CUP SIG leadership and providing a continued focus for growing the membership and meeting the unique needs our pharmacists and patient population. Thank you, KayLynn Bowman, PharmD
Jason Martinez, PharmD, BCACP of Marysville, OH is the director of pharmacy services for a multi-center Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC). He received his doctor of pharmacy degree from Ohio Northern University and has worked in both the retail and ambulatory pharmacy sectors. He oversees the chronic care management program and is an Apexus 340B Certified Expert. Dr. Martinez has been active in his FQHC’s 340B program, increasing the number of contracted pharmacies from one to nine and saving patients over four million dollars on the cost of their prescription medications. Most recently, he has served as the APhA-APPM Care of Underserved Patients SIG Communications Committee Chair from 2018–2020. His clinical interests include population health, diabetes, substance use disorders, and pharmacogenomics. Dr. Martinez has helped develop and implement multiple sustainable service lines at his FQHC over the past five years including anticoagulation, tobacco cessation, and pharmacogenomics clinics as well as an accredited diabetes self-management education program and medication assisted treatment for alcohol and opioid use disorder program. In addition to his clinical work, Dr. Martinez has precepted many pharmacy, medical, and nursing students. Professionally, Dr. Martinez is involved in many organizations including APhA, Ohio Pharmacists Association, American College of Clinical Pharmacy, American Association of Diabetes Educators, and Association for the Treatment of Tobacco Use and Dependence.

Statement of Candidacy

The top three priorities for the Care of Underserved Patients SIG should be reducing barriers that impact underserved populations, increasing public awareness of pharmacist provided services, and sharing best practices to increase sustainable practice models. For the first priority of reducing barriers, this has been the primary focus of my clinical practice. In addition to expanding our 340B program, I’ve worked with our Information Technology (IT) department to implement safety mechanisms such as Prescription Drug Monitoring Program access embedded into our Electronic Medical Record as well as population health data reporting and analytics capabilities in order to identify our highest risk patients. I challenged every provider, including myself, at our organization to attend Drug Addiction Treatment Act of 2000 (DATA2000) training which has increased access to medication assisted treatment in the communities we serve. The experience that I would offer for the second priority of increasing awareness is my involvement in local and national pharmacist as well as non-pharmacist organizations. There has been significant media coverage of a prescription for fresh fruits and vegetables program that I created at our FQHC called Wholesome Rx. This program has been featured in local, regional, and national media. In every interview, the individual that I spoke with was surprised to learn how broad the scope of a pharmacist can be and commented on how pharmacists across the country could help address health disparities. I believe that as we continue to gain provider status in new areas, we need to continue to educate the public on the value we bring to the healthcare team in order to ultimately help our patients. For the third priority of sharing best practices, I’ve served as this SIG’s Communications Chair, precepted students, and clinically have implemented several sustainable practice models listed in my biography.
Ashlee N. Mattingly, PharmD received her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the University Of Kentucky College Of Pharmacy in 2011. After graduation, she started working as a pharmacist at Kindred Hospital, a long-term acute care hospital, in Louisville, Kentucky. While at Kindred, she revamped the Advanced Hospital Practice Rotation for fourth-year student pharmacists, served as the medication safety officer, was the pharmacy representative for weekly Interdisciplinary Team Rounds, and was on the National Darbepoetin Policy Workgroup. She left Kindred in 2013 and took a position as a clinical pharmacist at Community Hospital South in Indianapolis, IN. At Community Hospital, she precepted first-year student pharmacists and served as the primary trainer for residents on the Electronic Health Record, Epic, utilized at the hospital. She currently is an assistant professor and Director of the PharmTechX Program in the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science at the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy. Her teaching is focused on sterile and non-sterile compounding. She also conducts research through a grant funded by the FDA evaluating the clinical need of bulk drug substances nominated for use in compounding by outsourcing facilities.

Statement of Candidacy
Priority 1: Serve as a resource for compounding educators within schools of pharmacy to develop and expand their compounding curriculum. The compounding curriculum is decreasing in several schools of pharmacy and student pharmacists may not be getting exposed to a field of pharmacy that may of interest to them. By engaging compounders in the community through the SIG to discuss best practices, develop resources for educators to use, and serve as a resource for students to reach out to discuss various opportunities, the SIG can help to grow the interest of students and shape future compounders. As a compounding educator, I am able to identify deficiencies in the curriculum and collaborate with other educators who may not be members of the SIG.

Priority 2: Provide education regarding the current regulatory framework and compounding standards. With the changing landscape, there is confusion and misinformation being spread heightening concern regarding these standards and regulations. The SIG should serve as a resource to answer these questions and clarify the misinformation and to advocate for compounders to share and follow best practices. As an educator, I stay current of the standards and regulations to teach student pharmacists of these regulations and standards. Through engaging the membership I could help to develop a platform for these ideas to be compiled and shared to the SIG.

Priority 3: Continue to grow the collaboration with APRS. There is substantial overlap between compounding and the interests of the membership of APRS. The relationship with APRS can provide additional education and resources for the members of the SIG. I can serve as a champion for this collaboration through engagement with the members of APRS and advocate for the continued growth of this partnership.
Adam Davies, PharmD is a very dedicated and passionate pharmacist and active duty Army Officer. He has a vast background and experiences in pharmacy. He started his career working retail pharmacy and then decided to transition and join the US Army as a pharmacy officer in 2012. He has had many leadership positions within the Army and most recently completed an ASHP/AMCP accredited PGY-1 Managed Care Pharmacy Residency which greatly enhanced and broadened his scope of knowledge and practice. He had insight into the Department of Defense (DoD) TRICARE pharmacy benefit and the unique structure and responsibilities involved with it. After completion of this residency he was selected to serve as the Deputy Chief of the Formulary Management Branch of the Pharmacy Operations Division which is part of the Defense Health Agency and which he received his residency training through. Adam has had many projects and presentations involving diabetes and has become very focused and interested on this topic, specifically looking at agents used second-line in Type 2 patients. He completed an APhA pharmacist and patient-centered diabetes care certificate training program in October 2019. He is a privileged provider and looks forward to starting to see patients at one of the patient-centered medical homes at Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, TX in winter 2019. He feels honored to serve and work alongside a great team of Soldiers and civilians giving the best care to the DoD beneficiaries.

Statement of Candidacy

Priority 1—Keeping members and the community up-to-date with advances and guideline recommendations for management and treatment of diabetes. I will contribute to this because my job involves being up-to-date with new innovative drugs. My team and I research and prepare presentations to our pharmacy and therapeutics committee for decision of formulary status, prior authorizations, and other items need for patients to access and have coverage of medications. I have dedicated a lot of time and research into diabetes and look forward to sharing my thoughts and knowledge with the SIG and community.

Priority 2—Transmitting and disseminating relevant and useful knowledge and information to community and members. I will contribute to this because I have many years of experience with communication and getting knowledge to the field within the Army. I love sharing information that helps streamline and make work easier for the pharmacists working in the field and on the “front-line.”

Priority 3—Gaining interest and members for the SIG and APhA as a whole. I will contribute to this as APhA has always been a passion of mine. I have to admit that I have not been as involved as I would have liked over the past several years, compared to when I was in the student chapter, but I now see an opportunity to get involved and have a positive impact within the organization again and the larger pharmacy community.
Nicholas Lehman, PharmD, BCACP is an Associate Professor of Pharmacy Practice at Drake University College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. He also serves as a clinical pharmacist at the UnityPoint West Des Moines Internal Medicine and Family Medicine Clinics and as an Adjunct Clinical Professor for the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine. Dr. Lehman received his Doctorate of Pharmacy from The University of Iowa in 2003. He completed a Primary Care Pharmacy Practice Residency at the Iowa City VA Medical Center in 2004, and joined the faculty at Drake in 2010. Dr. Lehman obtained Board Certification in Ambulatory Care Pharmacy in 2012, and is an active member of the American Pharmacists Association and the Iowa Pharmacy Association. He has served as the Chair of the Education Committee for the APhA Diabetes Management Special Interest Group for the past two years and is currently a member of the APhA-APPM Policy Standing Committee and House of Delegates. Dr. Lehman’s current practice and research interests include anticoagulation therapy, diabetes, transitions of care and immunizations.

Statement of Candidacy

The practice of pharmacy and the healthcare system as a whole are constantly changing. I believe the Diabetes Management SIG can be an excellent resource for practitioners and students to continue to gain valuable information to better care for patients with diabetes. Through my service as the Chair of the Diabetes SIG Education Committee, I have been able to help provide resources, both through formal continuing education programs and informally through the ENGAGE platform, to contribute to that life-long learning process. Another goal of the SIG should be to continue to engage the current members of the SIG as well as to seek new members who have not previously been involved. I feel that one of the best ways to accomplish this goal is by collaborating with other SIGs, as well as our new members and student pharmacists. By broadening the SIG membership, there will hopefully be an increase in the diversity of thoughts and opinions that would contribute to learning and patient care. I believe it’s important to continue providing a variety of educational offerings and seek new innovative ways to engage the members. Ultimately, the goal of the SIG should be to provide members with the tools to better care for their patients. One of these tools is the ability of pharmacists to be recognized as providers and reimbursed for the care provided to patients. The SIG should continue to be a space for pharmacists to ask questions and provide guidance regarding successes and areas of improvement. As a member of the APhA-APPM Policy Standing Committee as well as a delegate to the APhA House of Delegates, I have been fortunate to see the hard work being put in to make these changes sustainable and hope to continue to involve the Diabetes Management SIG in the legislative process.
Ashley Hannings, PharmD received her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the University of Georgia in 2011 and then completed a PGY-1 residency at the McWhorter School of Pharmacy at Samford University/Jefferson County Department of Health in Birmingham, AL. She also completed a PGY-2 residency in community pharmacy/academia through the University of North Carolina Eshelman School of Pharmacy and Kerr Drug in Chapel Hill. Dr. Hannings is currently a faculty member at the University of Georgia College of Pharmacy. She is based out of the Division of Experience Programs and works with students during their Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experiences (IPPE). She serves as the coordinator for the college’s immunization program, which includes APhA’s Pharmacy Based Immunization Delivery Certificate Program, two immunization patient simulations, and the mobile flu vaccine clinic program. Dr. Hannings has partnered with the University Health Center and two local county governments to provide second and third year student pharmacists with immunization administration experience through the mobile flu vaccine clinic program. Nearly 2,000 patients receive the flu vaccine through these clinics every fall. In addition, she is the coordinator for the college’s Professional Certificate in Pharmacy Entrepreneurship. She also maintains a practice site at a local federally qualified health center where she provides diabetes education. Dr. Hannings was recently selected for the university’s Public Service and Outreach Leadership Academy. As a member of the Immunizing Pharmacists SIG, she has served on both the Recognition Committee and Webinar Task Force.

Statement of Candidacy

I have many responsibilities in my current position as a faculty member, but my most favorite component of my job is training future immunizers. I am applying for the SIG coordinator-elect position because I believe my experience in providing immunization services and serving in leadership roles at UGA will be helpful in continuing to move our SIG forward. Since becoming a member of the SIG, I have served on the Recognition Committee and currently serve on the Webinar Task Force. I would love the opportunity to take on a leadership role in our group, as I am very passionate about the work we do. If selected for this position, there are multiple things I would like for the SIG to accomplish related to promoting the work of our members, advancing pharmacy-based immunization practices, and promoting communication among members. I was one of two Recognition Committee members when we first came up with the idea of having the Invisible Superhero program. I would like to see the program continue and expand, possibly incorporating students into this recognition program. Our SIG serves as a valuable resource for immunizing pharmacists across the country. I would like to see us continue to be seen as a resource for both new and experienced practitioners. To accomplish both of these goals and streamline our communication processes, I would like for the group to consider starting a monthly newsletter. This would provide us the opportunity to combine some of the great things we are doing, including case studies and the Invisible Superhero program, and add resources that may be valuable to our members, including immunization-related current events.
Ashley Pugh, PharmD, BCACP is the Assistant Director of Experiential and Interprofessional Education and an Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice at Union University College of Pharmacy in Jackson, TN. She also maintains a practice site at Kroger Pharmacy where she precepts students on advanced pharmacy practice experiences and provides patient care services including immunizations. Ashley is an alumna of Union University College of Pharmacy and completed a Community Pharmacy Residency with Union University College of Pharmacy and Kroger Pharmacy. She serves as a program coordinator and instructor for APhA’s Pharmacy-Based Immunization Delivery certificate training program. She is also a trainer for APhA’s Medication Therapy Management and Diabetes Care certificate training programs. Ashley enjoys serving as the chapter co-advisor for the APhA-ASP chapter at Union University. As a new practitioner, she served APhA’s New Practitioner Network as a New Practitioner Advisory Committee Member-at-large, Awards Standing Committee member, and Transitions Editorial Advisory Board member. Her leadership involvement within APhA-APPM includes recent completion of terms of service as the Immunizing Pharmacists SIG’s Webinar Task Force Chair, Medication Management SIG’s Communications Committee Chair, and the Preceptor SIG’s New Practitioner Committee Co-chair. She also recently served on the APhA-APPM Communications Committee. Ashley is also actively involved in the West Tennessee Pharmacists Association, having recently completed a two-year term as its president and serving as a speaker for the organization’s Immunization Update continuing education program. She is also actively involved in the Tennessee Pharmacists Association.

Statement of Candidacy
I believe the top three priorities of the Immunizing Pharmacists SIG should be continuing to bring awareness of APhA immunization-related resources, providing pharmacists with information to enhance their immunization practices, and recognizing pharmacists who are impacting patients and public health through strong immunization practices. APhA has a wealth of resources available in immunization update webinars, the Immunization Quick Reference Guide, and the Travel Health Guide. In addition to webinars focused on immunization updates following Advisory Committee for Immunization Practices (ACIP) meetings, APhA has also provided additional webinars this year related to technician involvement in immunization practices. I think a priority in the coming year should be to continue to promote awareness of availability of these valuable resources. Having served on the APhA-APPM Communications committee has provided me experience in promoting the activities and resources of the organization via Engage. An additional priority should be to provide pharmacists with information to enhance their immunization practices. The creation of the Webinar Task Force during the last year has allowed opportunity for SIG members on the committee to develop a webinar of interest to SIG membership. Having served as chair of the Webinar Task Force, I believe I can use this experience to help the SIG continue to create meaningful resources for its members. A third priority should be recognition of members who are impacting patients and public health through immunizations. This is currently being accomplished through the Invisible Superheroes feature on Engage. I think this serves as a valuable avenue to not only recognize immunizing pharmacists but also spark ideas among other SIG members. Serving as a task force chair for the Immunizing Pharmacists SIG this past year has provided me opportunity to meet other members of the SIG and would hopefully help me be able to recruit participation in recognition efforts.
Jelena Lewis, PharmD, BCACP, APh is an Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice at Chapman University School of Pharmacy in Irvine, CA. She is also a Board Certified Ambulatory Care Pharmacist and she holds an Advanced Practice Pharmacist license in CA. Dr. Lewis developed and implemented a chronic disease management program at her current practice site which is within an ACO/PCMH at St. Jude Heritage Medical Group in Fullerton, CA and part of Providence St. Joseph Health. Dr. Lewis received her Doctor of Pharmacy degree and completed her PGY-1 pharmacy practice residency at the University of Southern California. Upon completion of her residency, she worked as a clinical pharmacist in an ACO/PCMH at Cedars-Sinai Medical Care Foundation. During her time at Cedars-Sinai, she managed patients with chronic conditions, and she provided travel and smoking cessation consultations. In addition to her clinical work, Dr. Lewis has been very involved with the APhA-APPM Medical Home/ACO SIG group and she has worked with the SIG leaders closely over the last two years. She is currently in her second year as the chair for the SIG's Education and Resources Committee. Dr. Lewis is also a member of the APhA-APPM Communications Standing Committee. Her research interests include population health and implementation and outcomes of a pharmacist run chronic disease management program within an ACO/PCMH. Most recently, Dr. Lewis had a manuscript accepted in a journal which describes the impact of an Advanced Practice Pharmacist in an ACO/PCMH on management of patients with type 2 diabetes.

Statement of Candidacy
The top 3 priorities of the Medical Home/ACO SIG should be: 1. Facilitate education and communication to members about the role and value of a pharmacist within an ACO/PCMH. 2. Share successful pharmacy practice models within an ACO/PCMH. 3. Provide resources to SIG members. My vast experience in the field of an ACO/PCMH will contribute to meeting these priorities. I have worked in an ACO/PCMH since I graduated pharmacy school in 2009 and most recently, I have helped develop and implement a pharmacist run disease management program in an ACO/PCMH. As a result of my work within an ACO/PCMH, I have a very good understanding of the role and value of a pharmacist within this type of setting. I can also share my experiences of building a successful practice model within an ACO/PCMH and serve as a resource to SIG members to help them expand their practice. Furthermore, I have worked very closely with the SIG leaders over the last two years to develop webinars to help educate SIG members about the current issues within ACOs and Medical Homes throughout the country and how pharmacists fit into these types of healthcare models. I was also a webinar presenter for the SIG on two different occasions. In addition, the SIG leaders and I have been working on developing a “Successful Practices” document over the past year which is nearing completion. We are hoping to have this document serve as a resource for SIG members and the APhA community. Also, I am currently in my second year as the chair for the SIG’s Education and Resources Committee. I have been working with the committee members to enhance member communication on ENGAGE. Most recently, we have started Learn the Lingo postings that provide definitions of the different terminology used within an ACO/PCMH.
Matthew Collver, PharmD obtained his PharmD from the South Carolina College of Pharmacy-Columbia Campus in 2010. He then completed a PGY-1 Community Pharmacy Residency with the UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy at the Moose Pharmacy practice site. He has stayed on with Moose Pharmacy as a clinical pharmacist. His job responsibilities include disease state management with employees of nearby Union county and serving as a pharmacy consultant for two local ambulatory surgery centers. His professional interests include independent pharmacy, innovative practice models, and geriatrics. He currently resides in Matthews, NC with his wife and two children.

**Statement of Candidacy**

The top three SIG priorities should be to boost member engagement, stay up to date on practice trends, and prepare members with the knowledge and confidence to create sustainable medication management models. My experience leading the Business Practice Model Committee has helped prepare me to be able to assist in leading the SIG to achieve these goals. Additionally, I have a personal interest in medication management programs that allow pharmacists to practice at the top of their licenses.
Olivia Strain, PharmD, is a Clinical Services Pharmacist for Walgreens in Jackson, Mississippi. She is also the Residency Program Director for the Walgreens–Jackson, MS PGY1 Community-based Pharmacy Residency Program. She received her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the University of Mississippi School of Pharmacy in 2007. Originally from Madison, Mississippi, Olivia began working for Walgreens 14 years ago in Knoxville, Tennessee, in 2005 as a pharmacy intern. Upon graduating, she began working for Walgreens in the Jackson, Mississippi area holding various positions such as market pharmacist, pharmacy manager (for seven years), immunization and travel health lead and trainer, MTM lead, pharmacy intern coordinator, and residency preceptor. Currently, Olivia is a preceptor to Ole Miss APPE students, a residency preceptor with both Walgreen’s and the University of Mississippi School of Pharmacy’s PGY1 community residency programs, as well as, a problem-based learning facilitator. Olivia presently serves as MPhA Education Committee Chair, MPhA Awards and Nominations committee member, and has represented Mississippi at the annual APhA House of Delegates meeting for the past four years. Olivia also serves on the APhA Immunization SIG Travel Health Committee and the APhA Medication Management SIG Payment Based on Quality Measures Project Committee. Nationally, Olivia received a SIG Certificate of Recognition in 2017 and 2019 for her work done within these committees. Outside of work, Olivia, her husband, and house full of girls enjoy traveling, being outside as much as possible, watching or playing sports, and spending quality time with friends and family.

Statement of Candidacy

Engagement—The future of pharmacy depends on engaged and active pharmacists across all practice types. We need to focus more energy and resources on recruiting new members to join APhA, actively participate in SIG committees, and creating a unified organization that spans many practice types. As a member of numerous company, state, and national associations and workgroups, I have experience leading and uniting pharmacists from many practice sites. Education—As someone who has been out of school over a decade now, I personally know how difficult it can be to keep up with the ever-changing practice of pharmacy. I believe we need to focus time and energy on publishing concise but effective resources to help members in their current pharmacy practice areas. Education needs to occur for numerous topics including, but not limited to, policy and law, disease state management, and emerging opportunities and innovative practice ideas. The academy should be responsible for disseminating policy changes, new information, and proven successful strategies around emerging topics or fields of pharmacy. My role as Education Chair for the Mississippi Pharmacists Association and a member of the Statewide Education Needs Assessment Council has me well-positioned to tackle this education piece. Leadership—While this is similar to engagement, I believe we need to teach young pharmacists (and old as well) how to be leaders at multiple levels. Too often, pharmacists graduate, go to work and then feel as if they are not practicing at the top of their license. Leadership should be encouraged at all levels but developing a mentoring program for young pharmacists would go a long way towards a lifelong commitment to our profession. I have held leadership positions at multiple levels and believe the future of pharmacy lies in keeping young pharmacists actively engaged and ready to lead.
Akram Hussein, PharmD, MBA, BCNP has more than 10 years of experience in hospital and commercial nuclear pharmacy. He is currently the Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center’s (OSUWMC) hospital nuclear pharmacy manager and also worked several years as a nuclear pharmacist at Cardinal Health. He serves as a clinical instructor for OSUWMC’s Department of Radiology and as a preceptor for radiology residents, PharmD students and nuclear medicine technologists. Dr. Hussein sits on the Ohio State University's radiation safety and medical use committees, where he previously served as chair, and OSUWMC’s nuclear medicine technologist education advisory committee. He is currently chair of the American Pharmacy Association’s (APHA’s) nuclear pharmacy education committee. Dr. Hussein has presented as a national expert at local and national conferences on new diagnostic and treatment radiopharmaceuticals including for Ohio’s Nuclear Medicine Technologist chapter, the Florida Pharmacist’s Association, APHA and the Society of Nuclear Medicine. Dr. Hussein is a board certified nuclear pharmacist, receiving his PharmD from the University of Findlay College of Pharmacy. Dr. Hussein also has a Masters of Business Administration from Franklin University Ross College of Business and graduated with a Bachelor’s of Science from the Ohio State University.

Statement of Candidacy
Creating a new practitioner mentorship program to strengthen the nuclear pharmacy network and facilitate greater nuclear pharmacist engagement and involvement with APHA. I’d propose a program where PHARMD students interested in nuclear pharmacy and early career nuclear pharmacists are paired with a nuclear pharmacist mentor. Mentors and mentees could touch base 2-3 times a year to discuss career growth, professional development, and opportunities to become more active members of APHA. Participants in the program could have the opportunity to meet in person as part of APHA conference programming, for example, during special networking sessions. Serving as a clinical instructor and preceptor, I have seen the positive impact that mentorship can have on an individual’s career and could draw upon my experiences in developing such a program. Develop guides for SIG members on committee leadership roles, tasks and duties to ensure continuity in committee planning efforts during leadership transition and improve the committee’s overall efficacy. Given that many members of the SIG committees wear multiple hats and have many professional obligations, facilitating smooth transitions into and out of committee leadership roles is critical. I’d propose to work with committee members to create guides that lay out roles, expected duties and tasks particularly for leadership positions. I’ve developed similar guides as part of committees that I serve on at OSU and have found them to be very helpful resources. Expand/diversity APHA nuclear pharmacy programming sponsorship. To maintain and expand upon the high caliber of programming that APHA renders, it is important that the nuclear pharmacy SIG assist in securing more sponsorships. Over 70% of nuclear pharmacies are corporate owned. I have developed strong relationships with many of these corporate offices through my work and could leverage those relationships to help in securing corporate sponsorships under the nuclear pharmacy SIG.
Don Warner, BSPharm began his nuclear pharmacy career in 1993 with Mallinckrodt and he has continued in the field for over 26 years. He has contributed most with this design and implementation of high quality clean room in radiopharmacies. Working at GE Healthcare, he lead their clean room initiative beginning in 2008 to upgrade all 31 of their radiopharmacies in 18 states. Don lead the way to obtain the first network Joint Commission Accreditation for a nationwide radiopharmacy network while at GE Healthcare, which was obtained in September, 2013. He has since moved over to Jubilant DraxImage Radiopharmacies, Inc. as Senior Director of Pharmacy Development to continue to promote quality facilities and continuous improvement for our patients and the success of nuclear pharmacy.

Statement of Candidacy

1. Ensure the survival of Nuclear Pharmacy by making sure we focus on the care of the patients by providing reliable high-quality radiopharmaceuticals.
2. To assist in providing access to new diagnostic and therapeutic radiopharmaceuticals.
3. Promote the education of all Authorized Nuclear Pharmacist, Customers, and Regulators on USP.
Richard O’Brocta, PharmD, since 1995 has either been directly involved in or has supervised the experiential learning process at several schools of pharmacy. In addition, he has been a preceptor himself. The preceptor-student interaction is a critical portion of the student learning experience which has the opportunity to impact the student pharmacist and consequently the profession significantly for years to come. The mentorship the preceptor provides the student can often spur the student on to make a significant change to the profession and provide outstanding patient care to patients. Developing future leaders who make positive change is certainly a noble goal for any pharmacist educator. However, mentoring and training pharmacy students is not always simple. Preceptorship is a significant responsibility for a pharmacist who is already busy with patient care and other organizational responsibilities. Generation Z is slowly replacing the Millennials, so understanding this new generation will be paramount for preceptors developing teaching and learning strategies for the future pharmacists. The profession continues to evolve and the guidelines and rules for experiential training are also changing through ACPE and ASHP standards. As a Pharmacist educator Dr. O’Brocta has been fortunate to stay at the forefront of all these challenges and changes. Throughout his career in the military, practice and now academia Dr.O’Brocta has used the constructs and principles of shared governance to make positive change. Adaptive Leadership is in his arsenal and that is change that enables the capacity to thrive.

Statement of Candidacy

1. Grow the SIG by being responsive to the needs of the membership. First identify the needs of preceptors for both residency and student preceptorship using historical data, surveys, and forward use of ENGAGE. Identifying common issues/trends and providing concise thoughtful and evidence based discussions with practical advice.

2. Publish key data from the findings (in 1 above) in the Journal of the American Pharmacists Association to share the good work the preceptor SIG is doing. This may help grow the membership of the Preceptor SIG.

3. Regularly update preceptors with the “required” activities preceptors must cover with their students. This might entail items that have recently changed in the standards and regulations to help them keep compliant and in good standing. I have worked with preceptors throughout my career in pharmacy. I have also been engaged with accreditors in the military, in practice, and in academia. I believe my experiences could assist preceptors, especially new preceptors, better facilitate the training of students via the preceptor SIG.
Bethany Sibbitt, PharmD, completed her PGY1 residency training at Kettering Medical Center. Since joining Cedarville University School of Pharmacy as an Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice, she has enjoying precepting students in an ambulatory oncology elective rotation. Recently she began offering the rotation to two local residency programs as an elective experience. This setting has created an opportunity to precept learners as they engage in multidisciplinary, holistic patient care. She maintains active involvement in the pharmacy profession, including serving on committees of several professional organizations. Her areas of interest include interprofessional education, student development, infectious disease, and hematology/oncology.

Statement of Candidacy

SIGs should be focused on the three Cs: connection, collaboration, communication. Connection: SIGs offer an opportunity for pharmacists at any stage of their career to connect to one another. Depending on your practice setting, you may find that you are the only one in your particular role. Continued engagement with the organization as a whole and through SIG involvement allows you to foster that connectivity with others in a similar practice setting. The Preceptor SIG could work to intentionally connect seasoned preceptors to those who are early in their precepting experience, facilitating a light mentorship connection within the membership. Collaboration: After building connections, SIGs allow for collaboration among colleagues. While this may not mean in person collaboration, it certainly can foster idea-sharing. SIGs promote discussion among the membership, especially as it pertains to complex scenarios. Online discussions can then bridge to offline, in-person collaborations as community builds through networking. The Preceptor SIG could expand on collaborative efforts by facilitating connections between preceptors in similar practice settings (eg. inpatient, ambulatory care, community). Communication: Lastly, SIGs provide a stream of communication, both vertically and horizontally. In vertical communication, SIGs keep members informed of resources and pertinent information available through the organization. Enhanced communication can better highlight the member benefits applicable to this particular interest group. In horizontal communication, SIGs provide pertinent updates via ENGAGE and through webinar content. This horizontal communication creates a mutually beneficial opportunity for members to learn from each other. The Preceptor SIG can continue to evaluate the value of current programming and communication offerings and consider ways to develop and deliver information that its membership identifies as needs.
Laressa Bethishou, PharmD, APh, BCPS, is an assistant professor of pharmacy practice at Chapman University School of Pharmacy. She practices as a transitions of care pharmacist at Hoag Memorial Hospital in Newport Beach, CA. Dr. Bethishou received her Doctor of Pharmacy Degree from the University of Southern California School of Pharmacy (USC) and completed a pharmacy practice residency at Stanford Health Care. She has been actively involved with the APhA Transitions of Care SIG for many years, currently serving as the Communication Committee Chair and previously serving as the Practice Committee Co-Chair. She has contributed to numerous guidance documents and patient care resources, including the APhA TOC Toolkit. She is also involved with the Patient Safety Movement Foundation as a member of their Medication Error and Hand-off Communications workgroups, where she advocates for patient safety during transitions of care. She is very passionate about the impact of the pharmacist in providing safe and effective transitions of care and loves collaborating with other pharmacists within the APhA TOC SIG.

Statement of Candidacy
The APhA Transitions of Care SIG provides an amazing platform for pharmacists to collaborate in advocating for the role of the pharmacist in improving patient safety and medication related outcomes during transitions of care. Given the incredible opportunity to serve as the coordinator elect, I would love to see the SIG focus on the following 3 areas of priority.

1. Improving communication and collaboration between clinical providers across care settings. This includes both intraprofessional (pharmacist to pharmacist) and interprofessional communication. In my capacity as Practice Committee Co-Chair, we developed a communication template to be utilized at hospital discharge, creating a direct line of communication between discharging health care providers and the community pharmacist. I’d like to focus on implementation of our template and identifying additional interventions to provide continuity of care,

2. Creating guidance documents and resources to support transitions of care pharmacists in their workflow. As a member of the communication and practice committees, I was actively involved in creating the APhA Transitions Toolkit. Additionally, I led a project within APhA to create a resource on applying the Pharmacist Patient Care Process during Transitions of Care. Future opportunities include creating resources to support patient engagement, implementation and expansion of TOC services, and student engagement and education.

3. Promoting and driving collaboration within our SIG. I’ve been involved in various projects focused on the role and value of the pharmacist during care transitions. I would love to generate interest and create coordinated efforts amongst SIG members to maximize our impact in research and scholarship which highlights the value of the pharmacist as a member of the healthcare team and supports expanding the role of the pharmacist. This is an essential step in getting the recognition we deserve and the support and reimbursement we need to continue our amazing work.
Danielle M. Candelario, PharmD, BCPS is an Associate Professor at Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science (RFUMS) and is primarily responsible for teaching in Pharmacy Skills Lab, a 9-course series spanning three years of the didactic curriculum. Dr. Candelario is a preceptor for APPE Academic rotation students and serves as a faculty advisor for the Interprofessional Community clinic, a student-run free clinic that serves the uninsured patients of North Chicago. Danielle received her Doctor of Pharmacy degree at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey and completed a PGY-1 residency in Community Practice at A&P Pharmacy in conjunction with The Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy at Rutgers University. Prior to her academic appointment at RFUMS, Dr. Candelario assisted in the creation and development of an innovative inter-professional transitional care unit at Jersey Shore University Medical Center in Neptune, New Jersey. She helped develop, implement and manage the transitional care service where she facilitated patient discharge through resolution in care gaps. She is a Board Certified Pharmacotherapy Specialist (BCPS), and an active member of the American Pharmacists Association (APhA). In her involvement at APhA, she has helped develop the Transitions of Care (TOC) Toolkit and has served as the TOC Webinar Committee Co-Chair. Dr. Candelario's research has focused on Transitions of Care as well as the scholarship of teaching and learning.

Statement of Candidacy

"I am excited to submit my platform and have the opportunity to lead the TOC Special Interest Group. This is a group that I have contributed to significantly over the past 3 years as I am passionate about the goals and vision of the SIG. As an active committee member and the current Webinar Committee Co-Chair, I have had the pleasure of working with the diverse members of the SIG to improve TOC resources and disseminate best practices through research and webinar content. My experiences as a Clinical Specialist in TOC, as well as my position in academia have prepared me to effectively lead the SIG. If elected for the position, I aim to achieve the following goals:

1. Increase member participation. As an active member, I have had the opportunity to learn with, from, and about other clinical practitioners that impact patient lives every day. These collaborations have fostered research initiatives and have furthered my engagement in APhA. I aim to increase member participation through the promotion of project collaboration among members, dissemination of SIG projects and active discussion on the ENGAGE community.

2. Increase support of the APhA-PAC matters campaign. Transitions of Care and the scope of pharmacists is impacted by federal policies. Our SIG has often fallen behind in their contributions to the APhA-PAC and I hope to improve support of this important initiative.

3. Continue to contribute to TOC resources on the APhA website through the facilitation of innovative projects. Our SIG has created useful resources for pharmacists looking to engage in TOC activities. I hope to further these resources through the creation of content that can be used in both the clinical and academic setting as TOC is becoming an increasingly important component of pharmacy education."

APhA-APPM Transitions of Care SIG
Coordinator-elect (2020-2021)