

International Pharmaceutical Students' Federation Contact Person's Report 2015-2016

APhA-ASP

AMERICAN PHARMACISTS ASSOCIATION
ACADEMY OF STUDENT PHARMACISTS



APhA-ASP American Pharmacists Association Academy of Student Pharmacists

<https://www.pharmacist.com/apha-asp-ipsf-information>

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1. Introduction

“The mission of the APhA Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP) is to be the collective voice of student pharmacists, to provide opportunities for professional growth, to improve patient care, and to envision and advance the future of pharmacy.” The Academy of Student Pharmacists is but one of three academies of the American Pharmacists Association, representing student members. There are currently over 36,000 members of APhA-ASP across more than 130 schools and colleges of pharmacy across the United States. APhA-ASP operates with the collaboration of staff members, a National Executive Committee, and five National Standing Committees (Awards, Member Engagement, Communication, Policy, and International). The International Standing Committee is made up of the National Contact Person, the National Project Coordinator, the Student Exchange Officer (SEO), the SEO-elect, and a National Executive Committee Liaison. Each of our schools or colleges have their own patient care officers or International Vice Presidents (IVPs) that carry out the combined APhA-ASP and IPSF missions of promoting health for all and advancing the pharmacy profession.

2. Education and Practice Activities

American Pharmacists Month

Every October, the United States celebrates American Pharmacists Month (APhM). The month celebrates our origins and abilities as pharmacists. It is also an opportunity to advocate for our profession and to educate the American public about the services that pharmacists can provide them. APhA-ASP delivers numerous tools and resources for each chapter to use to join the celebration. Through the use of branding, APhA has given APhM the logo of “Know Your Pharmacist, Know Your Medicine.” This is a slogan people come to recognize, and also gives chapters a base on which to build their campaigns and events for the month. Of note, some chapters hold health screenings open to the public while wearing specially designed APhM shirts and hand out fliers with information for those who are screened. Other chapters host appreciation dinners, welcoming past, present, and future pharmacists to come together, network in a comfortable environment, and recognize them for all they do for our community. Many chapters were even able to participate in live TV events, speaking to members of the media about the role that pharmacists play in their communities as a part of the healthcare team. There are many ways our student pharmacists share the word, and raise awareness of the pharmacy profession.

APhA Annual Meeting and Exposition

As the largest professional pharmacy organization in the country, APhA holds their annual meeting every

March--the APhA Annual Meeting and Exposition. This past March, the meeting was held in Baltimore, Maryland. Over 2500 student pharmacists took part in almost a week-long conference full of education, networking, leadership development, and professional development. Of note to IPSF, every year, the current APhA-ASP/IPSF National Officers hold an hour long meeting to educate all interested student pharmacists about updates concerning IPSF and how to better integrate the mission and goals of IPSF into their daily chapter functions. This is also a time to expose student pharmacists to World Congress as well as Regional Conferences, to encourage further involvement within IPSF. This past March, we were lucky enough to have EM3 take place in Baltimore at the same time, and IPSF ExCo was able to attend this roundtable hour to further explain what IPSF has to offer and the amazing opportunities it can provide for our students.

Patient Counseling Competition

The Patient Counseling Competition happens every year and student pharmacists of all levels can participate. The purpose of this competition is to aid the students' learning experience through patient interactions, to measure the student's ability to communicate medical information to patients, to promote the role of pharmacist as a health care provider, and to increase awareness of the changing responsibilities of pharmacist as a part of the health care system.

The APhA-ASP Patient Counseling Competition (PCC) consists of two levels, the local level and the national level. Any member of APhA-ASP may participate in the local competition. The winner of each school of pharmacy will receive the chance to compete at the national level at the APhA-ASP Annual Meeting. This year, over 130 schools of pharmacy organized the PCC on the local level. APhA-ASP estimates that over 2,500 student pharmacists competed locally. A list of names of the top 10 finalists from each school was submitted for prizes (over 1,300 prize winners). The winner of each school competed nationally. The top 10 finalists, including the national winner, were announced at the APhA-ASP Annual Meeting Awards Ceremony.

Midyear-Regional Meeting

The Midyear Regional Meeting (MRM) is the only APhA-ASP national meeting that is completely organized by students. United States is divided into eight different regions, and each region holds their respective regional meeting for three days during October or November. The meetings are organized by the Midyear Regional Meeting Coordinator, and headed by three regional officers and one national officer. The midyear regional meeting coordinator and his/her committee members are responsible for all fundraising, budgeting, organizing and programing of events. This year, over 2,000 student pharmacists attended the MRMs.

Academies Leadership Meeting

In order to better facilitate the annual transition of officers, APhA holds its Academies Leadership Conference in April for each of the newly appointed standing committees to meet one another and set the course for their activities for the year. Held in the nation's capital, Washington D.C., this is the major planning meeting of the year for all APhA Academies. The weekend offers time for each committee and subcommittee to break off to meet and set their goals and yearly timeline with one another. Once their goals for the year are set, everyone meets together to allow each committee to present their plans to the entire group. Each attendee is invited to give their advice or opinion and an open discussion can be had. The ultimate goal of the committees is progressing the profession of pharmacy, and ALM provides the APhA-ASP Leadership an opportunity to meet and do just that.

Summer Leadership Institute

Summer Leadership Institute (SLI) is an annual leadership training conference in July. Through interactive and educational sessions, chapter leaders at the local, regional, and national level meet in Washington, DC. They are challenged to identify leadership styles, discuss team building strategies, develop communication skills, and receive updates on APhA-ASP activities. Before the conference, many students make hill visits to advocate for the profession of pharmacy to their legislators.

3. Public Health Activities

HIV/AIDS Awareness Campaign

In late November and early December, many schools of APhA-ASP participated in HIV/AIDS Awareness projects. These projects ranged from distributing useful information and pamphlets, to having experts in the field host an informational luncheon, to wearing red to raise awareness for this cause. Many APhA-ASP/IPSF chapters formed a human ribbon to show their support as well. Multiple schools participated in their local AIDS walk. The University of Florida hosted their inaugural Hustle for Hope 5K, raising over \$1000 for their local Gainesville Area AIDS Project. D'Youville College participated in their HIV/AIDS Community Music Festival to raise awareness and partner with other local resources for sufferers to provide health information and help. University of Arkansas raised \$3,678 to sponsor give HIV+ children to attend a summer camp. While it is impossible to know for sure how many people benefitted from all of APhA-ASP's campaigns, we estimate that over 1950 student pharmacists affected the lives of over 8500 individuals through roughly 100 events this year.

Humanitarian Campaign

19 chapters participated in the Regular Vampire Cup for a total of 2,385 units collected from 2,493 donors. University of Mississippi spearheaded this campaign with an impressive total of 1200 units donated over the course of a 4-day event. Photos provided by Texas Tech University illustrate how Vampire Cup is a great opportunity for chapter members to both socialize and educate on the importance of blood donation. Schools teamed up with other student organizations, health profession schools, and blood donation associations to make as big an impact as possible for those in need of blood donations.



Tuberculosis Awareness Campaign

World TB Day is a campaign that continues to grow in popularity as the years continue. An innovative event was the World TB Breakfast Fundraiser hosted by the University of Iowa. It took place during the week containing World TB Day. They sold breakfast items and coffee every morning, and at the conclusion of the week donated the funds to the Stop TB Partnership. Mercer University educated and performed PPD screening in partnership with a physician assistant program. Lastly, the Ohio State University launched a social media campaign of signs about what they will do to change TB. Posters with public health statistics reached an estimated 400,000 bus rides and 7,000 people.

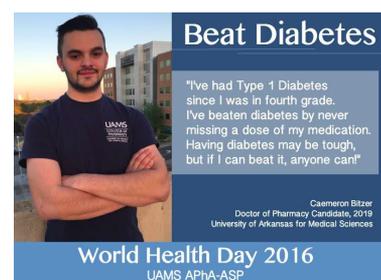


Tobacco Alert Campaign

Tobacco Awareness events are occurring at all times throughout the year. Many schools of pharmacy have their student pharmacists go to local schools to educate elementary, middle, and high school students on the effects of tobacco on the body and environment. University of Arizona presented a poster, referred smokers to a quitline, and played a role in certifying their first-year student pharmacists in tobacco cessation counseling. Although World No-Tobacco Day occurs after many schools of pharmacy are out of session for the summer, that does not stop APhA-ASP from raising awareness! We hosted a campaign on social media raising awareness, which we shared with all chapters. Additionally, we provided education and resources to all chapters to share with members and their local communities.

Healthy Living and Diabetes Campaign

The APhA-ASP patient care initiatives, Operation Heart, Operation Diabetes, and Operation Immunization, correlate heavily with preventing diabetes and mitigating its risk factors. Our chapters nationwide perform blood pressure/blood screenings, immunize, and educate year-round at health fairs. Other events may include social



media campaigns. For example, Mercer University posted a healthy recipe or fitness activity every day for a month to reach a total of 9,777 people. University of Arkansas educated children interprofessionally, ran a social media campaign, and gave insight about diabetes during a live television interview. MCPHS University-Boston ran an article in Fenway News about heart disease, diabetes, lifestyle modifications, and the importance of medication adherence to reach over 5,000 readers in print/online. Lastly, University of Utah held a 5K with over 170 runners. Local companies sponsored the event and health screenings were offered. A total of \$5,000 was raised toward a global health program focused on addressing chronic disease-states.

Medicine Awareness Campaign

The APhA-ASP patient care initiatives that run parallel to Medicine Awareness Campaign include OTC Medicine Safety and Generation Rx (preventing prescription medication abuse and educating on proper drug disposal). Belmont University promoted knowledge of OTC medications and medication safety to a transient or homeless population through a fun game of bingo. MCPHS University-Boston presented on medication adherence to the Boston Neighborhood Network news segment and at assisted living centers.



4. Student Exchange Programme

We open our SEP Pre-Application early in the year, closing it in November, and releasing selections in mid-December. Over 90 students applied for a student exchange, and we have so far placed over 50.

5. Other Activities

APhA-ASP currently endorses many different Patient Care Projects (PCPs) such as: Operation Diabetes, Operation Immunization, Operation Heart, OTC Medicine Safety, and Generation Rx. While most other PCPs may be self explanatory from their title, Generation Rx is a project that is focused on educating the public about the dangers of overuse, abuse, and addiction of prescription medications.

Most APhA-ASP chapters participate in every single one of these projects by holding free health screenings around their community that goes along with the themes of the projects. All chapters nationwide are highly active in promoting these public health initiatives. In 2014-2015, over 2 million patients were reached through public relations about diabetes and hypertension as well as over 8 million reached about vaccinations. Additionally, over 40,000 patients were screened for blood glucose, over 80,000 patients were screened for blood pressure, and over 95,000 patients were immunized. Outstanding chapter efforts are recognized at APhA Annual Meeting and Exposition as well as the Midyear Regional Meetings.

APhA also hosted the APhA Institute on Alcoholism and Drug Dependencies, where student pharmacists travelled to Utah to engage in conversation and learn about the scientific and human aspects of addiction. Student pharmacists were also provided with resources help assist and support patients affected by alcoholism and other drug dependencies.

Every year, millions of patients across the country are able to receive free care from our student pharmacists. The true impact of our impact through our PCPs is immeasurable, but it is sufficient to say that as each year passes, the PCPs are continuing to expand and improve, allowing student pharmacists to have a larger impact on their communities and our country as a whole.

6. Closing Remarks

As APhA-ASP continues to provide student pharmacists with excellent experiences through activities and projects, APhA-ASP/IPSF will also continue to expand its influences and its global health campaign initiatives throughout the country and on the international level. One of the goals for APhA-ASP/IPSF is for every pharmacy school to participate in at least one IPSF event, and to have an International Vice

President at each school. By having a presence at every school it will become easier for chapters to stay informed, involved, and participating in IPSF. It is also a goal of APhA-ASP/IPSF to increase its international presence. As the country with the most number of pharmacy schools and student pharmacists in the world, APhA-ASP/IPSF wishes to better represent its members on the international levels through expansion of participation at World Congress, increase submissions of event reports, join and support PARO activities, and maintain regular contact with CPs from other countries. We would like to see an increased presence in PARO from APhA-ASP members. Through improved communications and exposure, we hope to better inform our members on PARO's role in IPSF and their role in PARO.

As National Contact Person of APhA-ASP, I am thankful to belong to such an amazing organization, and to work with such a supporting and unified team. The International Standing Committee has become like family to me, and we work well together to promote IPSF here in the USA.