

APhA-ASP INNOVATIVE PROGRAMMING AWARD



Policy Mini-Series The University of Texas at Austin

Description: The Policy Mini-Series is an innovative and engaging way to motivate pharmacy students to learn about relevant policy affecting pharmacy throughout the United States and advocate for the profession. Events we held through the series included Putting Policy in the Picture, TX HB 1535: Medical Use of Low-THC Cannabis, and Pharmacists' Role with OTC Dispensing.

Methods/How it was Accomplished: The Policy Mini-Series was hosted through an innovative format via Zoom and Discord to promote policy and advocacy online. This method created accessibility for people to engage in discourse without concerns to barriers such as transportation. The events utilized functions as Zoom poll, Discord reactions, and Kahoot to make it interactive.

Timeline/Planning: The Policy Mini-Series was planned throughout the summer months to host 3 fall and 3 spring events. Once we had the layout, we utilized Pre-Event forms to advertise on our Facebook, Instagram, and weekly newsletters with more than 2 weeks in advance. After completion of the event, we submitted Post-Event forms to provide a recap with pictures.

Impact/Outcomes: The Policy Mini-Series positively impacts and benefits the general community and larger chapter because it encourages students to advocate for themselves and their future profession. In order to incentivize students, we offered them a pin if they attended 4 Policy & Advocacy events. Overall, pharmacy is a highly regulated field so it is vital for students to be well-versed with the nuances regarding the law that affects how pharmacists can practice at the top of their licensure and to the fullest scope.

Future Ideas/Learnings from the Projects: The Policy Mini-Series served as a strong foundation for future ideas about policy and advocacy by including in-depth discussions decoding Texas bills and gauging students' perspective about what policy means to them. Using this as a solid framework, future ideas can work toward transforming these topic talks into viable policy as future pharmacists in practice.

