



APhA-ASP National Officer Elections
Candidate for the Office of APhA-ASP National Member-at-large

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GOAL STATEMENT

Being part of APhA-ASP has changed my life in immeasurable ways. I have grown, not only as a student pharmacist, but also as a person through running my chapter and attending conferences. I am running for national member-at-large because I want to help other students from around the country get the same transformative experience from this organization. My main philosophy within my chapter, which I would be excited to bring to a national level, is the concept of “find your why”. Pharmacy students spend so much time volunteering, working, gaining leadership positions, and putting on events. What my chapter stresses are the reasons behind why we do these things. “Why is it important to you? Why is it important to the community? Why is it important to the profession of pharmacy?” By thinking these questions through, it not only increases passion for the action, but also makes it easier in the future to answer job or residency interview questions about them. I love to set my fellow students up for success and would be immensely excited to have the opportunity to do so on a national level.

BACKGROUND & EXPERIENCE

- a. APhA-ASP Chapter President - 03/2022 - Present
- b. APhA-ASP Chapter President-Elect - 03/2021 - 03/2022
- c. Operation Immunization Chair, APhA-ASP - 01/2021- Present
- d. Risk Management Chair, Kappa Psi Pharmacy Fraternity - 04/2021- Present
- e. Student Leadership Committee - Fall 2021 - Present

PHILOSOPHIES ABOUT APhA-ASP

My main philosophy I would love to bring forth to APhA-ASP on a national level is the concept of “find your why”. This is something my president-elect and I have worked hard to implement in our chapter this year. Coming out of the pandemic, it was a challenge to get the chapter excited for initiatives and patient care. We combatted this by instating what we called, “Operation Roles and Chapter Contributions”. This was a document for each of the Patient Care Projects consisting of questions such as: “how does the operation provide opportunities for professional development, connection, and leadership for Student Pharmacists?” and “how will the operation advance Pharmacists’ role in patient-centered care?”. Our goal with this document was to inspire our chairs to come to understand why they do what they do. Having a well-thought-out answer to this question puts the student at an advantage to answer potential questions about operation initiatives in an interview setting. We spend so much time as student pharmacists working hard and volunteering in these organizations. It is important to understand our motivations and why they advance our profession and help us grow as people as well.

The patient care projects are the main outlet for member engagement; my chapter is lucky enough to have passionate chairs that love to showcase what pharmacists are capable of. As chapter president, I get to work with each of our eight operations. I am always excited to help them plan events and community outreach. A great example of this happened during the COVID-19 vaccine push in 2021: our operation immunization had a hand in immunizing over 25,000 community members. It was rewarding to get to show that pharmacists are an integral part of the healthcare team. It also increased our patients’ trust in our skills and made us a liaison for information about the pandemic and the vaccine itself.

One of my favorite aspects of APhA-ASP is the conferences and networking opportunities. I have been fortunate to attend the Annual Meeting, Summer Leadership Institute, and Midyear Regional Meeting. Getting to meet other student pharmacists that share the same passion for APhA-ASP and for patient care is an invaluable experience. I am able to workshop ideas and collaborate with other chapter executives to start new initiatives and grow our chapters together. If elected to NEC, I would be extremely eager to attend more conferences and help other students build their network like I was able to do. The Policy and Advocacy brand of APhA-ASP gives such an important opportunity for pharmacy students to have a voice in the policy and laws that will affect us when we become licensed pharmacists. Advocating for our clinical knowledge and training is something that all pharmacists should strive to do – on both a state and national level. Being a part of an organization that has the opportunity to uplift the voices of pharmacy students throughout the country is something I am exceedingly grateful for.

TALENTS & SKILLS

I believe I am qualified to be a part of the National Executive Committee as one of the members-at-large. Being from the University of Montana, a smaller pharmacy school, I have a unique perspective on chapter operations. We don’t always have the numbers, engagement, or resources that larger schools have. This has given me lots of experience with troubleshooting and coming up with out-of-the-box solutions to problems. Although I am from a relatively small place, I have been fortunate enough to travel throughout my life both within pharmacy for conferences and across the world with my family. This has greatly impacted me as a person and has opened my world up in so many ways. It keeps me perpetually learning, which I much appreciate and enjoy. Experiencing other cultures and places has only increased my passion for patient care and helping people get the best medical care available to them.

To be candid, when I became APhA-ASP chapter president for my school, our chapter was not in a great place following the pandemic. This year, my president-elect and I put in a lot of hard work to restore our chapter, make it beneficial to the students and the community, and turn it into something we can be proud of. In order to accomplish this, I had to reconstruct many aspects of my chapter procedures and operations. I rebuilt our social media from scratch, as well as created living box folders for the executive board and our patient care projects. The box folders have been great throughout the year to keep everything organized for the chapter achievement report. It will also prove to be beneficial in terms of transitions to the new executive board and patient care chairs. Spearheading this rebuild has made me a stronger leader, and I think this knowledge would help me be a strong addition to the NEC.

My friends and family have always called me tenacious and determined. I have always been a person who puts my mind to something and doesn’t give up. I am a natural born leader who loves public speaking and being in charge. I have never been one to shy away from leadership and hard work. Part of being a good leader is being able to not only listen to your team but also to help them grow, develop, and to influence them to be the best they can be. I believe that the best kind of leaders showcase the individual strengths of the team and motivate them to continue growing and working hard. In addition, I am self-aware enough to know where I need team members to help me with areas I lack, and where to utilize my own strength. In general, I love collaborating and working with people, especially in a group as passionate as APhA-ASP.