



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

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## GOAL STATEMENT

As one of the National Members-at-Large, I would create a space for sharing lessons learned from each region's leaders, who can share them back with their school leaders. Especially at the beginning and end of the term, I would meet up with regional student leaders to go over their SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, and anchored) goals and expectations for the year. During the meeting, I would focus on the transition pipeline from previous years. With a standardized checklist of projects and programs from APhA-ASP, we will focus on available existing events and reconvene on how to improve or find new innovative items. Another biggest focus will be the sustainability of membership from each school. In order to lower the bar of entry for the association engagement, I would utilize social media platforms and create contents to communicate with members nationwide. Though there are numerous social media accounts of chapters, there is not enough guidance or policies. Therefore, I propose that a social media team be formed for developing a standard operating procedure to provide guidance for public relations and unification of content on a variety of channels of communication such as Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, and more.

## LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

APhA-ASP Leadership Experience:

- Professional Development Vice President 2020-2021

Local Leadership Experience:

- SGA President 2021-2022
- Maryland Pharmacy Coalition Student Co-Chair 2021-2022
- SGA Secretary 2020-2021
- SGA Program Committee Chair 2020-2021
- IFC Co-Chair 2020-2021
- Career Navigation Program Student Ambassador 2019-2022
- Korean American Scientists and Engineers Association National Board Vice Chair 2020-2021
- Class President 2019-2020

## PHILOSOPHIES ABOUT APhA

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, there have been fewer opportunities to interact amongst the chapters that are within our respective regions, and even less outside of our regions. Each chapter has its own strong points, but also room for improvement. In order to recognize the potential for improvement, as a Member-at-large, I would create group chats amongst chapter leaders and seek for collaboration opportunities. From this platform, school leaders will be able to understand others' content in depth and adopt accordingly within their chapters. Through collaboration, it will create an environment for student leaders to learn to work as a team and communicate effectively. This opportunity will also provide camaraderie within local chapters, which helps members to be engaged locally and nationally, and increases student participation in conferences.

Membership sustainability has to be improved by incentivization. As many other associations face the same challenge of membership engagement throughout the pandemic, we need to continuously expose ourselves to the current members and the potential future members with reasons to be involved. There are already numerous opportunities within the association regarding professional development, committee projects, awards, and scholarships. However, many student pharmacists tend to solely focus on school academic performance and have a difficult time finding the motivation to participate. Therefore, we need to approach the chapters with guest speakers, such as previous student pharmacist members who participated in various activities and received recognition from the association, to remind them of the reasons to be involved. It is important to show how their involvement may have guided them to where they are.

Program sustainability has to be revisited for the transition of years. As many members have already seen from APhA's statement about pharmacists' burnout problem, burnout happens to student pharmacists from holding leadership roles as well. We need to develop a better way to maintain members' wellness and transition from the current leaders to the next one. If the transition doesn't take place appropriately due to burnout, the gap between each class widens even more and more over time. Therefore, as a part of the program, APhA-ASP has to develop a protocol for transitions with checklists. This can be done precisely by implementing by-laws for steps of transition. APhA and APhA-ASP have created numerous beneficial projects for student pharmacists. For this upcoming academic year, it will be the best time to focus on internal reconstruction about members' networking opportunities and the sustainability of membership and program.

## SPECIALIZED SKILLS & TALENTS

I have acquired many skills by going through various experiences of working and serving in leadership roles. Before starting school, I worked in a research and development department, where I learned to explain in layman's terms to team members from different backgrounds of specialties. From this experience, I had an opportunity to expand my perspective to understand team members with varying priorities, who are working for the same goal. When a complication of communication arose, I tried seeing the situation from their perspectives to understand how we could move forward together.

While serving at a national-level organization, I focused on counseling regional chapters as a national board director. Each chapter had various concerns in different areas from member engagement to general support from national headquarters. I learned to gather various opinions and present them as one unifying voice. Also, the organization focused on exposure on social media platforms, which was a new field for them. Therefore, I developed and wrote a standardized procedure for managing accounts focusing on public relations. This experience taught me the importance of being creative and detail-oriented since the procedure necessitated on-going improvements.

From the organization, I also organized annual conferences. As an organizer, I realized that there were numerous efforts behind, such as programming, sponsorship, marketing, administration, and more to set up the great conferences. Being involved in these various teams, I expanded an abundance of management skills: creating meeting minutes, following up with action items, executing plans, responding to unexpected challenges. After acquiring these leadership skills addressed above, I applied them for serving various pharmacy organizations: student government association, APhA-ASP, and Maryland Pharmacists Coalition. I developed passions and interests in numerous fields of pharmacy practices with these organizations.

Not only did I learn how to engage the student body and deliver appropriate information concisely, but also I equipped myself with up-to-date pharmacy topics. Most importantly, I familiarized myself with aspects of pharmacy education and legislation. Throughout planning a statewide event, Maryland Legislative Day, as a Maryland Pharmacist Coalition student co-chair, I taught myself about the state legislative process and the importance of advocacy. In order to make a powerful impact on the profession, we have to learn how to advocate for ourselves vocally. This experience also taught me there were various interest groups in pharmacy. Though we were in the same profession, each interest group held different perspectives about legislative bills. Therefore, I had to learn how to mitigate the team and gather opinions with constructive feedback in a timely manner. I am confident that I will be beneficial to APhA-ASP with these extensive experiences and learnings. My adaptability to a new environment will be a beneficial asset for the association.