



APhA-ASP National Officer Elections
Candidate for the Office of APhA-ASP Speaker of the House

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GOAL STATEMENT

If given the opportunity to serve as the Speaker of the House for APhA-ASP, I would like to utilize the position to maximize the impact of the policy process on how student pharmacists engage with advocacy as a whole. The biggest barrier to student engagement with advocacy in my eyes is a fear of the label of policy due to the association of the word with more tedious legal jargon or the confusing intricacies of law. While there is a certain amount of these things, the policy process is much more than that, and the road to showing students that is by fostering open discussions on contemporary topics that pharmacists should be passionate about; breaking news about medicine and how we approach patient care. Stimulating dialogue that starts with “what do you think” and ends with “how can we start to fix”, and then showing them how to advocate for themselves, their profession, and their patients through the policy process. Student pharmacists have some of the most inventive minds- bringing a fresh perspective to issues both old and new and I'd like to help them find their voice so we can do what we do best- push the profession forward.

BACKGROUND & EXPERIENCE

Within APhA-ASP

APhA-ASP Regional Delegate for Region 7
APhA-ASP Policy VP for Pacific University
APhA-ASP MRM Chapter Delegate

Fall 2022 to Present
Spring 2022 to Present
Fall 2022

Outside of APhA-ASP

Kappa Psi Epsilon Xi Chapter Regent
IPhO Chapter Director of Professional Programming
Pacific Pharmacy Student Association Senator
Phi Lambda Sigma Gamma Lambda Treasurer

Spring 2022 to Present
Spring 2022 to Present
Spring 2022 to Present
Spring 2022 to Dec. 2022

PHILOSOPHIES ABOUT APhA-ASP

Over the course of my time as a student pharmacist I've gone from having no idea what APhA or APhA-ASP was to having a deep appreciation for what it offers its membership. As a student, many of us enter pharmacy school with a limited understanding of what pharmacists are capable of. We might have a surface level idea of community and hospital pharmacy, but not much of an understanding outside of that. Getting involved in APhA-ASP gave many of my peers and some of our first opportunities to get involved with helping and interacting with patients directly, with events through patient care initiatives. We also had some of our first exposures to advocacy and becoming inspired to think about where the profession is going and how to push it forward. As a member of this organization I've attended conferences to hear from some incredible pharmacists and met some amazing role models. According to APhA's website “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.”, and I think it does just that, as the opportunities and resources that my peers and I have access to as members of ASP have pushed me forward in my development as a healthcare professional and as an advocate for our profession.

The profession of pharmacy is not all opportunities though, we have our fair share of challenges to tackle coming into the field. Healthcare is at the forefront of our nation's issues and pharmacists or our patients are often directly impacted by the events behind every headline. With an organization like APhA though, we have an avenue to work to begin to fix these issues as they appear by making our voices heard through the policy process. We have a PAC to actually advocate for those changes on Capitol Hill. There are problems but we have the opportunity to fix them and with that ability we have hope. While this is somewhat cheesy I think this is what APhA and APhA-ASP ultimately boil down to for me at least. Hope to improve ourselves as student pharmacists, hope to change the profession, and hope to help more patients.

TALENTS & SKILLS

The special thing about pharmacy to me is not necessarily a tangible piece of information but rather a set of characteristics that the profession that we pursue lends itself to. I'm talking about the level of attention to detail and care that every pharmacist brings to every question that is brought before them as well as the genuine thought that accompanies those recommendations. My father was the first one to demonstrate this process not just behind the counter of his place of work but in his everyday life. When anyone comes to ask him a question, he takes the time to really listen and give real thought, time and energy to his answer. In the fast paced world that we live in, slowing down and taking this extra time is something to be valued. As time has progressed and I have been blessed enough to work with and learn from some incredible pharmacists, I've come to realize that this trait is something that manifests as a result of the intricate, detail-driven work that they do. It is this skill, this courtesy, that I think is truly unique in pharmacy and it is what drove me to ultimately pursue pharmacy as a profession. It is a skill that I have worked hard to develop and curate throughout my time in pharmacy school and I think that it will greatly benefit me if I am given the opportunity to serve in this position.

Additionally, the servant based style of leadership I practice will apply well to this role. I initially adopted this style when earning my Eagle Rank with the Boy Scouts of America and since I've been fortunate enough to further develop it in pharmacy school through my elected positions in APhA-ASP, Kappa Psi, Phi Lambda Sigma and IPhO. Being a leader is about doing the right thing, the right way, the way that more often than not is more difficult than the alternative. Taking on that responsibility to lead others is something that should come from a desire to serve the people around you to the best of your ability and I truly believe that. In my time in leadership roles I've been able to develop my communication abilities, my methods of staying organized, my teachability, adaptability and most importantly my impartiality. As a potential Speaker of the House these skills, coupled with that ability to take a breath and really analyze the challenges brought in front of me will be paramount in ensuring that I do the best possible job that I can.