

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

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GOAL STATEMENT

My goal is to increase engagement in APhA-ASP organically by cultivating a culture of genuine connection and learning about what the current generation of student pharmacists need to feel supported and fulfilled through membership in the academy.

I would like to be able to hold optional biweekly to monthly "drop in" meetings where leaders from across the academy can ask questions and find support for their chapter. I fully understand that the COVID-19 pandemic has significantly changed how some chapters function and has reduced the level of extracurricular engagement across many pharmacy schools. My leadership experience within the academy has been enhanced by my relationships with regional and NEC leaders and the support I have received from them. I want to pay it forward and encourage chapter leaders to think of national and regional leaders as extended members of their chapter who are as invested in their goals for professional growth and service. I plan on giving folks my contact information at Annual2023 to bridge the first gap in my goal to cultivate a culture of connection so that we may effectively work on advancing the pharmacy profession together.

BACKGROUND & EXPERIENCE

On the regional level of APhA-ASP, I have served as:

- Region 7 Midyear Regional Meeting Coordinator (MRMC) 2021-2022 On the local chapter level of APhA-ASP, I have served as: Both Assistant Vice President of Patient Care (2021-2022) and Patient
 - Care

Vice President (2022-2023)

- A member of my chapter's Health Policy Committee, led by our chapter's **Policy Vice President (2020-Present)**
- Representative for my chapter in the following capacity for given meetings:
 - Chapter Delegate for Regional House of Delegates 2020
 - Alternate Chapter Delegate for Annual2021 House of Delegates
 - Alternate Chapter Delegate for MRM2021 Virtual House of Delegates
 - Chapter Delegate for APhA-ASP House of Delegates at Annual2022
 - Alternate Student Delegate in APhA House of Delegates at Annual2022

PHILOSOPHIES ABOUT APhA-ASP

When starting my journey as a student pharmacist, I was first drawn to APhA-ASP because of my chapter's Health Policy Committee. Having had a passion for patient advocacy as a key motivator in my decision to go into pharmacy, it felt like a great way to get involved in the dialogue around healthcare and the future of this profession.

I started pharmacy school at the height of the COVID-19 lockdowns in my area, and APhA-ASP wound up providing me a lot in terms of feeling connected and staying updated with everything happening nationally in healthcare. As things gradually started opening up again, APhA-ASP then provided me with ways to feel a sense of community and hope through various networking opportunities at the meetings I attended, like MRM2022 in Region 7 and Annual2022 in San Antonio. These have been some of the most fulfilling and fun experiences I have had during pharmacy school. Building genuine relationships and connections with student pharmacists from across the country and attending various sessions together were huge areas of growth for me, both personally and professionally. Seeing and getting to participate on the last day of APhA's "Big House" of Delegates at Annual2022, I realized the good of the mission and goals of APhA.

open dialogue among different states, different pharmacy organizations, and different sects of pharmacy practice. There is an intentional structure designed to prevent the profession moving in one direction without all sides being actively represented. Witnessing and participating in these processes have taught me patience, curiosity, resilience, and ways to harness passion in a constructive and community-oriented manner. It has taught me to focus on the relationships between all areas of pharmacy and their place and impact in our complicated healthcare system. In a time when open and honest discourse about healthcare and the profession are needed, APhA provides that forum and encourages its most junior members in the Academy of Student Pharmacists to actively learn and participate. I want to help represent APhA-ASP because I believe in its mission of

APhA (and thus APhA-ASP) is the only organization that provides a space for

and in providing the best care for their patients. I truly believe it is an organization that cares about its student pharmacists' views in driving changes towards a better future for pharmacy and healthcare as a whole.

empowering student pharmacists in their professional growth, in their advocacy,

In my role as the Region 7 MRMC, I have had experience planning and executing a Midyear Regional Meeting during our return to in-person programming at

stronger after COVID.

TALENTS & SKILLS

MRM2022 after these last few years during the pandemic. With that experience, I will be able to adequately and effectively serve as a liaison to this year's MRMCs. I would look forward to supporting them in planning the upcoming Midyear Regional Meetings of 2023 as my NEC member had so admirably done for me. I can lean on my experience of personally reaching out to chapter leaders and

exhibitors as Region 7's MRMC in this role. The goal of our organization is so expansive, given that it is to nationally advocate for and support student pharmacists and the profession. I have learned a lot about the different chapters in my region-- about their needs for support, struggling with engagement, and relearning how to connect and rebuild community after the pandemic. These experiences would drive me to work effectively with the Member Engagement Standing Committee and chapter leaders in identifying, creating, and/or communicating resources that can support our student members and ensure that APhA-ASP membership is as fulfilling to most members as it has been for me. I believe that we need to be more intentional about asking for feedback and creating programs that meet the needs of our student pharmacists now, and I hope the chance to reconnect at Annual2023 will be the perfect opportunity to strengthen and build on existing efforts to support our APhA-ASP members. Prior to pharmacy school, I also had extensive experience in my university's

residential halls. For 2 years, I was the Director of Marketing for a Residential Programming Board that was created to serve about 10,000 residents each academic year. Our job was to envision and execute programs that would serve our students' needs for entertaining and engaging activities. I oversaw the creation and distribution of our printed marketing, the activity on our social

media accounts, while also planning and executing my own events. I believe that this experience accurately informs me of the real demands of the work that the National Communications Standing Committee does, and it would help me work effectively with them. Overall, I feel that I have many skills and experiences that would make transitioning to a National Member-at-Large role manageable and almost natural. These things, along with the flexibility and adaptability demanded by all of these different roles, will help me persevere and practice resilience with any

evolving demands that may come up for the Academy as we work to come back