AACP REPORTS

Crossing the Finish Line

Address of the 2013-2014 President to the Opening General Session at the AACP Annual Meeting

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Twelve months ago, as I came out of the starting gate for my presidency, I outlined the association's priorities for the coming year. I would like to spend the next few minutes talking about the incredible work done by our members across the academy over the past 12 months.

In March, our association leaders gathered at the Mount Vernon Leadership Institute where we were inspired by the personal integrity, creativity, dedication and persistence against great odds of our country's first president. George Washington is the perfect example that you can lose a battle (or in his case many battles!) and still win the war.

Last night we celebrated two leadership milestones: I've already mentioned the 10th anniversary of the Academic Leadership Fellows Program. We will honor this year's ALFP cohort at their commencement on Monday.

Included among the ALFP graduates is the recently named seventh AJPE editor, Dean Gayle Brazeau, of the University of New England College of Pharmacy. Gayle succeeds Dean Joseph DiPiro of Virginia Commonwealth University, who has stepped down after 12 very successful years of growth for the journal. We will present a special tribute to Joe at the Closing Banquet.

We also celebrated the inauguration of the Academic Research Fellows Program, which will soon complete its first year. The program is designed to expand the leadership capabilities of established faculty research scientists and administrators to cultivate collaborative team research and graduate education across institutions.

A vitally important activity that continues through 2014 is the comment period for the ACPE Draft Standards 2016, which will incorporate the CAPE 2013 Educational Outcomes, released last July. The AACP Board of Directors has established a committee comprised of Board members and members-at-large to collect input from Sections, SIGs, and individual members. ACPE will host a listening session at this meeting, on Monday at 8:00am.

I encourage you to attend and participate in the discussion. You are also invited to complete the AACP survey for individual members.

And speaking of the CAPE 2013 effort, I am pleased to recognize, on behalf of the AACP Board of Directors, Dr. Melissa Medina from the University of Oklahoma for her service above and beyond in so many ways. Melissa served as chair of the 2013 CAPE Educational Revision Process that spanned 15 months. She skillfully guided the talents of the outstanding panel to produce the exceptional guiding document for our curricular consideration for years to come.

With her unique educational background, passion for pharmacy education, and enthusiasm for AACP, Dr. Medina helped lead the Panel to an expanded version of CAPE – beyond the cognitive and into the affective domain. Dr. Medina also served as a key planner and facilitator at the very successful May 2014 AACP Institute, which will be repeated in November due to popular demand. As one attendee wrote in their Institute evaluation, "Melissa can make shoveling dirt seem exciting." Join me in thanking Dr. Melissa Medina.

The theme for the 2013-2014 year has been the relentless pursuit of excellence - and the work of our standing committees has truly been excellent.

The Academic Affairs Committee, chaired by Jeff Cain, my colleague from the University of Kentucky, explored opportunities for developing an online platform for courses across the academy, the role of serious gaming in pharmacy education, the adoption of learning analytics to maximize big data for programmatic and curricular purposes, and how to best value scholarship related to emerging technology in our schools.

The committee recommended that AACP develop serious games to be used in health professions education. The committee report states that: "Educational games require students to actively learn by forcing them to make decisions for determining game strategies and solutions. The playing of games is known to stimulate curiosity and interest and also has the potential to generate enthusiasm, encourage competition, and increase student engagement."

AACP's gaming initiative, Professions Quest LLC, is on track for the release of its first game in early 2015.

Mimycx will be the first multiplayer, interactive game for interprofessional learning.

The Professional Affairs Committee, chaired by Miriam Mobley-Smith of Chicago State University, took on the important task of examining pharmacy technician training and the role of pharmacy schools and colleges in preparing these essential support professionals for their evolving role in health care. For pharmacists to achieve the newly updated JCPP vision that “patients achieve optimal health and medication outcomes with pharmacists as essential and accountable providers within patient-centered, team-based healthcare,” it is essential that the pharmacy technician workforce is prepared to take on new roles in pharmacy practice.

Academic pharmacy must make it a priority to become involved at the national, state, and local level in efforts to formalize education, training, and certification of all pharmacy technicians. Academic pharmacy needs a greater level of involvement to help ensure that all professionals engaged in these efforts are qualified to do so. Some schools and colleges of pharmacy and pharmacy technician programs have developed collaborations to advance pharmacy practice. However, many schools of pharmacy have not considered the value of establishing these partnerships. We have many avenues to explore with our colleagues in pharmacy technician education and training as health care and pharmacy education continues to advance.

The Advocacy Committee, chaired by Hershey Bell of the LECOM School of Pharmacy, and the Research and Graduate Affairs Committee, chaired by Lauren Bloodworth of the University of Mississippi, worked synergistically in the area of community engagement.

The Advocacy Committee developed evidence-based issues briefs that identified strengths and barriers to overcome in the areas of health and wellness, community engagement and the scholarship of engagement. These valuable resources are available for use by schools and colleges to enhance the visibility, value and importance of pharmacy and pharmacists in individual and population-level outcomes through our education, research and service efforts.

The Research and Graduate Affairs Committee immersed themselves in a study of community-engaged scholarship. Their report provides a series of recommendations to promote and enhance our work in the scholarship of engagement. The recommendations include networking and collaborative efforts among institutions, development of courses or certificate programs to formally train community-engaged scholars, advocacy for increased funding opportunities, and development of promotion and tenure guidelines to codify recognition and reward

to faculty whose work advances the institution’s mission and benefits communities.

The Special Committee on Admissions, chaired by Andrea Wall of the University of Cincinnati, has finished year one of their two year charge to evaluate the spectrum of activities related to pharmacy student recruitment and admissions. A number of resources and recommendations will come forward from this group including educational resources available to pre-health advisors, recruiters, students and the public, to enhance their understanding of pharmacy and pharmacy education.

Current pre-pharmacy competencies and curricula are being evaluated to assure that our entering students are prepared for the challenges of a rigorous curriculum and professional practice. The committee will also provide information regarding best practices, implementation, and evaluation of holistic admissions to ensure our graduates are not only academically qualified but are equipped with the skill set necessary to serve a diverse population.

Over the past year, the COF Faculty Affairs Committee under the leadership of Robin Zavod, Midwestern University, and her three co-chairs, Andy Traynor (Concordia University Wisconsin), Kristin Janke (University of Minnesota) and Mary Stamatakis (West Virginia University) have developed a Distinguished Teaching Scholars Program to recognize scholarly teaching and the scholarship of teaching and learning within the academy. This fulfills the recommendation of the 2011-2012 Academic Affairs Committee to recognize our outstanding teaching scholars. These Scholars will serve as role models and leaders in furthering the scholarship of teaching and learning in pharmacy education. We anticipate the first group of Scholars will be awarded at the 2015 Annual Meeting.

Another important program launched in 2014 is the Master Preceptor Recognition Program, designed to recognize preceptors, on whom we depend for such a substantive amount of teaching and learning. This new program, funded in part by the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy Foundation, recognized preceptors from seven NABP/AACP districts. I am particularly pleased to report that NABP will again contribute funding for the 2015 Master Preceptor Recognition Program, and they will be joined by the American Society of Health-Systems Pharmacists and the National Association of Chain Drug Stores.

I always look forward to the work of the Argus Commission, the committee comprised of the past five AACP presidents. The Commission takes on relevant big-picture topics in healthcare and education and provides the academy with a thought provoking examination of the issue.

This year I asked Dean Emeritus Vic Yanchik of Virginia Commonwealth University and the Commission to answer the question “How can we more effectively address and serve the diversity in our membership at both the institutional and individual level, and prepare our learners to serve an increasingly diverse population of consumers?”

The Commission looked broadly across the issues including societal diversity, the applicant pipeline, current students, pharmacy faculty, AACP and our member institutions. The commission also considered the work of Scott Page who has written about the value of diversity of thought and perspective. A strength of AACP is the

diversity of our members’ perspectives and experiences that we share, discuss and debate at our meetings and through our publications. The Commission recommends that the academy empanel a Task Force on Diversity and Inclusion to advance our diversity goals.

As I cross the finish line of my presidential year, I would like to thank the hundreds of our volunteer leaders who have served on the committees across the Association this year — as well as Lucinda Maine and the AACP staff — for their truly excellent work over the past 12 months to make this a most productive year at AACP. And thanks to all of you for the honor of allowing me to serve as your president.