## APhA-ASP Regional Officer Elections

Candidate for Midyear Regional Meeting Coordinator - Region 4





# Cristain McCaugey

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## Previous Leadership and Experience

Illinois-Council of Health System Pharmacists Student Chapter - Treasurer and Fundraising Chair Illinois-Council of Health System Pharmacists (State-Level) - Annual Planning Committee and Student Moderator Advocate Health System - Intern Development Series Coordinator and Intern Sharepoint Coordinator Advocate Health System - Serves on the committee that organizes and oversees the intern program. APhA-ASP - Sat on committees for our local leadership positions and supported them throughout their term including our Policy VP, Membership VP, and PSW Representative.

Serving as Treasurer for our local Illinois Council of Health-System Pharmacists (ICHP) student chapter allowed me to enhance my financial management and organizational skills, which are crucial for overseeing projects and initiatives. I managed a range of tasks, including a successful pharmacy clipboard fundraiser, and handled the organization's funds and membership management. Additionally, my involvement with the state's ICHP Annual Planning Committee helped me further develop my ability to collaborate, strategize, and execute large-scale events. I led the coordination of the student session, organized activities and speakers for our student members to learn from experienced pharmacists throughout Illinois. I moderated and managed the student session at the meeting, which expanded my leadership and time management skills to ensure questions were addressed and the program stayed on schedule. Much like MRM, it allowed me to plan, coordinate, and oversee an event that involved the program stayed on schedule. pharmacy students from multiple programs across Illinois.

At Advocate Health System, my roles as Intern Development Series (IDS) Coordinator and Intern SharePoint Coordinator allow me to showcase my ability to manage various communication platforms and educational programs, all while strengthening my ability to coordinate communication and educational initiatives across a wide network. As IDS Coordinator, I am responsible for bringing in speakers to present across our health system, offering insights into the diverse roles pharmacists hold within the Advocate system. As the Sharepoint Coordinator, I am responsible for overseeing our Intern Communications page and coordinating with different pharmacy directors to ensure their interns are familiar with the numerous opportunities and events we host across the organization. These experiences taught me how to engage and inspire participants, manage logistics, ensure that key messages and resources are effectively communicated, and show the mission to help provide opportunities for student pharmacists. These skills directly translate into the MRM Regional Officer by ensuring that this role's initiatives are communicated effectively and in a timely manner to provide a meaningful impact. My role on the committee overseeing the intern program helped me develop strong mentorship skills, which are essential for guiding and supporting local chapters within the region, and knowing how to be the voice for student pharmacists across a wide-variety of schools.

Finally, my experience serving on our local APhA-ASP committees reflects my deep understanding of the organization's mission and the importance of fostering leadership within the profession. I gained a deeper

appreciation for a strong support system to help meet deadlines and goals. I had the opportunity to work with the Policy VP and PSW Chair on their committees. I gained valuable insight into the policy process at both the local and regional levels. I attended the annual meeting in Orlando, FL where our Policy VP, Tiffany Preda, served as the Region 4 Delegate. I was privileged to sit in the House of Delegates and vote for our chapter as our Policy VP represented Region 4. Thus far, the multitude of opportunities I have been given have led me to this role now as a potential candidate for Region 4's MRM-C.

### Talents and Skills

Event Planning and Coordination (Annual Planning Committee for Illinois Council of Health System Pharmacists): Strong organizational skills in managing complex events, including annual meetings. Team collaboration to execute planning initiatives, ensuring event success.

Leadership and Development (Intern Development Series Coordinator at Advocate Health System): Skilled in developing and managing educational programs for interns. Leadership and confidence in reaching out to various potential mentors and guiding fellow future pharmacists by enhancing their learning and professional growth.

Digital Tools and Communication Management (Intern SharePoint Coordinator at Advocate Health System): Expertise in digital platform management, facilitating communication and resource sharing. Proficient in technology integration to support teams and streamline processes.

Program Management and Oversight (Committee Member overseeing Advocate Health System intern program): collaborating with various system leaders to ensure proper communication and intern voices are heard.

Committee and Team Support (APhA-ASP): Experience in providing guidance and support to leadership teams, ensuring successful project completion. Skilled in collaborating with different personalities, offering support to achieve group objectives.

### Plans as a Midyear Regional Meeting Coordinator

As a candidate for the position, my primary goals are to strengthen student engagement, enhance collaboration between pharmacy schools, and ensure the seamless execution of the APhA-ASP Midyear Regional Meeting (MRM). To achieve these goals, I will work closely with local chapters to promote the event through targeted outreach, including social media campaigns and virtual information sessions. I will focus on increasing participation by promoting MRM to every pharmacy school in the region through outreach events and being a valuable resource for any questions that may arise regarding the event and fostering connections with student leaders to encourage broader representation. By working closely with Regional Delegates and the APhA-ASP MRM liaison, I aim to facilitate effective communication and create meaningful experiences for attendees and help pursue stand-out representation across Region 4.

I believe in the mission of APhA-ASP to empower student pharmacists and provide them with opportunities to develop as future healthcare leaders. APhA-ASP plays a crucial role in shaping future pharmacy leaders by providing educational opportunities, advocacy platforms, and professional development resources. My philosophy is that active participation in APhA-ASP programs fosters growth, confidence, and a deeper understanding of our profession regardless of your level of participation.

As the APhA-ASP Midyear Regional Meeting (MRM) Coordinator, I will focus on increasing awareness and

encouraging participation through a comprehensive strategy:
Engaging Digital Campaigns: I will leverage social media platforms and email newsletters to share dynamic content such as student testimonials, event highlights, and success stories from previous MRMs. By using visual content like videos and infographics, I can effectively showcase the value of attending, inspiring students to participate across

the chapters in Region 4.

Collaboration with Local Chapters: I plan to partner with APhA-ASP local chapters to promote MRMs at their meetings, during events, and across their communication platforms. By providing chapters with ready-made promotional materials through email or messaging and encouraging them to share these with their members, I aim to build excitement and anticipation across the region.

Interactive Webinars and Info Sessions: Hosting virtual webinars or Q&A sessions will allow me to introduce the

MRM agenda, keynote speakers, and the numerous educational and networking opportunities available. These interactive sessions will give students a clear understanding of the value they'll gain by attending.

Faculty and Preceptor Involvement: I will work closely with faculty advisors and preceptors, highlighting the MRM as a critical professional development opportunity. By engaging advisors who are active within APhA, I will encourage them to share their experiences with local chapters, promoting MRM and APhA-ASP participation. In addition, encouraging virtual participation for chapters that may face logistical challenges will be a key strategy. Fostering collaboration between chapters to co-host MRMs will also enhance networking and create lasting experiences, aligning with APhA-ASP's mission of empowering student pharmacists and helping them develop as future healthcare leaders.