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Previous Leadership and Experience

At the local level, I am currently serving as President-elect of the University of Kansas APhA-ASP Chapter. Last year, as a first-year student pharmacist, I served on the Operation Heart Committee. I have recently been appointed to the Media and Publications Subcommittee of IPSF PARO. Within the Phi Lambda Sigma chapter at the University of Kansas School of Pharmacy, I currently am a peer mentor, serve on the Leadership Challenge Committee, and was recognized as member of the month in September 2024. I was also nationally recognized as a member of the PLS Leader Academy 2024 Cohort, being one of the only second-year student pharmacists selected. As a brother of the Kappa Psi Rho Chapter, I currently serve on the social committee. I am also a Student Ambassador and the class representative on the Assessments and Outcomes Committee of the University of Kansas School of Pharmacy. Within our state pharmacy association, KPhA, I am the student representative on the Education Committee.

While serving on the Operation Heart committee, I developed a strong foundation by learning how to plan and how to execute events. Taking this active role helped to foster my organizational skills. As Chapter President-elect, I have collaborated with fellow leaders to make an impact on my fellow student pharmacists, patients, and on the community. My peer mentor and ambassador positions have helped me to develop my communication skills, and I have been able to draw on my past experiences to empower others. The social committee and the leadership challenge committees have shown me how effective it can be to work as a team to achieve specific goals. The KPhA Education Committee and Assessments and Outcomes Committee allows me to interact with current professionals including professors, pharmacists, deans, and the KPhA board while serving as the sole student voice on these committees. Knowing the impact of this representation, I am able to use my voice to amplify the ideas and concerns of student pharmacists across the state of Kansas. While I have not yet begun my journey with the IPSF PARO team, I am excited to work with others on a larger scale and to collaborate with a team and work towards goals beyond the chapter level.

Talents and Skills

To be able to advocate for others, the spokesperson must embrace the values, the ideas, and the concerns of others. If the leader is not in touch with the group consensus, they will not gain the respect of others. I have witnessed how impactful it can be to make connections with others. An aid to developing connections is effective communication. I personally have worked on improving my communication skills and will continue to do so in future roles.

Along with developing a connection with peers through effective communication skills, the Midyear Regional Meeting Coordinator must also be a leader. A leader is someone who internalizes the thoughts and concerns brought forth in the group and then can make a concise decision that is best for the group going forward. They must also ensure that the decision is put into action.

Throughout my collective experiences, I have learned to empower others and to encourage them to go outside of their comfort zone. I feel that this is important for policy because no matter how hard the student pharmacists work, there will always be obstacles and failures to overcome. The hard part of policy is all the small steps a proposal, bill, proclamation, or any kind of statement that is wanting to be heard takes. These small steps can drain a person's faith in the policy process, especially because they can be shut down at any point, and typically without a rhyme or reason. I would love to be a cheerleader for those that are brave enough to enter the policy process and to help them have faith in themselves when it can be hard; I want to teach student pharmacists how to strengthen their voice to advocate for themselves and our future profession.

Plans as a Midyear Regional Meeting Coordinator

My main goals as MRMC would be to ignite passion, to facilitate MRM, and to encourage others to reach their full potential through their involvement in APhA-ASP. To ignite passion, I would like to create new ways to get students more involved in different ways throughout the year. Some ideas I have involve using special opportunities at the other APhA conferences to prepare and excite students for MRM2025. This would include advocating for a discount on meeting registration for students attending multiple conferences. I would like to empower and encourage student pharmacists by hosting office hours, creating a social media campaign, a newsletter, and by being a cheerleader for those that are furthering their involvement in APhA and other pharmacy organizations.

APhA is there for all students to not only further themselves in their personal careers, but also to help them get involved to advance the future of pharmacy. As Midyear Regional Meeting Coordinator, I will promote these ideals by helping chapters find their personal growth, as well as assisting in finding collaboration amongst the chapters. I believe that there is strength in numbers, and the more we can grow together will help us all to grow individually as well.

My first mission as MRMC would be to get more pre-pharmacy students to be able to attend MRM. To facilitate this, I will expand upon the created MRM Planning Guide to include resources and tools for including pre-pharmacy students specifically for the On-Campus option. By fostering this connection early on, not only will the pre-pharmacy student feel an increased connection to APhA-ASP and the profession upon starting pharmacy school, but it is also a great opportunity to increase the meeting attendance at schools across the nation. This also opens the opportunity to bring in pre-pharmacy specific programming, such as someone who can help to prepare them for the application and transition into graduate school. Another idea would include a brainstorming workshop during the Friday networking events to allow students time to work on applications and topics to discuss application business. Along with pre-pharmacy, I would like to further engage student pharmacists as well. I would like the Region 6 On-Campus and Online watch parties to be just as exciting as the in-person events. To accomplish this, I would like to give them unique opportunities to socialize with other students and play games throughout the day to entice student pharmacists to stay interested the entire weekend. I would do this by expanding on the work of the previous team, actively seeking feedback from students, and implementing new activities to best fit the needs of student pharmacists throughout the region. Throughout the year, I would like to engage with chapters to receive feedback that not only helps the student pharmacists feel seen, but also expands upon the work that has been done to make this conference an energetic and positive environment.

Also, I would like to make the Onsite event a more accessible opportunity. To achieve this, I want to reach out to our region's opportunities, including schools, state associations, and other financial resources to see if they would be interested in sponsoring students.