

APhA-ASP Regional Officer Elections

Candidate for Midyear Regional Meeting Coordinator - Region 8



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Previous Leadership and Experience

I have previously served as the Chair of Operation Substance Use Disorder (SUD) for my local APhA-ASP chapter. I currently serve as the Policy Vice President for my local APhA-ASP chapter. Other experiences I have include serving as a member on the CSHP Healthcare Reform Committee as well as an advisor for the Loveridge Summer Fellowship Program at the state level. I also currently serve as one of the co-chairs responsible for organizing our state's Pharmacy Leadership Seminar. At the local level, I serve as the President for our cohort, the Vice President of Academic Affairs for our Student Government, the Liaison for our Student Ambassador Program among other roles such as a Supplemental Instructor and Pharmacy Intern for an independent community pharmacy.

I have come appreciate what it means for advocate for our profession through my experiences at the local and state levels. As Chair of Operation SUD, I got to work on promoting medication safety and destigmatizing SUD in my local community. It was a privilege connecting with community members and showing them how pharmacists as the medication experts can promote safe medication use and have both open and honest conversations around substance use. Seeing the impact I can have on others by having these conversations inspired me to take on a more proactive role to support the profession at the state level. This led to my current service as a committee member on our state association's Healthcare Reform Committee. I wanted to not only understand issues impacting the delivery of healthcare as it pertains to pharmacists, but understand what is being done to address these issues. I carry this passion with me everyday as I serve as the current Policy Vice President for my chapter. It inspires to go beyond what has been done before when it becomes to highlighting pharmacy legislation and advocacy efforts. I am helping lead the organization for our annual Legislative Day event and I can say that my experiences as Operation SUD Chair have inspired me to create a community-centric Legislative Day event. An event that does not simply recite the importance of pharmacy legislation and advocacy, but goes beyond that to show why this matters at the community level.

I want to bring that sense of purpose of serving the community to my role as an APhA-ASP Regional Officer.

Talents and Skills

I have prior experience with organizing large scale events and with collaborating with multiple stakeholders to promote engagement and new ideas when organizing such events. These include events such as Legislative Day, an annual educational event for middle school students called Kids' Day, local health fairs and will soon come to organize a state-wide pharmacy leadership seminar.

More importantly, I am a team player and believe in the idea of synergy. I will be one of eight, if not more, student leaders who will be helping organize MRM. I understand what we can accomplish when we work together as one and how that synergy we develop as a team will drive us far. I will always be there no matter what, contributing to new projects and bringing in new ideas to start a conversation. If anyone needs help or perspective regarding something on their mind, I will always be there to provide support. Therefore, my understanding of the position, prior experience in organizing large scale events and appreciation of the dynamics involved with the position make me uniquely qualified to run as MRM Coordinator.

Plans as a Midyear Regional Meeting Coordinator

APhA-ASP is the platform to empower student pharmacists to connect with their national association. It's purpose is to help build the leaders of tomorrow by providing them with the opportunity to become ground-breaking and consequential through their work today.

My goals as MRM Coordinator is to work alongside my fellow MRM Coordinators and convey this message to student pharmacists nationwide. I plan to do so by highlighting the importance of the policy process as a whole and by demonstrating the impact that this process has on a community level. I want for future MRMs to motivate students to care about pharmacy legislation and advocacy not because they need to, but because they want to.

My goals as MRM Coordinator are to promote the importance of the policy process to student pharmacists and by showing students how focusing on the policy process can help advance their understanding of the profession. I also want to increase the networking opportunities that student pharmacists will come to have at future MRMs by fostering meaningful connections with those who we hope to invite the these meetings. Whether that includes pharmacy leaders and professionals at the national level as well as legislators, I want to help bring a new mission and vision to future MRMs. A mission and vision where we highlight the importance of why it matters that we care about issues impacting our communities, not only as healthcare providers and policy experts but as community members and individual human beings. Becoming a policy advocate is not only about what you can do for the profession but it is about what you can do for your community.