

Boldly Responding to the Academy's Needs
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It is an honor and a privilege to return to the 2008 AACP House of Delegates to provide this brief report on the progress we have made in the last twelve months. In Orlando I outlined a bold agenda for the Association's efforts to meet the needs of our members. There were three top priorities identified and substantive progress has been made on each of these by your leaders.

Faculty Recruitment and Retention

Without sufficient faculty who are adequately prepared to teach, provide outstanding clinical and administrative service and succeed as scholars, pharmacy education can not fulfill its societal objectives effectively. I challenged each level of governance within the Association to identify one high impact action area related to faculty recruitment and retention as a priority this year and your leaders responded.

This includes the AACP Board of Directors whose work appears in three phases. Initially we collated all existing resources related to faculty recruitment and development, organizing them in a descriptive brochure to make programs like Education Scholar and the New Investigator Program more visible and accessible, especially to new faculty. A new module of Education Scholar was released to specifically support those faculty and preceptors engaged in clinical education.

A new program of communication was initiated with several components. *AACP News* was transformed this year into *Academic Pharmacy Now* with in depth stories on the work of faculty across all areas of the academic enterprise. *AACP Careers* was delivered as a separate publication, in 2008 by mail and beginning in 2009 as an electronic job board with the goal of making the available positions at our colleges and schools more visible to a broader audience of prospective faculty. AACP initiated an exhibit program focused on careers in the academy, targeting large meetings of pharmaceutical scientists and practitioners such as the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists and the Midyear Clinical Meeting of ASHP.

The third phase of the Board's recruitment and retention strategy is the launch in 2009 of National Pharmacy Educator Week as part of the October celebration of American Pharmacists Month. A toolkit of resources for local observances will be released in early 2009 and AACP staff will work with the communications staff at member institutions to launch this new program.

Pharmacy Education Assessment Services

A variety of forces are increasing the attention we must pay to the assessment of our students, our curriculum and other elements of our academic program. With the excellent advice and supervision of the AACP Institutional Research and Assessment Committee we are developing an array of new program elements under the umbrella of Pharmacy Education Assessment Services or PEAS.

The heart of PEAS is the ongoing portfolio of now ten institutional research surveys that allow us to benchmark our programs against national norms and peer comparisons. In addition to these, the newly launched AACP web site will offer several new features for those responsible for local assessment initiatives. In the section of the web dedicated to PEAS members will be able to upload and find assessment tools used at theirs and other institutions. A discussion board will facilitate information sharing about various approaches to assessment and how assessment findings influence curricular change and related matters.

AACP has also initiated development, jointly with the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education, of an online self-study management system to help schools organize their assessment information and prepare for their periodic review by ACPE. Regional accreditation agencies are moving in the direction of electronic submission of self-studies and ACPE has indicated it will do likewise. Our goal is to lighten the administrative burdens of managing your assessment program and accreditation activities by launching this online resource in 2009.

Outreach to Member Institutions

Last year I announced that AACP was initiating a program of outreach to member institutions, aiming over a period of several years to be on every AACP member campus. We emphasize that these are not accreditation site visits but instead are opportunities to engage in more intimate dialogue with you and learn about the unique aspects of your institution and your programs.

Each of the almost 20 visits completed this year were distinct and an excellent relationship building opportunity. To those we visited, thank you for your outstanding hospitality. We look forward to continuing this program for years to come and to eventually visiting each of our member institutions.

In addition to these priorities in faculty recruitment and retention, assessment services and outreach, our standing committees and task forces did outstanding work. This morning you heard Jonathan Peck summarize key issues identified in the Argus Commission study of education and science in 2029. There is much in their report to stimulate our thinking about curriculum and student development.

The Educating Clinical Scientist II Task Force should stimulate activity in both our Social and Administrative Sciences and Pharmacy Practice sections as these members look to take maximum advantage of new funding priorities in clinical and translational research such as the CTSAs. Their report has curricular and accreditation implications as well.

It has been great fun and an honor to serve as AACP President this year. Of course one person does not make all of these things that I've mentioned this morning happen singlehandedly. There are many individuals to thank, including our committee chairs, fellow board members and the AACP staff. Special thanks to my dean Arthur Nelson, my colleague Roland Patry and my husband Cab Bond for the support they consistently

provided me as I served the Association this year. With all this great leadership AACP is poised to think globally, act locally and work boldly to meet your needs.