

Speaker Communiqué - January 2012

Dear Colleagues:

At this point in the 2011-12 academic year, we are anticipating the spring excitement in pharmacy education that involves APPE placements, preparation for graduation for many, and planning for the AACP Annual Meeting. In addition to posters, special sessions, and awards presentations, the policy work of the House of Delegates is developing behind the scenes. This Speaker Communiqué offers insights into two key committees. The Bylaws and Policy Development Committee and a special committee I appointed in July (Committee on Delegate Engagement and Deployment, CODED).

Before summarizing the work of these committees, I would note that our current mailing list of delegates includes a) delegates who served in 2011 and will serve again in 2012, b) delegates who served in 2011 and will not serve in 2012 but whose replacements have not yet been appointed or communicated to AACP, and c) delegates newly appointed to the 2012 AACP House of Delegates. We need a current roster of delegates who will serve in 2012. Please communicate these appointments of delegates and alternates to the AACP office (Angie Edwards at aedwards@aacp.org) to ensure that all future communications of the House arrive in the correct inboxes in a timely fashion as we approach the July meeting.

The Bylaws and Policy Development Committee (BPDC), chaired by Dr. Susan Meyer and with the support of President Crabtree and myself, will marshal the newly proposed business of the House forward in an orderly fashion. In addition, the BPDC is working in two subgroups to analyze the role of policy in AACP. Examples of key questions are:

- How should AACP define policy in the 21st century?
- How is policy developed?
- From where should it come?
- What should it accomplish?
- What is the Delegate's role?
- What is the role of Councils, Sections, SIGs, institutional members, and individual members?

The BPDC will generate fresh or even controversial ideas that will continue to advance the work of the House.

The CODED volunteers, headed by Dr. Sandy Zito, are considering best practices for AACP delegate and alternative delegate selection and engagement. The committee will solicit input from a representative sample of colleges and schools for examples of effective models for electing delegates, engaging faculty in AACP proposed new business and policies, and managing transitions. Your ideas could be provided directly to Dr. Zito by email. Recommendations may be incorporated into delegate training or may generate proposed bylaws changes.

Building upon the experience with successful delegate conference calls from 2011, we plan to host new delegate orientation calls early in 2012. Such calls would provide an early overview of delegate responsibilities and equip those new to the AACP policy process with insights that will better prepare them to execute duties of the delegate, including garnering input from faculty on the business coming before the 2012 House. AACP will communicate the timing of such calls soon and is also exploring the opportunity to capture the call information for web posting to maximize availability of such information.

The aim of all of our work is to insure that the policy development and other responsibilities in our House of Delegates governance process is clear to all participants and runs as efficiently and effectively as possible. The timely appointment of delegates, clear and concise communications, and appropriate preparation of all who are involved in House business combine to help us meet our goals.

The upcoming House of Delegates agenda will include election of a Speaker-elect. The Speaker-elect serves a transition year and then serves as Speaker (and a member of the AACP Board) for two years. If you like refining policy, debating issues in real time, and maintaining order among deans and faculty delegates from all of our schools, this opportunity could be for you. Please consider submitting your name for consideration for slating when you receive a notice from the Nominations Committee.

Your input in each step of this work is welcome! Please don't hesitate to contact me, your Speaker, or House Secretary Maine with questions, comments and recommendations.

Sincerely,

Speaker Boyle