

April 2010

Dear AACP Delegates and Alternates:

The end of the Spring semester/quarter is in sight and that means that policy statements and resolutions that you'll be considering at the House this summer in Seattle are being finalized. You will be receiving your House of Delegates (HOD) Bulletin at the end of the month which will contain the preliminary report of the Bylaws and Policy Development Committee (BPDC). The committee report, and Board of Directors activity, will require action by the House that I'd like to highlight for you in this *Communiqué*.

First, AACP Board of Directors and staff have worked tirelessly this year in developing a new Strategic Plan and Mission Statement that propose future directions and opportunities for academic pharmacy to serve as a leader in this new era of health care reform. The proposed AACP Strategic Plan will be sent for delegate review and discussion in your colleges/schools in the next several weeks and, as described in our Bylaws, will be voted on by the HOD this year in Seattle.

Second, as many of you are aware from the work during the 2009 Annual meeting in Boston, we, as the HOD, have the responsibility to conduct a review of the AACP dues structure and approve changes as appropriate. The last AACP membership dues increase took place in 2001. Based on the initiatives elaborated in the proposed Strategic Plan and with the recommendation of the Board of Directors, the HOD will be debating and voting on a change in institutional dues in Seattle.

In addition, the 2009-10 Bylaws and Policy Development Committee (BPDC) has been working on its preliminary report for this year. The report includes resolutions for new member schools and an amended policy statement from the 2009 Advocacy committee report. Another important item from the 2009-10 BPDC is the request to the Speaker to assist delegates, councils, sections and members understand the difference between policy proposals for educational issues and other HOD business, as well as the role for non-binding recommendations and suggestions that communicate ideas/concerns from groups and members. To assist with this, I put together a few examples of each in order to highlight the differences.

**A Policy Statement** is an expression of Association positions, values, and beliefs consistent with the mission of AACP. Proposed policies are considered by the BPDC and accepted by action of the House of Delegates. Policies are compiled and referenced for use with external and internal audiences. Policy may be established by the HOD in response to three types of actions:

1. a *resolution* arising from any of the Association's organizational units (e.g., board of directors, councils, sections, SIGs, or a group of individual members)
2. a *policy established by the Board of Directors* between meetings of the HOD
3. a *proposed policy statement* contained in the written report of the Association's standing or special committees

Note: A "proposed policy statement" arises from a standing/special committee of the Association. Because their written reports provide substantial background of the issues,

standing and special committees submit policies for House action in this form rather than as a resolution.

**Policy Statement Example:**

“The official position of AACP is to support a single entry-level educational program at the doctoral level (Pharm.D.) that is at least four professional academic years in length, and follows preprofessional instruction of sufficient quality and length (two-year minimum) to prepare applicants for doctoral-level education. (Source: *Board of Directors, 1992*)”

A **Recommendation** is a written statement from any component of the Association suggesting that another component consider a particular action. A recommendation should NOT be targeted at the colleges and schools or faculty members themselves. Recommendations reflect the sense of an Association component (committees, other Association subunits, or ad hoc units) and do not require action by the HOD. They are considered by the Board of Directors and, if deemed appropriate, forwarded to the target subunit of the Association for disposition. They need not be considered by the BPDC unless an AACP Standing Committee wishes to add its endorsement (which itself does not require HOD action). If the BPDC, the HOD, or anyone else desires the HOD to take action on a recommendation, the appropriate mechanism is to change the recommendation into a resolution to be considered as described above.

**Recommendation Example:**

“In addition to its existing leadership/training activities, AACP should develop and distribute development and training programs for academic managers as distinct from academic leadership. (Source: *Argus Commission, 1998*)”

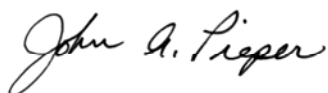
A **Suggestion** is a written statement from an Association committee to AACP member colleges and schools (or individual faculty members or administrators) that they consider a particular action. The suggestion is based on the committee’s deliberation of the charges before it. No Association action is taken on Suggestions.

**Suggestion Example:**

“Schools and colleges of pharmacy should adopt, as part of their institutional mission, the charge to develop leaders and/or foster leadership development as part of the educational process.”

Finally, the election of Speaker-elect will occur in Seattle during the 2010 Annual Meeting. The Speaker-elect serves one year (non-board position) prior to assuming the duties of Speaker in a the last HOD session at the Annual meeting in July 2011. He/she will preside over the 2012 and 2013 House of Delegates. For more information, please contact myself or Dr. Lucinda L. Maine. Nominations for this position are due to AACP by May 1, 2010.

Thank you in advance for your representation and participation in the AACP House. Please do not hesitate to contact me with questions about these or other issues or the processes of the House of Delegates. I look forward to seeing you in Seattle in July!



Speaker of the House  
American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy