

Proposed Resolution from the Section of Teachers of Chemistry

Whereas the Academic Affairs Committee is a standing Committee of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP), and

Whereas the Academic Affairs Committee membership includes both pharmacy faculty and AACP staff, and

Whereas the disseminated and published reports of the Academic Affairs Committee are recognized as official communications of AACP, and

Whereas the 2007 Academic Affairs Committee report states that “The disappearance of medicinal chemistry from the professional curricula at some new colleges and schools of pharmacy marks a major shift in the way that pharmacy students are educated”, and

Whereas the structure and chemical properties of a drug molecule determines its solubility, absorption, metabolism, selectivity, mechanism of action, appropriateness for dosage formulations, and ability to produce therapeutic effects, and

Whereas a knowledge of the chemical characteristics and behavior of drug molecules *in vivo* and *in vitro* is both foundational and unique to the profession of pharmacy, and

Whereas, the newly adopted Accreditation Standards and Guidelines for the Professional Program in Pharmacy Leading to the Doctor of Pharmacy Degree (Standards 2007) states that “The biomedical, pharmaceutical, social/behavioral/administrative, and clinical sciences must be of adequate depth, scope, timeliness, quality, sequence, and emphasis to provide the foundation and support for the intellectual and clinical objectives of the professional degree program. The sciences must provide the basis for understanding the development and use of medications and other therapies for the treatment and prevention of disease” (Standard 13, Guideline 13.1), and

Whereas Standards 2007 further states that “Today’s ever-changing health care environment requires a pharmacy practitioner to be knowledgeable and competent in the following areas critical to the foundation and delivery of effective patient care” (Appendix B), and

Whereas Standards 2007 includes the pharmaceutical science of medicinal chemistry in its list of critical curriculum content areas (Appendix B),

Therefore, be it resolved that the AACP leadership, including the Board of Directors and the Executive Vice President, identify mechanisms to visibly and publicly affirm that medicinal chemistry is an essential component of the professional education of contemporary practitioners, and

Be it further resolved that the AACP leadership communicate to the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) its expectation that any School or College of Pharmacy that does not incorporate medicinal chemistry (or any other essential discipline) into their required professional curriculum will be viewed as non-compliant with Standards 2007, and

Be it further resolved that the AACP leadership also communicate to ACPE its expectation that medicinal chemistry offered within the professional program of all Schools and Colleges of Pharmacy will be taught by faculty with documented expertise in this essential discipline.