

AACP Pharmacy Practice Section Membership Committee Annual Report, June 2008

Members: Steven Scott (Chair, Purdue University)
Dawn Knudsen (Midwestern University – Glendale)
Melody Ryan (University of Kentucky)
Anne Marie Liles (Auburn University)

Charges:

1. Facilitate the implementation of strategies that were developed by the 2006-07 Membership Committee to retain and increase membership of the Section.
2. Facilitate the implementation of strategies that were developed by the 2006-07 Membership Committee to increase active participation in Section activities. A particular focus should be on the participation of younger faculty members in the Section's business sessions.
3. Develop a mid-year and annual report for inclusion in the section business meetings at the 2007 ASHP Mid-year meeting and the 2008 AACP annual meeting.

The committee communicated via email endorsing the plan from the previous year's committee (see below). With the possibility of open membership being implemented in the near future, the committee decided to defer any specific efforts until that matter is addressed at the annual meeting. Specific actions taken included a letter sent to all Pharmacy Practice department chairs requesting them to encourage their faculty to attend the 2008 annual meeting in Chicago and become active in the affairs of the Pharmacy Practice section. A communication (including specific agenda items) will be sent to all section members in early July encouraging attendance at the Section's business meeting on Sunday, July 20th from 2:45 to 4:15 PM. Solicitation for committee memberships was made earlier this year which should facilitate greater participation by those members not able to attend the annual meeting.

Recommendations of the 2007-08 Membership Committee

1. Strategies to retain and increase membership of the section:
 - a. Send a letter to all new pharmacy practice faculty to encourage them to actively participate in the section.
 - b. Solicit committee chairs and/or committee members (i.e. people already involved in the section) to help spread the word about section activities at their individual institutions.
 - c. Provide junior faculty with some general information about the structure and function of AACP, since many do not have a good understanding of their role in the organization.
 - i. Clarify the difference between a section and a special interest group (SIG) and what each of their purposes is.

2. Strategies to increase active participation in section activities:
 - a. After reviewing the interim report of the Communications Task Force, we believe that improved communication within the section will improve active membership. This especially applies to the recommended enhancements to the AACP website and listserv improvements.
 - b. This year's committee reports will be available to members prior to the annual meeting which should help individuals to stay informed and know what will be discussed at the business meeting.
 - c. Include on the business meeting agenda an interesting or controversial topic to give people another reason to attending the business meeting.
 - i. Focus on key issues common to a large majority of the membership.
 - d. In addition to requesting volunteers for committees, include how the committee members get assigned. Some people may have volunteered in the past but were not placed on a committee and do not know why. We feel they would be more likely to volunteer again in the future if they know why they might not have been chosen.
 - i. In addition to names and institutions, it may be helpful to have more information on the interests of committee volunteers since there are diverse interests within the section.
 - e. The Membership committee chair will send out an email on the listserv the week prior to the AACP annual meeting describing what goes on at the Pharmacy Practice section business meeting and why they should attend.