Reports of the Recipients of the
Grace and Harold Sewell Memorial Fund Stipends
To Attend the
American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy
2017 Annual Meeting

Recipients:
Brook Amen, University of North Texas
Skye Bickett, Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine –
Georgia Campus
Amy J. Chatfield, University of Southern California
Vern Duba, The University of Iowa
Michele Klein Fedyshin, University of Pittsburgh
Neyda Gilman, Binghamton University
Pamela Hargwood, Rutgers University
Alison Konieczny, Ferris State University
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The Grace & Harold Sewell Memorial Fund provided the funding necessary to attend the AACP annual conference in Nashville, Tennessee. As a new librarian, I sincerely appreciate the opportunity to learn directly from seasoned as well as novice librarians. I’ve been working with the pharmacy department on my campus for nearly a year, but still have so much to learn about what I can offer them and what they need from me. This conference gave me an opportunity to meet and talk to faculty members at my institution that I may not have otherwise.

I’ve had the opportunity to attend conferences related to medical librarianship but never one specific to a liaison department and I was thrilled that AACP had a library section. This reinforced the importance of information professionals to the pharmacy programs. I attended the recommended sessions for the Sewell Stipend Recipients and found them very informative. It is evident that some of the challenges students and faculty face at my institution are not exclusive to my campus.

A recurring theme of the sessions I attended, including those specific to the library, was interprofessional education. Our campus provides this aspect of education to the students, even including programs outside of our university, but it was exciting to see other programs including the library. One session in particular discussed the need for quick information access because of the rapid paced environment of the pharmacy. The challenge with this was the information seeker didn’t have a good understanding of the information resources available to them and how to retrieve concise relevant information. I attended two sessions with my faculty mentor both of which had to do with team based learning. After the sessions we thought of ways to incorporate the library into the spring semester curriculum, some of them not traditionally library roles but great ways for both departments to work together. One opportunity including the development of soft skills, attitudes, and professional behaviors and incorporating the library in a way I hadn’t thought of…role playing. This is collaboration I would have missed out on without this conference.

The poster sessions provided an opportunity to ask questions one on one with other librarians and pharmacy faculty, as well as visually see how librarians are incorporated into pharmacy curriculum. I found myself thinking about how we could make these processes work at my institution, and was able to ask the presenters how they accomplished this.

While the entire conference was an amazing learning experience, I have to say the thing it did for me that I haven’t been able to do on my own was network with faculty members from my institution. From the plane ride there to dinners out, I was able to see how they envisioned the library helping in their classrooms as well as promote what I thought we could bring to the table. I went to the meeting having one faculty member to meet and attend sessions with, but left with an entire group I could continue working alongside.
Skye Bickett  
*Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine – Georgia Campus*

I would like to start by thanking the Grace and Harold Sewell Memorial Fund for offering this stipend and the Awards Committee of the Library and Information Science (LIS) Section of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) for selecting me as one of the returning members to receive it.

On Saturday, I attended the Council of Sections meeting and the Visiting Librarians Welcome. The Council of Sections meeting was a good opportunity to get information about changes and opportunities with AACP and what it means to each section. It also allowed me, as the section chair, to speak for my section and what we could offer to AACP. Following this meeting, I attended the Visiting Librarians Welcome; there were many new and returning members in attendance. I, along with other LIS section leaders, shared thoughts about our section and provided information from the Council of Sections meeting with this group. The session titled Challenges and Solutions in Library and Information Science covered several great topics, but the discussion on drug information checklists was most beneficial to me. I came away from that session with actionable items and a sample checklist to share with my faculty.

Directly following this session, I attended the LIS Business Meeting and Opening Reception. The Business Meeting gave me an opportunity to share with all members the changes that the section wanted to make going forward and allow the incoming chair to discuss his initiatives. We received valuable feedback from the membership and focused on just a few projects to work on in the coming year; these projects focus on collaboration and discussion within our online community, AACP Connect.

I attended the session 2020 and Beyond: A Discussion of Technology Trends Facing Academic and Research Libraries to learn more about what technological developments will occur in the next few years. While the information and discussions were useful, the way the session was handled was most beneficial. I learned two new techniques that I’ll be able to use in my courses. These techniques are called Think-Pair-Share and the 3-2-1 Assessment and I plan to implement both in the courses I teach.

This meeting and individual session are always helpful and give me ideas to take back to my institution. It helps inform decisions I make in the library and as a faculty member.
Amy J. Chatfield  
University of Southern California

I appreciate receiving the Grace and Harold Sewell Memorial Fund stipend for first-time attendees to the American Association of College of Pharmacy (AACP) meeting in Nashville, Tennessee in July 2017.

My primary goal of attending this meeting was to expand my understanding of pharmacy education as a discipline, as I have only worked at one institution with a pharmacy school. What are emerging trends? What do pharmacy educators outside of my home institution view as constraints and opportunities in the profession? What are other schools doing in education, both for Pharm D and professional development? How can I best position myself to continue to learn about these trends, constraints, and opportunities, and integrate them into my work? How do pharmacy faculty members prefer to collaborate with faculty outside of their disciplines, and what are some examples of positive collaborations that could inspire me? I was more than able to answer these questions thanks to my experiences at AACP.

I attended the Continuing Professional Development Planning Pearls for CPE session along with Dr. Susie Park, one of my faculty sponsors for this meeting. USC is considering expanding CPE programs into new formats and new locations, leading to questions for me on Open Access and selection, use, and distribution of licensed information resources. This session helped me to understand the CPE planning process on an intellectual level, which will aid me in my work with advising on licensure of materials for these classes.

The Library and Information Science section programming sessions (I attended all three) were very useful for learning about how other librarians and faculty who teach drug information conduct their work, the trends they see that will impact instruction, and how they collaborate to improve instruction, retention, and assessment. One major takeaway from these sessions was seeing how widely practices vary across institutions on responsibility for designing/providing drug information instruction and the methods of integration of drug information instruction throughout the curriculum. These sessions aided me in considering new outreach avenues for faculty and new methods of integrating drug information instruction, as well as providing interesting considerations regarding how I might advocate for different kinds of instructional opportunities within the Pharm D curriculum.

The session “How to develop critical thinking skills in pharmacy students” was the session I was most looking forward to attending, and it did not disappoint. I have been discussing critical thinking skills in education with Dr. Ian Haworth, my second faculty sponsor from USC, for the past year. We have been discussing concepts within critical thinking like the fixed vs. growth mindset, epistemical knowledge, and metacognition, but were struggling with how to identify specific critical thinking deficits and apply methods to improve critical thinking in our instruction and course design. Dr. Melissa Medina, the speaker for this session, clearly described student behavior and actions we might observe in a classroom, attributed these behaviors/actions to a deficit of one of the aspects of critical thinking, and gave strategies we
could use to help develop the specific skill(s) that students lack. This content, the session’s ensuing discussion among attendees, and further discussions with Dr. Haworth have already impacted the way I approach designing classes I teach in the summer to Pharmacy residents, and I will continue to use these ideas in course planning for Pharm D students in the fall.

With limited space in this report, I cannot elaborate on all the sessions I attended in this same depth. However, I found similar pearls in every session and poster I attended: either the session directly addressed the questions I created prior to the conference, or provided new questions that expanded my thinking about education for Pharm D students. The wealth of knowledge I gained will take me some time to digest, but will have application to all areas of my liaison librarian work. I appreciate receiving this stipend, and would highly recommend and encourage other librarians to attend future AACP meetings.
Vern Duba  
The University of Iowa

Thank you to the Grace and Harold Sewell Memorial Fund for the stipend award to attend the 2017 Annual Meeting of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP). I appreciate the support to attend my fourteenth meeting since 2002. A special thank you to Leslie Bowman for her work coordinating the application and distribution of the awards.

I arrived Saturday to attend the Library and Information Science Section: Visiting Librarians Welcome and was pleased to meet first-timers as well as old friends. After, I attended the AACP Welcome Reception.

Sunday was a full day with the Kevin E. Lofton’s Opening General Session: Building Bridges in a Dynamic, Ever-Changing Health Care Environment. It was interesting to hear perspectives from a CEO of a large health-systems organization. After I attended the Continuing Professional Development Section: Continuing Pharmacy Education (CPE): Planning Pearls. Part of my responsibilities at Iowa include faculty teaching development program and this session proved to be helpful in providing tips which transfer application to organizing and delivering CPD programs. The following session continued that theme. Mini Session: Faculty and Preceptor Development: An Interprofessional Objective Structured Teaching Experience Simulation provided OSTE simulations used at the University of Kansas. Again many of the skills transfer to what I do for the Iowa COP Teaching Center. The rest of the day focused on the LIS Section. The Library and Information Science Section: Challenges and Solutions in Library and Information Science was informative in that we hear a wide variety of topics in overview and then focused active discussion on two topics of our choosing. The Library and Information Science Section: Business Meeting followed at which as secretary I was recorder of the minutes. At the conclusion, I was installed as Chair-Elect. That evening I attended the Iowa dinner at the Rovello. This was time to meet colleagues from the University of Iowa delegation and recap the day.

Monday started with the Library and Information Science Section: Elevating Evidence-Based Medicine Skills Through a Sequence of Practical Activities in Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experiences. It was interesting to see the application of EBM in APPEs at The University of Minnesota. I then attended the Mini Session: Development of an Elective Course on the Medical Use of Cannabis. This topic is of growing interest for health care professionals and will need to be part of the health information retrieval curriculum. I teach that course for first-year students and will include information gained from this session on the sources for drug interactions, administration, and pharmacokinetics. After I attended a fascinating Special Session: Death Over Dinner—Beginning the Conversation About the End of Life. I learned a great deal about end-of-life issues that will benefit me professional and personally. I stopped by the Exhibit Hall to pick up my boxed lunch and visit the Research/Education Poster Session. Then I prepared for my presentation for the Library and Information Science Section: 2020 and Beyond: A Discussion of Technology Trends Facing Academic and Research Libraries. I covered the New Media Consortium’s Horizon Report and facilitated small group discussion of
challenges facing academic librarians and how best to prepare for technological change. Immediately following was the Library and Information Science Section: Professional Resources Committee Meeting. I have been an active contributor for several sections of the Basic Resources for Pharmacy Education over the years. The meeting discussion included future assignments as well as information about the Core List of Journals. After the meeting we met for the LIS Section Dinner. It is always fun to socialize with old and new friends. This year Jack Daniels Restaurant was the perfect setting for some local cuisine and good fun.

Tuesday started with the Mini Session: Please...No More...Make It Stop: Effective Alternatives to Boring Narrated Slideshows on the Internet. I picked up some helpful tips on how to produce better pre-class videos for my flipped classroom. The Mini Session: Too Many Cooks: Coordinating Exam Creation With a Large Number of Question Writers was informative and applicable with information that I can apply to creating exams. I found Mini Session: Resources for Teaching and Practicing Evidence-Based Pharmacogenomics helpful in that I learned of some resources of information that can be used in my health information retrieval course. The Mini Session: An Alternative to Traditional Student Ratings of Teaching for Course CQI topic of sampling students for course evaluation was of interest for me. I caught the last hour of the overlapping session History of Pharmacy SIG: What I Learned About My Students’ Writing Skills From Teaching the History of Pharmacy. I incorporate writing skills into my health information retrieval course and found several pieces of information helpful for improving those assignments.

I stayed for two Wednesday sessions Mini Session: Confronting Multiple Choice Questions: A Strategy for Moving from Flawed to (Nearly) Flawless and Mini Session: Designing Performance-Based Assessments: Application of the Absorb-Do-Connect Learning Framework. Both provided helpful information that apply directly to what I do in the classroom. The first provided an overview of creating multiple choice questions to eliminate cluing of answers. The second provided good examples of how rubrics can improve performance-based assessment.

Each year I learn something new and directly applicable to my teaching. I value my membership in AACP and am grateful that the Grace and Harold Sewell Memorial Fund helps offset my travel expenses making attendance possible.
The Dean of the School of Pharmacy (SoP) shared with our library director the invitation to apply to the Sewell Fund Stipend for financial assistance in attending the AACP as a first-time attendee. As the liaison to the School of Pharmacy, and having never attended the AACP, I was excited to learn about the opportunity to attend this conference in participation with my school.

As soon as I received notification of my award and shared this with my mentor, Dr. Susan Meyer invited me over to the SOP to confer about the conference schedule. We shared our mutual interests and phone numbers with plans to rendezvous at the meeting. The Library and Information Sciences section Welcome Reception introduced to many health sciences librarians I had never met and reacquainted me with one whom I knew years ago. We shared many common concerns about meeting the needs of our Pharmacy faculty and students.

At the opening session, my faculty liaison texted me her location, and we met to hear Keynote Speaker Kevin Lofton together. Learning what is important to pharmacy faculty gives me insights I didn’t have before.

The Library and Information Sciences session on challenges and solutions, followed by the business meeting, gave me an overview of how other librarians addressed pharmacists’ knowledge needs, problems that needed attention and what the group was doing as an organization to solve informational issues. One feature that interested me was the promotion of Journal Clubs being used at other schools. The informal dinner with LIS members allowed me to network with them and become familiar with these individuals at a more personal level. I particularly enjoyed the sessions on resources for teaching and practicing Evidence-Based pharmacogenetics and Pharmacogenomics education as this has special relevance to my work. The guidance and discussion from Pharmacy Journals panel was very interesting, and I found their handouts useful.

During the LIS Professional Resources Committee Meeting, I offered my solution to the information needs of our Pharmacy Preceptors by suggesting they examine my web page listing free resources by topic. In addition, I volunteered to assist with their journal review project. I learned a new technique to solve group challenges. In several instances, “Round-tabling” was used to brain-storm solutions.

Attending the AACP conference enabled me to meet with my Global Health Systematic Review Committee giving me a chance to meet people from all over the country with whom I was working on this project.
I would like to thank the Sewell Memorial Fund for awarding me this stipend. I greatly appreciate the opportunity to share time and mutual interests with the School of Pharmacy faculty members and become better aquatinted with them.
Neyda Gilman  
Binghamton University

I am extremely grateful to have received a Grace and Harold Sewell Memorial Fund Stipend to attend AACP. Attending the conference was an invaluable experience to me as a new pharmacy librarian. AACP offers the unique opportunity of being involved with a discipline focused group that also has a section for librarians. Through AACP I am able to connect with the pharmacy faculty at my institution, other pharmacy librarians, and pharmacy faculty from other institutions with a wide range of experiences and responsibilities.

While at the AACP conference in Nashville I attended all of the LIS sections, as well as a few other academic sessions. The first session I attended was the LIS welcome session for visiting librarians where I learned more about AACP and was able to meet other pharmacy librarians and drug informationists. The next day I was able to make it to a non-LIS session: Cofactors and Hormones, a session sponsored by the chemistry section of AACP. I found this to be interesting since all four presenters spoke about each vitamin from their own point of view including aspects of biochemistry, drug-nutrient interaction, nutrient-disease relationship, and drug management. This session was also personally appealing to me as the presenters went into details about various vitamins. This allowed me to learn more about some of the various expertise and interests of pharmaceutical scientists. After this session I attended the Challenges and Solutions in Library and Information Science session. This was an informative panel session that brought up some important things to consider including how to best provide for the school’s preceptors and their information needs. One of the speakers was especially noteworthy to me as she was discussing building a library collection for a new pharmacy program, which is something I am currently doing.

The next morning, I attended a LIS session on Evidence-Based Medicine Skills. In addition to my own interest in this session, one of my pharmacy faculty members asked me to attend since she thought it would be useful but was unable to attend herself. Even though it was a short session, it was a helpful session. I learned more about the APPE process in general and got some ideas on how to create, and help create, evidence-based activities in the future. I was also able to attend the science plenary session which was on the opioid crisis and the science behind the various drugs involved. This was an informative session where I learned a lot on a topic I previously knew very little about. After the plenary I attended a session on diversity. Diversity sessions have always been interesting and personally relevant to me. It was thought provoking to attend this particular session since I am not yet that familiar with the culture and state of diversity at my institution. Being new at my institution I have not had many opportunities to explore this topic and since the pharmacy school itself is brand new, there is still a lot to consider in regard to many things, including diversity issues. The final educational session I attended on this day was another short but very insightful session. It was the LIS section discussion on technology trends. Most of this session was group discussion where we looked at the latest New Media Consortium report and discussed our own challenges. Looking at this report from my point of view with a new and growing pharmacy school helped me identify and be aware of some the challenges I’ll be facing.
The last day of the conference I went to a session on making effective videos. This was especially timely for me since I am currently working on making a video explaining the PICO model of evidence-based research. I then attended another diversity session which focused on recruitment and cross-cultural awareness. Although I do not have a role in recruitment, I found it informative to learn what other institutions face and how they have progressed. The next session I attended was a mini session that discussed various resources for teaching evidence-based pharmacogenetics. Many of the resources reviewed were resources I was not familiar with such as the Royal Dutch Association for the Advancement of Pharmacy Pharmacogenetics Working Group. I look forward to exploring these resources more and using them in the future. There was another mini session directly after which was on connecting basic science with clinical practice concepts. Although not directly related to my job, it allowed me to get a better understanding of teaching pharmaceutical sciences and problems my pharmacy faculty may face. The next session I attend was similar in that it also wasn't directly relevant to me but still highly informative. It was on publishing on innovations done in the classroom. I not only got ideas about active learning activities, but also got an overview of writing/publishing techniques. Both areas may be usefully for myself in the future and also to share with faculty.

In addition to these academic sessions I attended the opening and closing sessions and all of the LIS committee and business meetings. The entire experience was extremely informative and beneficial. The sessions I attended gave me a better understanding of what my pharmacy faculty do and need, which will allow me to better communicate with them. I also learned about resources and techniques that I can use as a librarian. Finally, being able to attend this conference with my faculty allowed me to build relationships that I would not have been able to otherwise. This conference was assuredly one of the best and most beneficial conferences I have attended. I am extremely grateful for the stipend and opportunity to attend.
Receiving the Sewell Fund stipend to attend the 2017 AACP Conference in Nashville, TN was a truly beneficial experience, starting with the LIS Visiting Librarians Welcome to meet the other stipend recipients all the way through to the Closing Reception.

The Visiting Librarians Welcome was a great way to kick off the conference. It was nice to meet members of the LIS section along with the other stipend recipients in order to know a few faces in the crowd of over 2400 conference attendees. Hearing past attendees opinions of what sessions were useful to attend was helpful and a great way to narrow down choices when looking through the programming schedule.

After the LIS Welcome, we went over to the main AACP Welcome Reception. Not only was I able to continue socializing with the LIS members I had just met, but the faculty member I was shadowing from my institution was presenting her poster entitled “Inventory of Student Leadership Development Opportunities: One School’s Experience” during this time at the school posters presentation. The school posters session dealt with assessing student achievement of CAPE Domain 4. Throughout the conference, I enjoyed attending the poster sessions to get a snapshot of what other institutions are doing, especially concerning different teaching methods and student engagement.

Sitting in on the keynote sessions helped provide me with a better understanding of pharmacy educator roles in areas such as healthcare delivery, the opioid epidemic, and patient advocacy.

For hands-on, practical knowledge that I could take back to my institution, I found the topical roundtables to be a great resource. The topics I sat in on were “Incorporating Interprofessional Education with Family Nurse Practitioner Students”, “Utilizing Virtual Interactive Critical Care Patient Cases Enhances Student Learning”, “Oh No! Not another Lecture: Increasing Student Engagement in a Lecture-Based Course” and “Learning Theories vs. Gaming Strategies: Matching Up to Enhance Learning in the Pharmacology Classroom”.

I chose the first roundtable because I do a lot of work with our nursing program and I was interested in seeing how an educator could teach different student groups in the same session. Our library is in the process of revising some of our tutorials, so the roundtables on virtual interactive patient cases and gaming strategies demonstrated ways to incorporate modules like these in our tutorials. The roundtable on increasing student engagement provided me with both technology oriented and non-technology strategies to get students more engaged in lecture-based courses.

The education and business sessions sponsored by the LIS section were valuable because they emphasized the importance of collaboration between librarians and pharmacy faculty. In the educational sessions, it was nice to see that we all deal with the same issues of the challenges of knowledge management and information retrieval, how to implement EBM into the
curriculum, and the trends and challenges of technology adoption. The LIS business meeting provided a welcoming environment to discuss the strategic plan for the section. Not only was I heartened to see pharmacy faculty and librarians working together, I appreciated the fact the section was keen on getting new members actively involved. One aspect of the plan that I found interesting was looking to develop standards or competencies for drug information/library information science skills. This would be very useful for librarians who work with pharmacy schools.

I will be meeting with the pharmacy faculty member I shadowed to discuss the opportunities for more collaboration between the library and pharmacy school. This conference provided me with numerous suggestions on how to make that happen.
Alison Konieczny  
Ferris State University  

Thank you very much for the generous financial support from the Sewell Memorial Fund that helped to defray the costs of attending the 2017 American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy Annual Meeting in Nashville, Tennessee. As has been my experience in the past, this was a wonderful meeting with great learning and networking opportunities. I had multiple opportunities to connect with other LIS professionals, as well as build stronger connections with individuals from my university’s College of Pharmacy.

The Library and Information Science (LIS) section meetings and programming were pertinent and informative. The multi-presenter session Challenges and Solutions in Library and Information Science was of great interest and the wrap-up sessions with the various speakers were particularly helpful for allowing us to further explore topics. I’ve struggled with advising students about how to proceed when 2 authoritative sources give them conflicting information, such as providing differences in drug interaction ratings. Hearing the recommendations and viewpoints of others was certainly helpful and I appreciated the opportunity to learn from others with great knowledge and experience.

Beyond the LIS section opportunities, several sessions that I attended stood out in particular:
• Do Your Rubrics Measure Up? Assessing and Enhancing the Reliability of Rubrics in APPE
• Guidance and Discussions from Pharmacy Journals: How to Be Successful in Publishing your Work
• Innovative Games for Teaching Infectious Diseases – In Bugs and Drugs should we Play to Learn?

The rubrics session had implications for any self-created assessment tools as it’s imperative that these tools be validated to insure both validity and reliability. The success in publishing session was interesting since it was presented by editors from multiple pharmacy journals, offering a unique perspective regarding what researchers and authors should do from topic inception through submitting for publication, and how to proceed after peer review. A major take home from the publishing session was that you should use the expertise of other individuals to help insure that you have a manageable study, can get appropriate statistical analyses, and ultimately produce a useful, well-written, authoritative article. The games session was intriguing since the presenters actually tested multiple game types on students and surveyed the students to determine their preferences and perceived utility of the game types (board game vs. online, multiple choice vs. fill in blank, etc.). The speakers were surprised that the board game (modified version of Chutes and Ladders) was the highest ranked. It was advised that games be limited to no more than approximately 15 minutes of class time.

Once again, thank you for the Sewell Memorial Fund stipend. I look forward to applying new knowledge that I gained from this conference and working more closely with colleagues not only from my institution, but from around the country that I’ve become acquainted with through AACP conferences.
First, I would like to thank the Grace and Harold Sewell Memorial Award for this fantastic opportunity. I had a fantastic experience at the AACP annual conference and I look forward to becoming an active member going forward.

One of my favorite parts of being a Sewell Award winner is that you have to identify a mentor at your home institution. My mentor was instrumental in helping me navigate the AACP schedule and helping introduce me to the world of pharmacy education lingo. With advice from my mentor I identified a large number of sessions that I was interested in attending, focused mainly on sessions sponsored by the Library and Information Science (LIS) Section, sessions with presenters from Purdue, and sessions that involved simulations/role playing exercises.

The first session I attended was the Sewell Award Winners Welcome Reception. This was a great opportunity to meet the other award winners as well as other members of the LIS section. It was great to hear about the different backgrounds everyone had and to discover I was not the only person new to pharmacy librarianship. Additionally, I was able to attend the LIS business meeting and in addition to learning more about what the section does and how it fits within AACP, I was struck by the announcement that the section had more people outside of libraries, particularly drug information professionals, than librarians. I think that is a true sign of the value that information plays in the education of pharmacists and a sign of the cooperation between librarians and pharmacy faculty. I particularly appreciated that the mentoring program that the LIS section created has small groups with both drug information faculty and librarians, I look forward to learning about how both sides work to help students.

I also enjoyed attending the sessions sponsored by the LIS section and seeing how information literacy, with a focus on drug information, is taught to pharmacy students by both librarians and pharmacy faculty. The sessions talked about evidence based research, students’ confidence in answering patient questions in the field, and much more. This was a great chance to hear what other universities are doing and I can’t wait to use the lessons I learned in my own teaching and communication with students and faculty.

My second main goal for this conference was outreach to faculty, primarily through attending their sessions and learning more about their research. I took this opportunity to learn about their work and to introduce myself to them, if we had not met before. By combining the information I learned from the LIS discussions with what the faculty talked about during their sessions, I was able to make several great connections. These connections have already led to discussions about offering additional drug information instruction, an invitation to sit in on two faculty members’ classes to learn more about the curriculum, and a possible research collaboration. The common comment I heard from the faculty was how much they appreciated having their librarian attend the conference because it demonstrated an interest in what they do.
I am very thankful for the support to attend my first AACP. I was able to learn more about pharmacy education, connect with my faculty, and network with other liaisons and drug information faculty. I am already looking forward to Boston next year.
Elizabeth Suelzer  
Medical College of Wisconsin

I had the opportunity to attend the AACP Annual meeting in Nashville, TN. I attended the meeting with 10 of my colleagues who are staff and faculty in the MCW School of Pharmacy (SOP). My colleagues were happy to have librarian representation at this meeting in order to have me attend the Library and Information Science (LIS) programs. I shared my notes from the LIS sessions with my SOP colleagues and was especially excited to share what I learned, some of which includes a new Pharmacy Citation Format Guide that the MLA Pharmacy and Drug Information Section is working on, checklists that can be used to assess Drug Information skills, and ways to promote pharmacy resources to preceptors.

As a librarian who is very new to pharmacy education, I found the AACP meeting to be invaluable. I learned the definitions of all the acronyms - IPPEs, APPEs, SOAP, SDL, DI, etc, and I also got a solid understanding of the progression of pharmacy school. I provided my colleagues at the MCW Libraries an overview of our pharmacy school curriculum, a timeline of the courses and rotations, and insight into what happens during the APPEs.

I learned so much during this conference and am thankful that I took detailed notes during the sessions. But the most valuable part of the conference was meeting and networking with my librarian peers, pharmacy staff and faculty from all over, and spending time with my MCW SOP colleagues outside of work. I’ve already traded emails with two librarians from the conference and I hope to use some of their teaching examples when I work with MCW pharmacy students. I have a new appreciation of the work of pharmacists and the unique skillset that they bring to medicine. And finally, I have a closer working relationship with the MCW SOP staff and faculty and this makes collaborations between the library and educators much easier to facilitate.