

## **Speaker Communiqué – September 2014**

Dear Colleagues:

I want to start off by thanking all of you for your exceptional preparation and participation in our 2014 House of Delegates (HOD) session at this year's AACP Annual Meeting in Grapevine, Texas. You served in an extremely valuable role as the liaison between AACP and the faculty members for your school/college of pharmacy. Your roles as a delegate are critical for our association to ensure proper representation by your member institution in our democratic policy-setting body called the AACP HOD. This edition of the Speaker Communiqué will outline some of the great work accomplished by this past HOD session and also the work that needs to be accomplished during this next year. I would also encourage you to review and share the AACP Top 10 List from this year's 2014 Annual Meeting. This list highlights some of the milestones that occurred during this past year and the accomplishments of our academy.

I would first like to reflect upon the substantive work completed in July by the HOD. We unanimously passed three membership resolutions during the first session of the HOD. The HOD received the slate of nominations for both the President-elect and Speaker-elect which included Joseph T. DiPiro from VCU and R. Lee Evans from Auburn University for President-elect and Timothy J. Ives from UNC and Evan T. Robinson from WNEU for Speaker-elect. The election for Speaker-elect was held during the second HOD session and Evan T. Robinson was elected to serve as Speaker from July 2015-July 2017. The HOD adopted the proposed amendments to the HOD Rules of Procedure as presented by the Bylaws and Policy Development Committee and the AACP Articles of Incorporation as amended by the AACP Board of Directors (BOD). In addition, the HOD adopted six policy statements, three of which were amended and then approved during our last session of the HOD. I am including a link with this Speaker Communiqué to the minutes from both sessions of the HOD from this past July.

Link: <http://www.aacp.org/governance/HOD/Documents/HODMinutes2014.pdf>

AACP is intensely interested in analyzing the effectiveness of our communications with our delegates. An association such as AACP needs an engaged and active membership, and this is especially true when it comes to our delegates. During this past year we conducted three live webinars and taped and posted two of these on our HOD webpage for delegate viewing. In addition, we emailed and posted on our webpage several HOD Bulletins & Speaker Communiques. But an important question is: Are there different ways that we can more effectively communicate and engage our AACP delegates throughout the year? Serving as a delegate should not just stop at the end of the Annual Meetings but should continue throughout the year while you serve as a liaison for your school/college to AACP. Therefore, we are forming a task force made up of current and past Speakers of the HOD lead by Speaker-elect Evan T. Robinson to do a systematic review of our communications with AACP delegates. This task force has been charged to study the effectiveness of our communications and to recommend different ways that we can engage our delegates more conveniently and effectively. I look forward to working with Evan on this task force and to present our findings during our next session of the HOD.

I am also most excited to share that we are preparing to soon release a policy compendium in a searchable database developed by leaders in our Library and Information Sciences Section to allow you easier access to past policy statements that were passed by the AACP HOD. This historical record of AACP policy statements will allow anyone to search this compendium for important information that was adopted by past HOD sessions. One of the issues when developing new policy statements is searching and finding information from past HOD sessions in order to identify redundancies or omissions from earlier statements.

My goal for this next year as AACP Speaker of the House is to continue to keep our HOD engaged and active within our association. I want to ensure that the policy development process and other responsibilities in our HOD governance process are clear to all participants and run as efficiently and effectively as possible. By working with the task force headed by Speaker-elect Evan Robinson, I envision surveying our delegates on the effectiveness of our communications and also testing some new communication methods with delegates during this next year. I encourage you to participate in our review process for this task force so that we can become a more effective governance body that meets the expectations and needs of our AACP membership.

I invite you to contact me or House Secretary Lucinda Maine at any time during the year if you have questions or recommendations for improving AACP policy development.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Philip M. Hritcko". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "P" and a long, sweeping underline.

Philip M. Hritcko  
Speaker, House of Delegates