

April 2011

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 San Antonio are being finalized. You will soon be receiving your House of Delegates (HOD) Bulletin 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 and I'd like to highlight these issues for you in this *Communiqué*.

First, this year I convened the Special Committee on Rules Review as a working committee of the HOD, chaired by Speaker-elect Cynthia Boyle. This committee was tasked with reviewing the Rules of Procedure for the HOD in order to put forward recommendations on rules changes, enhanced communications practices for the HOD and electronic voting. The recommendations from this working committee will be considered on the HOD agenda in San Antonio. Second, as many of you are aware from the work during the 2010 Annual meeting in Seattle, we have tabled action items from last session. The HOD will bring these items back for a vote in San Antonio.

In addition, the 2010-11 Bylaws and Policy Development Committee (BPDC) has been working on its preliminary report for this year. The report includes resolutions for new member schools, policy statements from the Professional Affairs Committee and amended language to update existing policies on Supportive Personnel.

To provide an opportunity for each of you to engage in a dialog regarding the proposed policy, we have arranged Delegates Policy Webinars in the month of May. We welcome the opportunity to hear from each of you regarding the agenda of the House of Delegates. Please save the date to attend one of the calls, if your schedule allows, on either May 18<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm Eastern or May 19<sup>th</sup> at 3:00pm Eastern. These calls are not mandatory to your role as delegate, but are highly recommended.

An 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 committees, other governance 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:**

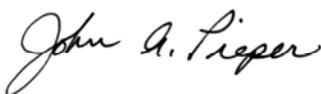
"In addition to its existing leadership/training activities, AACP should develop and distribute development and training programs for academic managers as distinct from academic leadership. (Source: *Argus Commission, 1998*)"

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."

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 San Antonio in July!



Speaker of the House  
American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy