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President's Message: April 2020

Dear NYSCHP Members,

I am writing this message thinking about how this month we should have been celebrating together in Saratoga Springs, NY for our Annual Assembly. The decision to cancel the Assembly was a difficult but necessary decision by the Board of Directors to ensure the safety of everyone around us. I would like to thank everyone on the Annual Assembly Committee who put together a great program. We hope to collaborate with program faculty in the future. After speaking with Christopher Jerry, our planned Keynote Speaker, to inform him of our decision, he graciously agreed to return for the 2021 Annual Assembly. Considering this cancellation, I encourage all members to post pictures of past Annual Assemblies on social media (#nyschpgatherings). Let us remember how fortunate we are when we can gather together!

We have been actively participating in discussions with ASHP and Directors of Pharmacy across the state. Dr. Paul Abramowitz, CEO of ASHP as well as David Chen, Assistant VP for Pharmacy Leadership and Planning for ASHP have been instrumental in providing their guidance and working to help NYC health-systems during the COVID-19 pandemic. Dr. Abramowitz applauded NY for our peer to peer collaboration and how important communication can aid us in this pandemic.

Most recently, NYSCHP joined with several organizations to request that FEMA immediately release all available quantities of several critical drugs from the Strategic National Stockpile to the New York and New Jersey Departments of Health to address urgent patient care needs.

Shaun Flynn, Executive Director for NYSCHP, has also been working tirelessly with Governor Cuomo's office requesting clarifications and updates to the Executive Order regarding health-system pharmacy and our profession. Please make sure you are receiving continual updates from NYSCHP.

All of us have been challenged in different ways this past month. Please take this time to reflect on our profession of pharmacy and how important our role is in the health care system.

Please stay safe and healthy.

Lisa M. Voigt, Pharm.D, BCPS, BCCCP
President – NYSCHP

"When you face difficult times, know that challenges are not sent to destroy you. They're sent to promote, increase and strengthen you."

— Joel Osteen

In Memorium



It is with great sadness that we share the news of Ed Antonio's passing. Ed was a winner of the Corporate Achievement Award and huge supporter of the Council over the years. He was the first Chairman of the Industry Relations Committee and started what became an ongoing collaboration of industry and NYSCHP. Ed set a high standard for his profession and colleagues. He was also a devoted husband, father, and grandfather. Ed was the proud father of Lynne Antonio-Lonie, Director of Pharmacy Services at Interfaith Medical Center in Brooklyn, New York who was also a recipient of the NYSCHP Pharmacist of the year award. NYSCHP would like to express our deepest condolences to the Antonio family.

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Board of Directors Member Spotlight



**Mary Choy, PharmD,
BCGP, FASHP**

Author, *Healthcare Heroes: The Medical Careers Guide*
Director of Pharmacy Practice,
NYSCHP
Twitter/Instagram:
@DrMaryChoy



My work as a Pharmacist

My work in pharmacy has encompassed many different areas throughout the years...from community, academia, hospital, publishing, and public health – I have enjoyed all my experiences, which have helped shape me into the person I am today. I've always been an avid reader – the library was my second home. Books took me to new places I've never been to and helped me consider what it's like to walk in someone else's shoes.

As a speaker and participant of many career platforms that range from career panels to roundtable events, I speak about pharmacy and healthcare. When people think of healthcare fields, their first thoughts are usually a few professions that they may have learned about through their own care or care of a family member. Books inspire many people to pursue medicine as a career, but they always seem to be missing the personalized element. In career panel platforms, it always seemed important to highlight the different STEM careers and for the public to know that every healthcare professional plays a role in patient care (whether they are pharmacists, surgical technologists, nurse anesthetists, pharmacy technicians, or dietitian nutritionists).

The *Healthcare Heroes* book features healthcare professionals and their stories. It's like having a personal career panel of doctors, nurses, pharmacists, biomedical engineer, art/music therapists, and many more professionals share how they got into their profession and what 'a day in their profession' looks like. Named as a career planning resource by Weill Cornell Medicine/New York-Presbyterian Hospital, it provides expert insights and strategies to help readers find their best career path in healthcare and is available on the infonet for employees across the 12 campuses. This book has also been adopted into a high school's biomedical careers academy curriculum where students can make an educated decision on how they would like to shape their career beyond just following what their friends are doing. Now, more than ever, we need healthcare professionals to strengthen our public health system to deal with the COVID19 pandemic. *Healthcare heroes* are those who sacrifice themselves every day to make sure people stay healthy.

During my many years in academia, I developed a strong interest in research and public health. I had the opportunity to publish in a number of medical journals, including *Cardiology in Review*, *The Rheumatologist*, *American Journal of Managed Care*, *American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy*, and *American Journal of Pharmaceutical Education*. As trusted healthcare providers in our communities, pharmacists are on the frontline of public health as we work to serve our patients and the public through a comprehensive knowledge of medication use. I have dedicated my career to promoting cultural awareness and improving health literacy in leading educational initiatives in preventative care to the public. Over the years, I have worked to address smoking cessation, improving low immunization rates, and improving diabetes management and other chronic conditions that face minority communities in the New York City area. I have partnered with several groups (including the New York City Department of Health &

Mental Hygiene [NYC DOHMH], the New York University Center for the Study of Asian American Health, the New York City Coalition for a Smoke-Free City, and the Chinese-American Planning Council), and trained community health workers, conducted health fairs, and coordinated pharmacist-led immunization clinics.

Journey to becoming Director of Pharmacy Practice

Leadership is about inspiring others and motivating the next generation of pharmacists to be actively involved in leading the change for their profession. I have been an active member of ASHP and NYSCHP for about 15 years. As an educator, it was nice that healthcare leaders would welcome me to be involved in student relations. While I was faculty at St. John's University, I was first appointed as the Faculty Liaison to NYSCHP by the Dean. While serving as a Faculty Liaison, I was also asked to lead as Chair of the Student Relations Committee. Soon after, I accepted my first nomination to become a NYSCHP board member—and was elected as the Director at Large where I oversaw Student Relations, Public Policy, and Support Personnel. It was wonderful to oversee the development of student chapters on college campuses and have over one hundred students join and become active student members. Students are the future leaders of pharmacy and it is essential to motivate them early on in their schooling to become active professional society members. Several of my student initiatives included creating opportunities for them to present clinical pearls at monthly NYSCHP dinner programs; creating programs to advance student learning, networking, and interview skills in preparation for Midyear; mentoring students to publish in journals/newsletters; and establishing career roundtable events.

In 2012, I was elected for a 3-year presidential term (President-elect, President, and Past-President). When I served as NYSCHP President, I focused on three main initiatives: public health, education, and communication. For the first initiative, Public Health: we were able to inspire our membership to be involved with community events such as patient safety workshops and immunization clinics in underserved areas. Pharmacists and students were able to improve racial and ethnic disparities in healthcare through the various collaborations with community-based organizations and legislators. Our partnership with the New York City Department of Health & Mental Hygiene led to multiple brown bag events in the community, and we were honored to win the ribbon for pharmacy practice research at ASHP. For the second initiative, Education: I was excited to establish the Grants Writing Committee and we were successful in receiving over \$20,000 in educational grants to fund pharmacy programs. The Writing in Pharmacy Workshops were also held to equip our pharmacists with the tools to publish and present at national conferences. We were also successful in receiving sponsorship for additional dinner programs and this resulted in added learning opportunities for our members. For the third initiative, Communication: we promoted our organization to pharmacy and technician students in NYC schools, and also volunteered our time speaking to high school students at career day

events. Our profession needs more leaders and we need more members so we need to continue supporting these efforts to highlight our profession. It is also never too early to get those new NYSCHP members.

Through the years, I was also an active member on various NYSCHP committees, including the Communications Committee, the Faculty and Student Committee, and the Public Policy Committee. A few years later, I accepted the nomination for Director of Pharmacy Practice and was honored to be elected into the position. The Director of Pharmacy Practice oversees two committees: Professional Affairs and Support Personnel. I work with great Committee Chairs and leaders (Dr. Travis Dick and Ms. Cyndie Walton) who help to deliver the needs for our pharmacists and technician members. In 2019, I accepted the nomination to run again for Director of Pharmacy Practice. I am honored that members have elected me to serve again, and I consider it a privilege.

Value of NYSCHP

To me, NYSCHP advances pharmacy practice in New York State, supports the interests of our members, and serves the public good. NYSCHP is more than just providing continuing education to our members, it has inspired innovation and conversations, while connecting people who have a shared interest of making their profession *better*. I met Michele B. Kaufman through NYSCHP. Who knew that we would collaborate on multiple projects and ultimately, even publish a book together? This is the power of NYSCHP: bringing people together who are passionate about pharmacy—as a source of motivation and inspiration. Now, more than ever, it is important to advocate for our profession and make a difference in pharmacy.

Fun Facts about Me

- I'm fluent in speaking, reading and writing Chinese.
- My husband and I have been together for over 20 years and have been married for 13 years.
- I love traveling with my kids and seeing the world through their eyes: Iceland, Jamaica, Amsterdam, Hong Kong, and Curacao, are just a few of the places that we've all enjoyed.
- Playing video games was a favorite pastime of mine growing up.
- In high school, I was very into the arts and took courses on painting, photography, and calligraphy.
- Lunar New Year is one of my favorite holidays and I enjoy designing my own lucky red envelopes to give to family and friends.

NYSCHP Upcoming Live Webinar!

NYSCHP is excited to continue our monthly webinar series.

You will have the opportunity to earn 0.1 CEU for each of the webinar listed below.

Navigating USP <797>

Thursday, May 21 at 12 PM

Greg Stanley, RPh
Associate Director of Pharmacy Sterile Compounding
SUNY Upstate Medical University

Objectives for pharmacists and technicians:

- Understand the evolution of USP <797> and how it has changed pharmacy practice
- Identify regulatory agencies who may enforce the chapter
- Be able to differentiate the requirements for Category 1 and Category 2 compounding
- Will summarize training and competency requirement for compounding staff
- Better understand engineering controls and requirements
- Summarize environment monitoring requirements and discuss the role of technician support to perform these tasks
- Be familiar with beyond use date restrictions of compounded sterile products (CSPs) made in various environments

Register [here](#)

We hope you join us! Please contact office@nyschp.org with any questions you might have.

To view past webinars, please click [here](#).

Pharmacy Technician Corner

New York State is now driving the national pandemic in the U.S. and NYC is currently the epicenter of COVID-19. Thank you to all the healthcare workers on the front lines of this pandemic. We would also like to thank the extraordinary pharmacy technicians who have an indispensable role in healthcare and helping us all through this crisis.

The Pharmacy Technician Certification Board (PTCB) is the first certification organization for pharmacy technicians and is the only non-profit pharmacy credentialing organization in the U.S. It sets to advance medication safety by credentialing technicians who are qualified to support pharmacists and patient care teams in all practice settings. We have a brief message from Bill Schimmel, Executive Director and CEO of PTCB. We thank Bill for his message and support for the pharmacy community during this difficult time.

Stay safe and healthy.

Mary Choy, PharmD, BCGP, FASHP
Director of Pharmacy Practice, NYSCHP



A Message from Bill Schimmel, Executive Director and CEO of the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board

On behalf of the entire PTCB team, I want to thank and commend the thousands of pharmacy technicians in New York and throughout the country for their energy and dedication as they face an unprecedented event. Pharmacy technicians are on the front lines in the national effort to battle the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Many are bearing a heavier load and carrying increased responsibilities to support essential care services and serve patients during this time.

Our thoughts are with those whose families and communities have been directly affected by the pandemic, and particularly with pharmacy technicians across practice settings working tirelessly to manage evolving demands. The COVID-19 situation is changing by the hour and continues to challenge our nation's pharmacy teams.

We are committed to serving our Certified Pharmacy Technicians (CPhTs), as well as employers, educators, and the pharmacy community during this challenging period so they can continue to advance patient care. Below are some of the actions we are taking.

- For those who are preparing to become CPhTs, we have extended our practice test sale for the Pharmacy Technician Certification Exam (PTCE) through May 31. Visit ptcb.org/practice to learn more.
- We have extended recertification deadlines for 60 days for CPhTs and Certified Compounded Sterile Preparation Technicians (CSPTs) who have March 31, April 30, and May 31 expiration dates to allow them extra time for completing CE and submitting applications.
- We have launched a listing of free continuing education programs so pharmacy technicians have easier access to the resources they need. You can find the directory at ptcb.org/continuing-education/ce-directory.

Please visit our COVID-19 webpage frequently at ptcb.org/covid19 for PTCB updates.

We continue to work to keep our mission to advance medication safety and patient care as our top priority.

Sincerely,
Bill Schimmel

Message from the House of Delegates Chair

Many things have changed since my last note in the February 2020 News Brief about the upcoming House of Delegates (HOD). The biggest change is that with the cancellation of the Annual Assembly, we are moving the House of Delegates to a virtual meeting divided between two dates in May – May 5 and 19. We will be conducting the regular business of the House of Delegates – review and approval of Board of Director's reports, update on the NYSCHP financials and advocacy activities, report by the Executive Director, report by the Research and Education Foundation, report of the Committee on Resolutions and discussion of submitted resolutions, HOD recommendations, voting on by laws changes and for the new HOD Chair. President Lisa Voigt, will also provide her outgoing address at the HOD. We are also incorporating the activities of our "Annual Meeting" as required by the NYSCHP Constitution and Bylaws, which includes the installation of officers and Presidential Address by the incoming president, Heide Christensen. The Council will provide Heide's Presidential Address in News Brief and possibly some other ways so that all members can hear what Heide aspires to accomplish during her presidential year. Prior to the first HOD session on May 5th, there will also be an Open Hearing at which members can meet the candidates for HOD Chair and discuss any other topics of interest during the Open Forum portion of the meeting. The first and second mailings to the HOD Delegates are available on the NYSCHP website as well as a revised timeline leading up to the HOD sessions. A recording of the Open Hearing and Delegates Webinar held on March 31 is also available on the website with the second mailing attachments, and it provides an overview of parliamentary procedure and Roberts Rules of Order as they pertain to the HOD. Although we will unfortunately not be able to meet for the HOD in person this year, we hope to have a robust attendance at the HOD sessions and provide good dialog and interaction as a strong basis for moving the NYSCHP forward in meeting its mission and goals.

Liz Shlom, PharmD, BCPS
Chair, House of Delegates

Modern Medical Marijuana Practices

By Krishna Daiya, PharmD Candidate, Class of 2020
University at Buffalo, School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences

The emerging role of medical marijuana has evolved our methods of treating severe, debilitating health conditions including chronic pain, neuropathies, and cancer. Terpenes, tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), and cannabidiol (CBD), are compounds that occur naturally in the marijuana plant. THC and CBD bind to cannabinoid receptors in the brain which is thought to result in the different physiological effects.¹ While terpenes provide aromatic scent, THC primarily binds to CB1 receptors and is responsible for psychoactive properties. This metabolite is what provides the reported opiate-type pain relief. It has been shown to work as an appetite stimulant, muscle relaxer, nausea and vomiting reliever and has been found to treat insomnia. In contrary, CBD contributes to medical benefit without the psychoactive effects. It has an anti-inflammatory effect that relieves neuropathic pain, reduces anxiety, and relieves spasms and seizures.²

The New York State Medical Marijuana Program provides regulations for manufacturing and dispensing medical marijuana. It is indicated for patients with FDA approved qualifying conditions which must be certified by practitioners. Qualifying conditions include but are not limited to cancer, epilepsy, post-traumatic stress disorder, and chronic pain. Approved formulations include vape cartridge/pen, tablets, oral spray, capsule, oil, and oral powder.³ Vaporized products are not permitted to be used within 100 feet of entrances or exits of schools or in areas where smoking is prohibited. In addition, the NYS Department of Health strongly encourages patients to stop using all vaping products due to possible pulmonary injuries.⁴ Edibles and smoking mariju-

ana is prohibited by the DoH. In New York State, there are a total of 10 organizations with dispensing facilities.⁵ Many dispensaries carry multiple brands to meet patients' needs so they can conveniently access a variety of products and formulations.

In order to receive medical marijuana, patients and caregivers, if applicable, must complete a series of steps. Qualifying patients must be certified by a registered health care provider who will print them a certificate from the Health Commerce System. The patient would then be able to apply on the Department of Health website for a registry identification card with the Medical Marijuana program. A temporary card can be printed the same day if needed until the original ID arrives.⁶ In addition, patients need to provide proof of identity and New York State residency. Patients can select up to two caregivers designated to purchase medical marijuana on their behalf, who must also register with the program. Once the application process is complete, they can visit a medical marijuana dispensary, taking along the patient certification form and registry ID. Patient certification is valid for one year, however, prescribers can assign an expiration date earlier than one year such as 6 months. The expiration date is set depending on the dosing recommendation and how soon the physician would like to follow up with the patient. Patients are required to dispose all remaining medical marijuana products within 10 days after the expiration of their certification.

At the dispensary, a patient's therapy will be

individualized via the creation of a ratio strength of THC:CBD. The ratio can be set by the prescriber or can be determined by the pharmacist practicing in registered dispensaries. These ratios can be titrated based on the patient's response to therapy until therapeutic outcomes are reached. Assessing the patient's symptoms determines whether the product should be THC or CBD dominant, if they need daytime or night time relief and whether they would benefit from a faster acting or longer acting product. Ratios can have equal parts of THC to CBD as a 1:1 ratio or varying amounts based on the indication. Patients can follow up as frequently as needed to adjust their dose and obtain the most benefit. In the retail or hospital setting, pharmacists can review the prescription monitoring program to see all the products a patient receives from a dispensary. In New York State, pharmacists play a crucial role in implementing and monitoring therapies.⁷

Although medical marijuana has significant benefits, it is important to recognize possible side effects and interactions. It can be taken with prescription controlled substances, but patients must be counselled appropriately. The effects of cannabis are enhanced in combination with opiates, hypnotics, benzodiazepines and alcohol. Side effects include sedation, fatigue, euphoria, psychosis, somnolence, increases in heart rate and blood pressure, and impaired cognition. One in 10 individuals can become dependent on medical marijuana and experience withdrawal as well.⁸ Research suggests that medical marijuana provides opiate type pain relief. However, studies conflict on whether it can reduce rates

of opioid abuse and overdose. A study funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse from 1999 to 2010 showed that states permitting the use of medical marijuana had 24.8% lower mean annual opioid overdose mortality rate compared to states with restrictions (95% CI, -37.5% to -9.5%; P = .003).⁸ In contrast, a systematic review performed by Chihuri and Li showed that although medical marijuana seemed to reduce opioid prescriptions, it had a non-significant reduction in opioid overdose mortality.⁹ A cohort study performed by Vigil et. al measured opioid cessation rates and dosage reduction rates in patients who received opioids and were enrolled in the New Mexico Cannabis Program compared to patients who received opioids and were not enrolled in the program. The results showed that patients enrolled in the cannabis program had 17.27 higher odds of discontinuing opioids (CI 1.89 to 157.36, p = 0.012) and reduced their daily dosages by 47 percentage points, while the comparison group increased daily dosages by 10.4 percentage points (CI -90.68 to -3.59, p = 0.034). This study had several limitations including small sample size and selection bias warranting further studies to evaluate the influence of cannabis on opioid prescriptions patterns.¹¹

Providing care with medical marijuana does not come without barriers. The price is based on manufacturing, marketing and distribution costs with reasonable profit.¹² However, it can be costly as it is not covered by insurance and is a Federal Schedule 1 product. Many patients who may be candidates for medical marijuana may not be able to afford it. There is also stigma due to its psychoactive effects and concerns that people may try to abuse this product. However, with proper education and appropriate use, cannabis may start becoming more accepted as an effective treatment option.

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Public Policy and Grassroots Advocacy Committee Update

Public Policy Update

NYSCHP has been working diligently with the Governor's office, NYS legislature, NYS Education Department, and other advocacy organizations like GNYHA to shape updates for CDTM and immunization.

This year, the Governor's executive budget contained some significant optimization measures we supported:

CDTM:

- Permanent reauthorization (elimination of the sunset)
- Expansion to all locations with a medical director
- Maintenance of credentialing structure
- Other technical changes that would have made CDTM easier

Immunization:

- Permanent reauthorization (elimination of the sunset)
- Authorization for the pharmacist to administer all vaccines recommended by the CDC to adults

Due to the COVID-19 crisis, the passed budget didn't contain these provisions from the Executive proposal. The budget simply extends current law for 2 years. So while we didn't see the optimization language we desired, CDTM and immunization are protected for another two years. Many laws expiring this year were treated similarly.

NYSCHP continues to work with all parties involved to make sure our legislative priorities are heard and addressed. The legislature may be called back to work later this year, in which case we will have another opportunity to pursue our preferred legislation for CDTM (A3048) and Immunization (S5227/A6511). Our CDTM workgroup has been tremendous in providing recommendations to optimize A3048.

Grassroots Advocacy Update

136 unique members

7 local chapters (Congratulations to Northeastern, our newest chapter to create a local grassroots advocacy committee!)

99 visits (every chapter has done at least one GAC visit even though we don't have local chapters in Long Island or Rochester yet)

Visits per month:

- 2017: 2.25
- 2018: 2.33
- 2019: 3.42
- 2020 (Jan-Mar): 6.67

A3048 – Two additional cosponsors (Mosley, Stirpe)

A6511 – One additional cosponsor (Mosley)

We are working to improve our follow up with legislators who say they are interested or would cosponsor to ensure they do. If you are interested in getting involved in the Grassroots Advocacy Committee, please email Karen Berger (karenberger7@gmail.com) or Andrew Kaplan (Andrew.kaplan@mountsinai.org).

Andrew Kaplan, Pharm.D., BCPS, BCGP
NYSCHP Vice President of Public Policy

S. Michael Milazzo, PharmD
NYSCHP Public Policy Committee Chair

Karen Berger, PharmD, FCCM, BCPS, BCCCP
NYSCHP Grassroots Advocacy Committee Chair

Director of Education and Professional Development Update

The past few months were very busy for the Education and Professional Development (EPD) Committee, planning and ultimately cancelling the Annual Assembly (AA). Although the live event is no longer happening, I want to thank all of the EPD and AA committee members and the respective Chairs, Jamie Chin (EPD) and Ashley Galla (AA) for the hundreds of hours of work that they put in this year. Below are some of the AA components that we worked on this year as well as other EPD programs.

- AA Educational Programming: We had a great variety of topics and speakers planned for the AA. We will look into saving some of the content and speakers for future programs.
- AA Student Clinical Competition: Although we will not be having a competition this year, we were excited to have finalists from every NY state school of pharmacy ready to participate this year. We also went through the process of accrediting the final round of the competition (the Brain Bowl round) for CE credit. These changes will greatly help in next year's AA planning efforts.
- AA Poster Session: We converted our live poster session into a virtual session. Posters will be displayed on nyschp.org from April 20-25th for viewing and comment via email. Presenters will be available for real-time online question-and-answer sessions alongside their virtual posters from 1:15-2:15 pm on Saturday, April 25th.
- Monthly webinars: Our monthly webinars continue to take place with an average attendance of ~100 members/month! Our next webinar is scheduled for May 21st at 12pm on Navigating USP 797.
- Webinar Series: Our ID webinar series (held in Jan 2020) is still available for viewing and CE credit. Please log in to nyschp.org to view the webinars and claim CE. Topics include: ID ABCs, Update on GNR Agents, Risks of Screening and Treating Asymptomatic Bacteriuria, Update on Antibiotic Duration of Therapy, Tools to Improve Stewardship.

Finally, I wanted to let you all know what an honor it has been to serve as NYSCHP Director of Education and Professional Development. Due to my new role as ASHP Section of Clinical Specialists and Scientists Director-at-Large Elect, I was unable to continue my service on the NYSCHP BOD. However, I will continue to stay involved in educational programming, advocacy, and other NYSCHP activities. I'm confident that I leave the committee in good hands with our new Director, Nicole Cieri-Hutcherson, under the leadership of our soon-to-be President, Heide Christensen. Heide's mentorship over that past 5 years have truly driven the success of the EPD committee as well as shaped me as a leader; Heide, I can't thank you enough for your commitment and dedication to NYSCHP, the EPD Committee, and to me.

Karen Berger, PharmD, FCCM, BCPS, BCCCP
NYSCHP Director of Education and Professional Development

Pharmacy School Highlight

Pharmacy Advancement Initiative 2030 at St John's University

By Ali Isley, PharmD Candidate 2021, St. John's University,
Kimberly E. Ng, PharmD, BCPS, and Chung-Shien Lee, PharmD, BCPS, BCOP

On February 20, 2020, Student Society of Health-System Pharmacy (SSHP) at St. John's University hosted its first ever event promoting the ASHP Pharmacy Advancement Initiative (PAI) 2030. The College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences was proud to welcome distinguished alumna and ASHP board-elect member Dr. Leigh A. Briscoe-Dwyer to present on PAI. During the event, Dr. Briscoe-Dwyer described the practice-focused, profession-focused, and organization-focused components of PAI, while integrating anecdotal stories to encourage student participation and discussion. Dr. Briscoe-Dwyer discussed the specific goals that ASHP has outlined in order to meet the growing demand of pharmacists, and outlined ASHP's plan to improve patient-centered care, pharmacist and pharmacy technician roles, training, and education, technology and data science, and leadership in medication use and safety. Students were educated on the ever-evolving role of the pharmacist and how ASHP is ensuring that the practice is evolving to meet these growing needs. Dr. Briscoe-Dwyer described the integral role that pharmacists play on a patient's health care team and addressed students' concerns regarding topics that varied from artificial intelligence in pharmacy, advocating for increased scope of practice in New York State, overcoming stigmas, and ensuring safe and optimal patient-centered care and medication stewardship.

