

AAPS PharmSciTech Editorial for Volume 8 Issue 2: AAPS Student Chapters: A Dynamic Forum for Scientific Exchange

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The American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists (AAPS) strives to serve the needs and interests of students studying in the pharmaceutical sciences. Currently, AAPS supports 55 Student Chapters at Schools of Pharmacy across the United States, in Canada, Singapore, Italy, Brazil and Mexico. AAPS now has more than 2,000 student and postdoctoral fellow members, of which ~500 reside in 46 countries outside of the United States. An AAPS Presidential goal is to increase global awareness of AAPS and the pharmaceutical sciences discipline at academic institutions and establish AAPS Student Chapters at international colleges and universities.

Membership in an AAPS Student Chapter, which generally resides in a College of Pharmacy, is open to students and postdoctoral fellows from a wide array of academic degrees and disciplines, and students outside of schools of pharmacy. A student chapter must have 10 students and one faculty advisor who are AAPS members. A brief presentation on AAPS student chapters and benefits is available at mediaserver.aapspharmaceutica.com/outreach/aaps.swf.

AAPS Student Chapters enable students pursuing graduate degrees in the pharmaceutical and related sciences to:

- Increase their awareness of career opportunities in the pharmaceutical industry, academe, and government;
- Gain access to educational programs on the various aspects of drug development;
- Have opportunities for professional advancement and leadership development; and
- Facilitate participation in AAPS outreach activities at the local, regional, national, and international levels.

To support these activities and functions, AAPS provides a stipend to the Student Chapter based on the number of members. The funds can be used for any chapter-related activities, including journal clubs, scientific seminars, speaking engagements, social events, and recruitment activities. In addition, the Student/Postdoc Outreach and Development (SPOD) Committee has a total of \$50,000 USD per year to support student-initiated programs such as PGSRM, GRASP, GPEN, and others. Two recent Student Chapter Scientific programs included *Pharmaceutical Technology and Drug Delivery*, hosted by the AAPS Italian University Network Student Chapter in Ferrara, Italy, and *Pharmaceutical Sciences Postgraduate Conferenc*, hosted by The University of Kentucky AAPS Student Chapter in Lexington, Kentucky.

Individuals interested in starting an AAPS Student Chapter are encouraged to contact Stacey May at MayS@aaps.org.

Respectfully Submitted,

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