Dear FIP member

Greetings academic colleagues and welcome to the second edition of The Mortar Board for 2019. This newsletter is filled with important and exciting news which aims to enhance and compliment your daily duties and interests in academia.

In this newsletter, we highlight again the call for nominations for six of the eleven positions on the Section’s executive committee. The process is administrated by Immediate Past President, Ralph Altiere and he can be contacted at acps@fip.org.

We further share with you exciting reports launched by FIP the past few weeks such as the report on mHealth solutions for pharmacists and Beating non-communicable diseases in the community: the contribution of pharmacists. During the first regional conference of FIP in Amman, Jordan, a programme designed to advance pharmaceutical workforces in countries around the world was launched.

The Section President shares feedback on the new strategic plan for the Section, which will be discussed in more depth during the upcoming Business Meeting on Monday 23 September 2019 at 12h00.

This newsletter also hosts the second AIM leadership blog, prepared by Carlo Marra, which focuses on challenges and strategies he use to navigate them. Note that the call for applications for the AIM advisory committee closes on 1 July 2019.

You can also look out for two upcoming Webinars presented by the AcPS of FIP.

Happy pharming!

Mariel Eksteen, Editor

Content List

- Call for Executive Committee Nominations
- mHealth Solutions in Pharmacy
Call for Executive Committee Nominations

Elections for the following positions on the Academic Pharmacy Section Executive will be held at the AcPS Business Meeting during the 2019 FIP World Congress in September.

Please send nominations by email to the AcPS email address (acps@fip.org). Use the subject title (ALL UPPER CASE): ACPS NOMINATION 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Term of office</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>4 years</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>4 years</td>
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<tr>
<td>Executive Committee member (3 positions)</td>
<td>4 Years</td>
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<tr>
<td>Executive Committee member (1 position)</td>
<td>2 years</td>
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Candidates may self-nominate or may be nominated by another AcPS member and accept that nomination.

- All candidates must meet the criteria for holding office in the Academic Pharmacy Section as stated in the section statutes (https://fip.org/files/fip/AcPS/CO-11_Statutes_AcPS.pdf), including being a member of the section and a paid-in-full member of FIP.
- Candidates must provide a recent photograph and a brief, one page (minimum font size of 10) Curriculum Vitae suitable for publication in The Mortar Board and circulation to members. Use the following sections:
  - Name, country, current position title(s) and institution(s), and email address
  - Qualifications (degrees and institutions, past academic/professional positions; statement that you meet criteria for AcPS office)
  - Background (include past and current occupation descriptions)
  - Statement on your vision for a leadership role in AcPS
  - FIP experience (if applicable)
  - Awards/recognitions (if applicable)
- Acceptance of Nominations will generally conclude one month before the Congress to allow publication of the list of candidates, their photographs and the one-page Curriculum Vitae in the AcPS Congress Booklet.
- Nominations may be accepted from the floor at the Business Meeting, providing the nominee meets the membership criteria and provides nomination materials as indicated above.
- Candidates will not be given an opportunity to speak at the Business Meeting.
Duty description and responsibilities are listed here.

mHealth Solutions in Pharmacy

How can mobile health solutions support pharmacists in providing safe, effective and patient-centred care? This is the central question in FIP’s latest report describing benefits of mHealth in pharmacy practice and functionality, giving examples of mHealth applications, and discussing the potential of future innovations that will support the advancement of pharmacy practice.

“We’re living in a world of constant technological advances. It is important that healthcare professionals make use of technology to support their patients and provide health care to ensure optimal quality of life,” says @ Miranda Sertić, coordinator, mHealth project, @FIPYPG.

The guidance document — “mHealth: Use of mobile health technologies in pharmacy practice” — can be accessed here.

What happened on social media

FIP’s website has a new look! Visit www.fip.org for current news and activities!

A new programme designed to advance pharmaceutical workforces in countries around the world was launched by the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP). Read press release here.

The Academic Pharmacy Section (AcPS) Executive Committee (ExCo) held a retreat at FIP Headquarters in The Hague on 7 March and 8 March 2019. The primary purpose of the retreat was to review and propose modifications to the current AcPS strategic plan so that it is in alignment with the new FIP strategic plan.

The ExCo discussed the concept of developing a strategic implementation plan that could be mapped to the FIP Workforce Development Goals (WDGs) and would attract additional members to AcPS. The goal was to align a section implementation plan with the new FIP strategic plan. The ExCo worked in small groups to identify strategic goals, with objectives and strategies/projects under each objective. The full proposed strategic implementation plan will be presented to the section membership during the annual Business Meeting at the 2019 FIP World Congress in Abu Dhabi in September for consideration of approval. In summary, the proposed goals are:

1. **Educator and Preceptor Development (People):** Promote faculty and preceptor development, including educational scholarship, to advance pharmaceutical education that meets societal needs.
2. **Educational program design and assessment (Program and Curriculum):** Advocate and communicate competency-based education and training programs and assessment strategies.
3. **Sustainability (Membership and Resources):** Develop financial resources and enhance membership number and engagement of current members.
4. **Collaboration and Communication (Connections):** Establish additional mechanisms for collaboration with other FIP units to meet the vision and mission of AcPS and foster communications and connections between individuals and programs to advance pharmaceutical education globally.

The annual Business Meeting of the AcPS will be held on **Monday, 23 September 2019** from **12:00-13:30**, immediately after the Plenary Session. The room location will be announced later. Elections will be held for various ExCo positions. All members are encouraged to attend. The AcPS Section dinner will also be held on Monday, 23 September 2019, 20:00-22:30. Please send comments and questions to john.pieper@stlcop.edu.

Greetings
John A. Pieper, Pharm.D., FCCP, FAPhA
President, FIP Academic Pharmacy Section
Leadership positions, including being a Dean of Pharmacy, though very rewarding often come with significant challenges. Carlo Marra, Dean, University of Otago, School of Pharmacy, shares the challenges that he has faced and some of the strategies that he has used to try to navigate through them. The list is not exhaustive (or even prioritised) and neither are the solutions to each problem. However, hopefully it provides a starting place for some and an impetus to start conversation for others.

1. **Accreditation bodies, as unfriendly as they seem, are your friends.** They are doing a job to make sure that your school meets the standards that have been set for schools/faculties of pharmacy. They come every 4 years or so to your institution and often ask some pretty grueling questions. In addition, there is a phenomenal amount of work that leads up to accreditation visit and then there are responses, reporting requirements and sometimes, serious changes that need to be made. Sounds horrible, right? On the other side of the coin is that changes often need to be made! To see what is coming and to gauge what changes/deficits are likely, keep in touch with your accreditation body. Often, the challenges you face as a dean are to operationalise the resources and/or personnel to make the changes that will ultimately lead to a better school. So, use the accreditation body to your advantage to help energize university administration to get things that you need to make your school one of the best and one that you desire (i.e. space, personnel, support). Reach out to them regularly and update them with challenges that you are facing. They may have advice and won’t be surprised when they come for their visit.

2. **Schools/Faculties of medicine are always better funded than you.** This fact can be infinitely frustrating. At the location of one of my previous positions, the Faculty of Medicine negotiated its own budget with the government without even the Provost knowing the amount. This created some interesting dynamics around the university and functionally created two universities within the same global institution. My position has always been to align the Faculty of pharmacy with other health professional schools to a point. Stay true to your School (I think that’s a Beach Boys tune) and your profession and keep plugging away and advocating for pharmacy education. Don’t sell out as it may end up hurting you in the end.

3. **People can make your job really hard or really easy.** Before I took my first position as a dean of a pharmacy school, one of my former deans told me that I should think of the staff as fitting into a “probability distribution”. There is a
exact shape of the distribution probably depends on the school and its make-up. The folks in the middle are the ones that you need to think about and strategize as to how you can bring them on board. While never fully subscribing to this theory there is a certain amount of truth in it. You really try to bring everyone along with you when you invoke change but at some point you have to cut your losses and move on. If successful, others will eventual ‘see the light’ or decide to move on.

4. **When you hire faculty, pay attention and make informed decisions.** Academic positions are often different than others - people stay in places for a long time. The folks you hire are the ones you will have to guide through the tenure process, mentor in a variety of ways and the ones who will ultimately help shape your school. You want the faculty with the best qualifications AND the best fit with your vision and School. As such, ask hard questions of your hiring committees, meet with the candidates and imagine how it will all work in the future. Ultimately, the decisions are often up to you thus it is important to ensure you make your best informed decisions.

5. **There is a life after deanship.** In my experience, it is not too early to think about what you are going to do once your deanship is over (and, please remember, none of these appointments last forever). As such, try to keep your options open. Be brutal when you carve out some time to maintain your research and teaching so that you will have some shelf-life if you decide to go back into the rank and file of academic faculty life. Take research courses, keep publishing, be involved with your graduate students and supervise undergraduate research students. It will keep you in touch with the day to day operations of your School/Faculty, help you to remember the student perspective and keep you relevant.

While these are just a few of the challenges academic leaders have I hope that it will stimulate some thoughts and conversations within your own Faculty.

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**Congress promotion**

With registrations already open, excitement is building up for the annual dose of international pharmacy.

**Join the AIM Advisory Committee - Call for applications**

Would you like to join FIP’s AIM Advisory Committee to (1) drive FIP’s strategy on academic leadership, (2) develop global projects on institutional and professional development, (3) provide leadership and strategic advice to implement major global health policies - e.g. WHO, UN and (4) represent your region in the only global network of academic leaders in the world?

FIP Academic Institutional Membership (AIM) is calling for applications for its new AIM Advisory Committee Members! If you are
If your school is not an AIM member yet, please contact aim@fip.org to become a member!

Please note the following changes and important information:

The 10th AIM Global Academic Leaders Forum, organised by FIPEd, will now take place during the FIP Congress from Monday 23 September at 13h30 until Tuesday 24 September at 17h30. This event requires additional registration and is not included in the regular Congress registration.

The 8th Global Pharmacy Technicians' Symposium, also organised by FIPEd, will also take place during the FIP Congress from Wednesday 25 September at 13h30 until Thursday 26 September at 17h00. This event also requires additional registration and is not included in the regular Congress registration.

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**Notices & upcoming events**

**Webinar: GALF Stories - Persuasive leadership and how I developed and implemented the Strategic Plan for my faculty**

Wednesday 29 May 2019
13h00 - 14h00 CEST
Background, session objectives and speakers, click [here](#).

Register [here](#).

**FIP 2019 - Registration first deadline**

The first deadline for registration to attend the 2019 FIP World Congress in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, is 10 June 2019.

Register today!

**AcPS Webinar: Culturally Competent Pharmacists - A key to patient centered care**

Wednesday 21 August 2019
12h00 - 13h00 GMT
To see the entire message on the website and to reply, click [here](#).

Register [here](#).

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**About the Academic Pharmacy Section**

FIP’s Academic Pharmacy Section was founded in 1972. Our mission is to serve as an international source for networking, collaboration and inspiration for educators to transform pharmacy education for the purpose of advancing practice and science to meet present and future health needs in communities around the world.