



Academic Pharmacy Section Annual Report 2020

The Academic Pharmacy Section continues to be the second largest section of the Board of Pharmaceutical Practice. Section membership has grown to a record high of 846 members on 31 December 2020, an increase of 61 members (8%) since 1 January and represents 101 countries. Our dynamic executive committee (ExCo) met seven times, virtually, in 2020. The section has conducted nine webinars over the past year, thanks to the outstanding work of our secretary, Toyin Tofade and our communications leader, Dalia Bajis. Section Working Groups are focused on strategic goals and objectives contained in the Section's Strategic Implementation Plan. Five regular and one special COVID-19 issue of the section newsletter, *The Mortar Board*, were distributed in 2020 due to the dedicated work of Dalia Bajis. The Section has been active on social media with 1802 followers on Twitter, nearly two times the number at this time last year and two live Twitter chats were held. The section also has been active on Facebook with 20 posts on the Section site since 2020.

The Section continues its work on two significant ongoing projects; *The Nanjing Statements Implementation Project* and *Developing Capacity to Ensure Contemporary Pharmaceutical Practice: Competency Framework for Educators*. In addition, the Section has identified thirteen projects that have been mapped to the FIP Global Development Goals. These thirteen projects will be prioritized in 2021.

The Academic Pharmacy Section would like to recognize that our current Immediate Past-President, Prof. Ralph Altieri, was elected the FIPeD Chair by the FIP Bureau and confirmed by the Council in September. The Section would also like to recognize that two of Section members were elected as fellows of FIP (FFIP) at FIP Virtual 2020; Dr Martin Henman (Ireland) and Dr Charlotte Rossing (Denmark).

The Section is particularly proud of our commitment of funds for an innovative *special grant program* to support two pharmaceutical educators from low- and middle-income countries responding to educational and mental health needs and concerns related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Awardees must be Section members. Two €1500 grants are to be awarded.

The first grantee is Dr Tsitsi G. Monera-Penduka, Ph.D., University of Zimbabwe School of Pharmacy, Zimbabwe. The project title is: *A simulated HIV/ID Pharmacotherapeutics Practice Laboratory to address COVI 19-related clinical rotation challenges at the University of Zimbabwe*.

The second grantee was Dr Sarah Khamis, Ph.D., Research Assistant and Clinical Pharmacist at Near East University, Cyprus. The project title is: *The impact of simulated continuing professional development course on maintaining pharmacy students' mental health and well-being during COVID-19*. The special grant initiative is intended to advance FIOF Development Goals 1,3,4,5 and 9.

Goals for 2021:

- Goal #1: Complete the prioritization and initiate implementation of the thirteen new projects proposed by the Section members.
- Goal #2: Initiate a Town Hall format for communication with Section members
- Goal #3: Complete a membership survey to further define the needs of our members,