Message from the WMSHP President

Reflections on 2016

Dear Members of WMSHP,

I hope all of you had a happy holiday season in 2016 and a successful year. I would like to wish all colleagues and members the very best and a healthy and Happy New Year. For WMSHP, we have enjoyed a successful 2016 and made our presence known among members of the pharmacy profession, students, technicians as well as Schools of Pharmacy and ASHP affiliate organizations.

During 2016, WMSHP provided and presented significant contributions to the pharmacy community in the Washington DC metropolitan area with our various educational programs in May and September as well as in one-day educational and student mentoring, career and tracking program events. These contributions which provided members with educational tools and opportunities to network were particularly focused to promote the advancement of clinical practice especially in areas of pharmacotherapeutics, pharmacoepidemiology, medication errors and patient safety and regulatory aspects of pharmacy and clinical practice that provided a total of 20 ACPE-approved continuing education (CE) contact hours that included our joint educational programs with the NIH Clinical Center Pharmacy Department. These latter programs were due to the hard work and dedication of WMSHP Board and Committees particularly the Membership Committee, Programming Committee and Communication and Website Committee. In addition, WMSHP successfully partnered with pharmaceutical companies to provide several non-CE disease-state drug information programs during 2016 that brought WMSHP members together.

In August 2016, WMSHP hosted its annual family and friends picnic event which was a success that brought members, families and friends together for summer fun and frolic. WMSHP continues its outreach with pharmacy students from area Schools of
Pharmacy as well as pharmacists to keep them informed of WMSHP’s offerings that are communicated and exemplified in its website (www.wmshp.org). These efforts resulted in successful membership recruitment drives among pharmacists, students and technicians that further helped to build and showcase WMSHP. This enabled WMSHP to reflect a positive approach at all our educational sessions. The Legislative Committee was instrumental in leading WMSHP’s goals to revise and modify the society’s Constitution and By-Laws (C&B). This has been a successful work in progress and will result in a new C&B to further articulate WMSHP’s mission and vision.

I also commend the Nominations Committee for the work in reaching out to members to run for office in 2017. This resulted in an impressive slate of candidates during the 2016 election cycle. My congratulations and best wishes to the newly elected candidates for 2017, viz. Ivan Cephas, PharmD, President-elect; Joanne Woskov, PharmD, Treasurer; Sadhna Khatri, PharmD, Board Member; and Carla Darling, PharmD, ASHP Delegate.

Overall WMSHP’s proactive roles covered almost every aspect of pharmacy practice including career, educational and leadership perspectives for its members.

As a representative ASHP-affiliate society that also made its presence known at the ASHP summer meeting, we were successful in opening opportunities that streamlined these strategic plans and goals as a solvent and viable organization for the present and the years to come. As a critical aspect for any pharmacy professional society, WMSHP successfully achieved its strategic mission in what we can offer to members. And new members bring new insights and diverse experiences and expertise that reflect the dynamic nature of WMSHP as the premier health-system pharmacy society in the Washington metropolitan area.

Finally, as President of WMSHP, I would like to thank all members for their continued support, enthusiasm and interest in our society especially in 2016. Our society has the skill sets and talent which enable us to work together and collaborate and partner with colleagues and stakeholders as well as in pharmacy, health and policy matters. Again, I acknowledge the support and dedication of the WMSHP Executive Board whose hard work and passion in 2016 is much appreciated. Please feel free to pass on this newsletter to your colleagues and friends to promote WMSHP as their professional pharmacy organization. It has been a pleasure and privilege being your WMSHP President in 2016. Warm regards and best wishes.

Vaiyapuri Subramaniam, PharmD, MS, FCP, FASHP, FASCP
President, Washington Metropolitan Society of Health-System Pharmacists (WMSHP).
Greetings WMSHP Members and Happy New Year!

This new year like many years before it, brings forth change. All around us we are witness to change: the changing of the seasons, the changing of ideas, and the changing of the guard. With change in mind, it seems appropriate that we begin the new year with reflection about the path forward and the challenges that are ahead. Serving as president, these concepts remain in the forefront as we begin the arduous task of setting the 2017 WMSHP agenda. Therefore, it follows to underscore the 2 overarching concepts that will guide this year's activities: strengthening membership participation and the promotion of positive leadership values.

The Promotion of Positive Leadership Values entails working not merely as colleagues, but as friends. I am dedicated to keeping an open mind, and will encourage all new ideas and insights across every avenue of leadership. As professionals, it is paramount that each of us encourage and foster an environment where good ideas can grow into great ones. Demonstrating positive leadership values, and encouraging these values in others is central to the continued success of the society. I am fortunate to know both personally and professionally the vast majority of this season’s 2017 executive board. I have witnessed their steadfast determination and drive for the advancement of pharmacy practice to be accomplished. Working together with positive leadership values I am confident much can be accomplished.

Thank you to the Washington Metropolitan Society of Health-System Pharmacists for your continued support. I look forward to another productive 2017 year brimming full of learning and outreach for the advancement of the pharmacy profession. On behalf of the 2017 executive board of elected representatives, I wish all of you peace and prosperity in the New Year, and I look forward to meeting with each of you in the near future.

Justin Sebakijje, PharmD
2017 WMSHP President
ASHP MCM 2016 Affiliate Society Presidents’ Recognition Program:
Vaiyapuri Subramaniam, PharmD, WMSHP President, with Beverly Black and Kim Berry of ASHP's Office of Affiliate Relations at the 2016 ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting (ASHP MCM). Dr. Subramaniam was recognized as WMSHP President at the affiliate Presidents’ Dinner program event

1. Report from the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) Midyear Clinical Meeting, 2016: Attendance and Presentation
   Summary report by Vaiyapuri Subramaniam, PharmD, MS, FCP, FASHP, FASCP

Starting on next page
WMSHP President Dr. Vaiyapuri Subramaniam recently attended and presented at the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists Midyear Clinical Meeting (ASHP MCM) that was held in Las Vegas, Nevada, USA, from December 4 – 8, 2016. The ASHP MCM is the largest gathering of pharmacists and the longest-held clinical meeting in the world. The ASHP MCM in Las Vegas drew an estimated 25,000 attendees with a target audience directed for pharmacists, pharmacy residents, students, nurses, physicians, administrators, consultants, health-information technology professionals, medication safety officers and policy makers. With the wide variety of topics presented, the 2016 ASHP MCM provided attendees opportunities to attend sessions that included but not limited to pharmacotherapeutics, pharmaceutical sterile compounding and hazardous drug management that focused on United States Pharmacopeia (USP) Chapters 797 and 800 standards, informatics, pharmacogenomics, antimicrobial stewardship, public health, biosimilars and opioid therapy and substance abuse disorders. As part of the 2016 ASHP MCM, Dr. Subramaniam and his co-presenters (Brenda Jensen, MBA, CNMT, CPhT and Mary Li, PharmD) were invited to present a Management Case Study educational session on “Evaluation of Pharmacy Workplace Safety Training Program to Ensure Regulatory Compliance.” The presentation focused and incorporated three key approaches, viz. 1) the identification of US federal agencies that regulate workplace safety and the main components of the US Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) hazardous communication standard; 2) an explanation and listing of key facts about the United Nations Globally Harmonized System (GHS) of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals that was implemented in June 1, 2016; and 3) the identification of common deficiencies in pharmacy workplace safety training programs. With heightened awareness on the compounding of pharmaceutical sterile and hazardous drug preparations required to meet USP <800> standards, the presentation identified additional requirements for continued compliance and provided a gap analysis from results to current standards and regulations so that training deficiencies could be identified. The presentation included the OSHA hazardous Communication Standard and its alignment with the United Nations GHS to ensure consistency in how hazards are classified and how hazardous chemicals are labeled, e.g. by way of pictograms that are required on labels to alert handles of hazardous chemicals as one tool for employers meet compliance. It becomes important that pharmacy leadership review relevant standards and regulations related to pharmacy workplace safety training annually and make revisions to ensure continued compliance.

Best

Vaiyapuri Subramaniam, PharmD, MS, FCP, FASHP, FASCP
WMSHP Meeting With Howard University College of Pharmacy (HUCOP) new Dean
(see article on next page)
WMSHP Meeting With Howard University College of Pharmacy (HUCOP) new Dean:

WMSHP President Dr. Vaiyapuri Subramaniam and Newsletter Editor & Communications Committee Co-Chair CAPT John Quinn, met with Dr. Toyin Tofade, HUCOP Dean on October 25, 2016, at the pharmacy campus (shown in photo). The purpose was to follow up and enhance awareness of WMSHP’s offerings for pharmacy students’ involvement in membership, career development programs and mentoring. Howard University faculty involvement and membership in WMSHP were discussed. The November 19, 2016, WMSHP students’ career program and CE seminar was promoted in addition to highlights of WMSHP's current and future initiatives in student leadership and scholarship programs. HU COP plans to use this meeting opportunity with WMSHP to promote collaboration that will include outreach with the DC Pharmaceutical Association, HU’s Students' Pharmacy Society and DC Pharmacy Residency Preceptors' groups. As one outcome from this meeting, the DC Pharmaceutical Association invited WMSHP to their October 28 and 29, 2016, awards reception and CE seminar respectively. WMSHP was represented by Dr. Justin Sebakijje, President-elect, who delivered a message on behalf of WMSHP at the awards reception; and Dr. Ivan Cephas, WMSHP member who represented WMSHP at the October 29th CE seminar.

Photographs from September 17th Six Hour Continuing Education Seminar
On November 14, 2016 WMSHP President Vaiyapuri Subramaniam and WSMHP Communications Co-Chair John Quinn attended a board meeting of the Maryland Society of Health System Pharmacists. Pictured above from left to right are MSHP Officers and MSHP Board of Pharmacy Liaison Daniel Ashby. There was a discussion about possible joint future ventures and President Subramaniam invited President Proctor to our Jan 11th Kickoff and Educational Program meeting.

2. Appointment of Dr. Vaiyapuri Subramaniam as Delegate for the US Department of Veterans Affairs to the United States Pharmacopeial (USP) Convention.

WMSHP President Vaiyapuri Subramaniam, PharmD, MS, FCP, FASHP, FASCP, was appointed by the US Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) as the official Delegate for the VA to the United States Pharmacopeial (USP) Convention. The USP Convention membership body constitutes a unique forum that brings together organizations from around the world that represent medicine, pharmacy, other health professions and sciences, industry, government, pharmacopeias, and patient groups to advance USP’s standards-setting mission and address common health care challenges. As a USP Convention Organizational Delegate, Dr. Subramaniam will represent the VA to the USP and support and identify areas and programs where both organizations can collaborate or share a common purpose or interest, such as quality product standards, (medicines, dietary supplements and foods), practice standards, patient safety, and global public health initiatives. In the VA, Dr. Subramaniam serves as Associate Chief Consultant in the Pharmacy Benefits Management Services, Veterans Health Administration, Washington, DC.
November 19th Student Tracking Program at the Universities of Maryland at Shady Grove
On November 19th 2016 WMSHP sponsored a student track and educational meeting at the Universities of Maryland Shady Grove Campus. Pictured above is WMSHP President Vaiyapuri Subramaniam and Shannon Marrow. Shannon is in the 2018 Pharmacy Class at the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy. She is the Shady Grove Liaison with the Student Society of Health –System Pharmacy (SSHP). Shannon has been instrumental in setting up the student program and with all events held at the Shady Grove Campus.

This event had a traditional pharmacy education seminar for WMSHP Pharmacists. In addition the event also featured rotating round table discussions with University Of Maryland students led by Pharmacists. This allowed the students to understand different career options and to discuss their career strategies with seasoned practitioners in the field. A wide range of Pharmacists in very different practice settings were chosen to lead these discussions.