

KSHP NEWS

Kentucky Society of Health-System Pharmacists

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President's Message

Stephanie Baker Justice,
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 KSHP President

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It is hard to believe that springtime is upon us, but I am sure that most have been taking advantage of the nice, mild temperatures that we have been having as it has been a refreshing change. As we near the official beginning of spring, the days are starting to get longer and the time for us to "spring forward" is approaching. With that in mind, I thought about how nature will start its spring transformation and why this season is a favorite for many.

As an organization, KSHP has also been springing into action this year. Our Executive Committee and Board of Directors have been having discussions about how our organization and profession can continue to navigate the ever-changing landscape of healthcare and health-system pharmacy. We have been planning and making changes like the transformation that nature undergoes during the winter to spring transition. Many of our discussions have been based on underlying concepts of springing forward. Some examples include,

but are not limited to, renewal and growth, efficiency, and effectiveness, and making the most of opportunities that have been presented to us.

When it comes to renewal and growth, I think about our membership drive and our focus on the quality of our members as opposed to the quantity. Our Membership and Marketing Committee, under the leadership of Jessa and Maggie, has been focusing their efforts on our annual membership drive that ended on Friday, March 1. In addition, we have been discussing what we as an organization can do to attract and maintain active members (i.e., what can we as an organization give back to our members). This was discussed during our recent town hall meetings in January as well. If you were unable to attend one of the town hall sessions, feedback on what we can do better as an organization for our members is still welcome and can be emailed to any member of our Executive Committee. We

most certainly appreciate the feedback that has already been provided.

With efficiency and effectiveness, Pharmacy Day at the Capitol and our upcoming 2024 KSHP Spring Meeting come to mind. The Public Policy Committee has stayed busy as the legislative session is underway. There was an excellent turnout at Pharmacy Day at the Capitol, and the hard work of the Public Policy Committee did not go unnoticed. Katie, Logan, and Philip did a wonderful job in preparing for this event as well as engaging with those who attended. Senate Bill 27 has been one of the primary bills we have been watching and providing support for given the importance of the 340B program to our health-systems and most importantly our patients. As of today, the progress on this bill remains favorable, so continue your advocacy efforts as we want to prohibit restrictions by pharmaceutical manufacturers. Pharmacy Benefit Manager (PBM) reform and administration of immunizations to children by pharmacists were other important topics discussed. I want to thank everyone who participated and helped make this event successful.

As for the 2024 KSHP Spring Meeting, we have a wonderful agenda planned thanks to our Programming and Education Committee. The agenda has been finalized and is available on the KSHP website. Of note, registration is also open, so please begin making your plans to attend. Residents, students, and others who are interested in presenting their research as posters will notice a change as to how the posters will be presented. A wonderful idea was presented during our fall meeting and we are moving ahead with this change. Instead of posters being displayed on tac boards, we will be moving to an electronic presentation format. This will be a change for our judges as well, so we look forward to feedback from all who attend and participate in the poster session. The calls for abstracts and judges have gone out (see below), so please review your schedules and let us know if you are able and willing to assist with this exciting event for those who have

been working hard on their research projects.

In conclusion, I want our members and leaders to go through 2024 viewing change as an opportunity for renewal and growth. Change can be scary, require us to overcome challenges, and take time to implement, however, I want us to see it as a way for us to continue to grow, innovate, and improve. Positivity will only help propel the organization forward, so let us embrace the spirit of spring this season, so that we can reap the benefits of achievement, growth, and renewal.

KSHP Board Actions
November & January
Spencer Bolton, PharmD, MBA,
BCPS
Secretary, Kentucky Society of
Health-System Pharmacists
secretary@kshp.org



The KSHP Executive Committee and Board of Directors met in November and January. Actions were as follows:

- Membership Town Hall meetings were scheduled for January 29th and 30th to review important legislative and engagement opportunities with members.
- A joint meeting hosted with Kentucky Hospital Association was approved for 2025
- Poster presentation format for the Spring Meeting was changed to include time slots and electronic presentation.

- Subscriptions to marketing platforms were approved to enhance communications efforts.
- Georgia Society of Health-System Pharmacists was approved as the CE accreditor for the 2024 Spring Meeting
- The meeting sponsorship rates and packet were approved
- A legislative and policy tab was approved for addition to the KSHP website

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS POSTER SESSION COMPETITION

Deadlines:

1. Submission Documents due by March 22, 2024 at 11:59 pm ET
2. Notification of acceptance/rejection of poster on/or before March 29, 2024.

Submission Information:

1. Title of poster
2. Name of authors
3. Contact information for primary presenter
4. Abstract of the poster (no more than 300 words)
5. Two Learning Objectives
6. Curriculum Vitae of the presenting author

Submission Format:

1. Click [HERE](#) to complete the online form and upload your CV.

Questions:

1. Please email both Amy Barras, PharmD, BCPS at amy.barras1@va.gov and Melissa Robertson, PharmD, BCPS at melissa.robertson@uoflhealth.org.

Acceptable Topics:

Poster presentations may be on any clinical or administrative project topic such as:

- Descriptive Reports
- Evaluative Studies

- Research-in-Progress
- Case Reports
- Encore presentations previously presented at other forums (ASHP, ACCP, AACP, etc.) are welcome

Additional Information:

1. Failure to comply with abstract requirements may result in abstract rejection.
2. Poster presenter must be registered for the KSHP Spring Meeting. KSHP does not provide an honorarium for poster presenters and printing fees.
3. The winner of Best Poster will receive free admission to the Fall KSHP Conference.



maximize the impact of our profession throughout the commonwealth.

A student-led health fair inside the Capitol followed, complete with glucose, cholesterol, and blood pressure screenings as well as a myriad of educational booths and resources. It was well attended by the general public, our civil servants, and even our own pharmacists that needed a health litmus test. These offerings were a great way to show-case the many benefits of our profession while improving the health and awareness to our Kentucky citizens.

The attendees then broke out into groups of 3-6 individuals to meet with our respective senators and representatives. Providing details to congress on contemporary issues and proposed bills such as PBM reform, vaccination opportunities, 340B policy, biosimilar



PHARMACY DAY AT THE CAPITOL

Philip Schwieterman, PharmD
Co-Chair, KSHP Public Policy
Committee
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On Thursday February 22, over 150 pharmacists and pharmacy students from across Kentucky joined together in Frankfort to host the 2024 KPhA and KSHP Kentucky Pharmacy Hill Day. The event started off with breakfast, networking, and an overview of policy briefings, advocacy tips, and key bills that are currently being reviewed in the Kentucky House and Senate. We were fortunate to have Representative Danny Bentley (Russell County) attend as a guest speaker, providing a motivational and educational talk on the importance of civil stewardship and the ability for pharmacy to positively impact our path forward. Rep Bentley is the only pharmacist in the Kentucky Legislature and will be retiring after this term. In addition, pharmacy advocate Senator Max Wise (Taylor County) spoke on prior and future regulations to help



Chantell Cantrell, Megan Than Win (PGY2 ambulatory care pharmacy residents) and Emma Sapp, Residency Program Director, outside the Capitol Building on February 22.

utilization, gene based therapies, and others allowed us to highlight the value of our profession while helping to steer regulatory statutes for a stronger profession going forward. PGY2 pharmacy resident attendees, Chantell Cantrell and Megan Than Win reflected, "As new pharmacists and PGY2 ambulatory care pharmacy



Senator Funke Frommeyer with pharmacy students, residents and practitioners at Pharmacy Day at the Capitol.

residents, participating in Capitol Day was an unfamiliar experience. Having our RPD accompany us, who is involved in advocacy efforts, offered us fresh perspectives throughout the day. Witnessing her passion for advocacy for pharmacy, St. Elizabeth Healthcare, healthcare workers, and patients was truly impactful. During the event, we had the opportunity to meet with Senator Shelley Funke Frommeyer and House Representative Mike Clines to advocate for policy reforms aimed at advancing the pharmacist profession and enhancing patient safety and access to care. The collective effort of pharmacists from diverse roles across the state coming together for advocacy left a lasting impression on us, reinforcing the importance of unified action in shaping the future of pharmacy."

It was evident that our legislative branch is both impressed and thankful for our profession – the praise went on and on especially around our response during the pandemic, helping themselves and family members through health challenges, filling health care dessert gaps through much of the state, and being a trusted and competent companion to further the mental and physical wellbeing of our state.

The day wrapped up with attendees participating in the House Health Service Committee and a group photo on the capitol steps. Thanks to all of the KSHP members

that were able to attend and advocate for our profession.

REMEMBERING AMEY C. HUGG, RPh, CPHIMS

September 12, 1960 - January 8, 2024
KSHP Past President, 2010-2011

By Chris Holtman, PharmD
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Amey Hugg a pharmacy colleague, fellow KSHP member, and Past-President, sadly diseased at the age of 63.

Amey and I served together on the KSHP Board of Directors from 2008 to 2012, and she succeeded me as President in the Fall of 2011. During her tenure, she led and oversaw a tedious and difficult process to transition the organization to a new management company, followed by the selection of a new Executive Vice-President. Her leadership was visionary, practical, collaborative, and steady - and put KSHP on solid ground for the future.

Amey Hugg was a passionate supporter and practitioner of the profession of Pharmacy; she was the Informatics Pharmacist at the University of Louisville Hospital. In this role, she created and

developed the Pharmacy Informatics Residency program there, one of the first in the nation. In 2016 she became ASHP Director, Section of Pharmacy Informatics and Technology.



When she applied for Fellowship status from KSHP, I was asked for a letter of recommendation on her behalf. It was one of the easiest things I've ever done given her body of work and contributions to the practice of pharmacy in Kentucky. I wrote then - and now in her passing can say that - Amey was energetic, perceptive and organized - she had great vision for the profession of Pharmacy. She valued the many roles of health-system pharmacists and was dedicated to the advancement of the profession and its practitioners. We are thankful for her service to pharmacy.

I was pleased to call her my colleague, and friend. As they say in the South - she's good people.

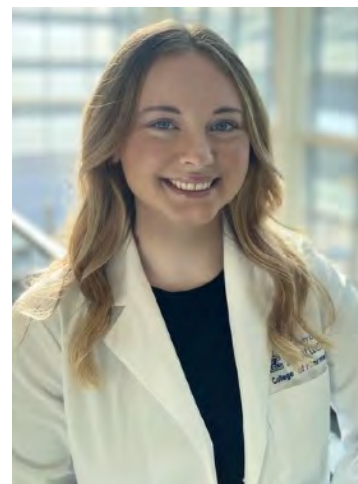
MEET YOUR MEMBERS

Cassadi Byrd, PharmD
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This article features a pharmacy student who has generated professional and personal questions to help both students and pharmacists get to know KSHP members from across the Commonwealth!



Emily Eastman is a Pharmacist Manager at UK Specialty Pharmacy and Infusion Services (UKSPIS). Emily received her Doctor of Pharmacy and Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Kentucky College of Pharmacy in 2016 and also holds a Bachelor's Degree from Centre College. She serves as an Assistant Residency Program Director for the PGY1/2 Specialty Pharmacy Administration and Leadership residency program at UK HealthCare and is an Assistant Adjunct Professor at the UK College of Pharmacy. Emily is a Certified Specialty Pharmacist with interests in oncology, hematology, bleeding disorders, immunology, pulmonology, urology and



pediatric specialties. She currently resides in Lexington, KY with her husband, Joel, and two boys, Carson and Graham. When not at work, Emily enjoys attending UK football on Saturdays and watching her husband participate in local 5K and 10K races each weekend (44 in 2023)!

Cassadi Byrd is a 3rd year pharmacy student at the University of Kentucky College of Pharmacy. Cassadi received her Bachelor's Degree in Chemistry and a Minor in Microbiology from the University of Kentucky in 2019. In pharmacy school, she is the current President of Phi Lambda Sigma Pharmacy Leadership Society and an active member of the Kentucky Alliance of Pharmacy Students. After completing her degree, she plans on pursuing a residency and a career in clinical pharmacy.

What led you to pursuing a career in pharmacy?

Emily: I always knew that I wanted to be in healthcare, but what truly solidified my decision to pursue pharmacy was understanding the profound impact that pharmacists have on improving patient access to healthcare and improving outcomes. I love that I can use clinical and business skills to positively contribute to the healthcare system. I enjoy the opportunity for multidisciplinary collaboration for optimal patient care. I specifically was drawn to specialty pharmacy because it provided an opportunity to work in an environment that

blends retail pharmacy, ambulatory care and transitions of care together. It is a challenging field, but I have the opportunity to work with patients to provide a high-quality healthcare experience.

Cassadi: My first exposure to pharmacy was when I got a job working full-time as a pharmacy technician right out of college. I knew that I would go back to school and that I had a strong interest in healthcare, but I did not yet know what I wanted to do. I found that I really enjoyed that environment. The pharmacists that I worked with inspired and encouraged me to apply to UKCoP. I will always be grateful to them and my supervisors for helping guide me to a program that I really enjoy and a profession that I am so excited to represent.

How has being a preceptor and an advisor for a student organization at UKCOP been valuable to you?

Emily: I love working with learners! I am a preceptor for many pharmacy students and pharmacy residents throughout the year and I am also the faculty advisor for the Student Association of Specialty Pharmacy at the UK College of Pharmacy. I am continually learning to keep up with the drug pipeline and clinical knowledge and working with our learners definitely helps me stay up to date. I also love being asked questions because it allows me to see different and new viewpoints. I am then able to evaluate situations, which often helps to optimize workflows for my teams at UKSPIS and future learning experiences. My favorite part is to show how to translate what they learned in class or in a book into how to treat a patient in real life.

Cassadi: My most memorable experiences with rotations during school have been those where I had preceptors who encouraged me to ask questions and helped me feel confident enough to apply what I learn in school to real situations.

What does a typical day look like for you?

Emily: It's busy! I am a Pharmacist Manager at UKSPIS and I manage a variety of teams that focus on specific disease states - oncology, pulmonary, immunology, bleeding disorders, urology and pediatric specialties. We work to complete benefits investigations, prior authorizations as an extension of the provider, financial assistance and patient education for specialty and ambulatory medications efficiently in order for a patient to gain access to their medication. I attend many meetings to optimize our processes and I am always looking for ways to make our work more effective to reach our goals. Recently, I have very much enjoyed being involved with our residency program recruitment.

Cassadi: A typical day for me starts (hopefully) with a cup of coffee before I go to class in the morning. As a third year, I am only in class 3 days per week, but I also work part-time as an intern at UK's Chandler Medical Center. Most days I will spend a little time focusing on my involvement in student organizations, as well as a few hours studying. And when all of that is done, I like to end the day cooking dinner with my husband and spending time with my dog.

What is a piece of advice you've received that you've found the most helpful for navigating your education and/or career?

Emily: Early in my pharmacy career I was given the advice that "every day is an interview". Basically, always do your very best work because you don't always know who is watching. I don't think I fully appreciated that statement until I was in my fourth year of pharmacy school and starting to look for Pharmacist jobs. I soon realized that pharmacy is a very well-connected profession and my performance many years prior could impact opportunities for years to come. I was very lucky to have listened to that advice. I also had many pharmacist mentors that taught me not only how to be a

good clinician, but also taught me how to lead by example. They showed me how to be a good preceptor and help other learners excel in the classroom and their career goals.

Cassadi: I have received a lot of advice from mentors over the past few years and the most frequently given, similar to Dr. Eastman, is that I should treat every day as an interview. Additionally, one of my instructors, when asked to share about how she built her career, advised us to "never apologize for making time for things that make you happy." This has really helped me with learning how to prioritize my time.

What is your favorite part about living in Lexington?

Emily: I love that Lexington is a "big city" with a small-town feel. It's big enough that I always have something to do (Keeneland and UK sporting events are my favorite), but quiet enough that I can find a local bookstore or outdoor activity (Raven Run is a great spot) to enjoy. I also love all of the amazing local restaurant and food festival options (I highly recommend Bella Notte, Pepper's and Windy Corner for restaurants and the Crave Food Festival).

Cassadi: I love that Lexington has a little bit of everything. I have lived here for 17 years and while I feel very comfortable and knowledgeable about Lexington, there are places that I am still discovering. You get the conveniences of a bigger city, while also being able to drive for 15 minutes and find yourself surrounded by farms and nature.

What's the last TV show you binged?

Emily: I have a big love for TV! My interests range from reality to mystery to comedy to documentaries. The last TV show I binged was Based on a True Story - a show on Peacock about a true crime podcast that gets a little too real. However, right now, I'm really into documentaries! The last few I have watched have been really attention grabbing and still have me thinking about the stories weeks after I finish - some

addictive ones that I have found: The Deepest Breath, Made You Look, Bad Surgeon and Love Has Won.

Cassadi: Recently, I have been binge-watching New Girl. My "happy" show is Great British Bake-Off, so I will often return to that as well.

What is your favorite thing to do in your free time?

Emily: I love attending local sporting events. I'm not much of an athlete, but I married one! My husband is an avid 5K and 10K runner and we participate in many events throughout the year. I find it highly enjoyable, and quite the stress relief, to yell

and scream "Go! Go! Go" from the comfort of my folding chair with my two little boys. Each event always supports wonderful causes and has great vendor booths to look through prior to or after the race. It's also really fun to go and tour local outdoor spaces.

Cassadi: When it's nice outside, I enjoy going on long walks with my dog and sitting on the porch with a good book. I consider that my time to decompress and slow down, so I really take advantage of that when I can. I also love to cook, and I am so happy when I get to share that with my family and friends.

If you could travel anywhere, where would you go?

Emily: As I have grown older I have developed a fear of flying in planes, so, if I could teleport there, I would love to visit Europe. I was an Art History minor in undergrad and I would love to go see the art I learned about in class. I love the mystery and beauty of the paintings and sculptures made during the Renaissance period and I would also love to see original Roman and Greek architecture like the Parthenon and Colosseum.

Cassadi: There are so many places I'd love to go and it feels impossible to pick just one. After graduation, I am taking a trip to Greece and Italy since I have wanted to visit those places for years.