

The PRN Report

accp

Published twice yearly

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Vol. 4, No. 1; February 2001

A Note From President Barry Carter . . . Task Force on PRNs to Advise Board of Regents

ACCP's Practice and Research Networks have now been around for about 10 years. As originally envisioned, the PRNs were intended to be informal, grassroots networks of members who share a common area of practice or research.

I think it's safe to say that the PRNs have been an unqualified ACCP success! ACCP's members have established 17 different PRNs. Forty-six percent of all ACCP members belong to at least one PRN, and the average PRN member belongs to 1.5 PRNs. Anyone who was at the recent Annual Meeting in Los Angeles could observe the magnitude of the role of the PRNs within the organization as they led many of the key aspects of the meeting.

From the original informal groups, ACCP's PRNs have evolved to serve their members in more defined ways, including the development of highly focused educational programming at the Annual Meeting and Spring Forum. Through their business meetings, Networking Forums, and listservs, the PRNs provide important networking opportunities. Many PRNs have addressed various other needs of their constituencies through development of PRN Opinion Papers, development of mini-sabbatical programs, offering travel awards, writing a BPS added qualifications petition, and many other activities. Another important role of the PRNs has been to provide an avenue for development of leaders within ACCP.

As ACCP continues to grow and mature, it is expected that so too will the PRNs. Such growth expands ACCP's opportunities to provide unique services that meet the professional needs of its members. As ACCP becomes larger, the PRNs provide ever increasing avenues in a smaller

group setting for members to meet and interact with colleagues who have similar interests. In fact, many members find the PRNs to be "the thing" they value most in ACCP.

Given the important functions the PRNs serve, it is imperative for ACCP to plan for continued growth as much as possible. Thus, a Task Force on PRNs has been appointed to give thought to what the future roles and responsibilities of PRNs should be within ACCP. The Board of Regents will use this paper to provide guidance and to identify issues for further exploration with the PRN or ACCP membership.

The Task Force has been asked to address the following issues:

- what roles and responsibilities are the PRNs ideally suited to fulfill within ACCP?
- how can PRNs with significant overlap in interests and activities be logically developed and maintained?
- should there be a limit put on the number of PRNs that can exist at any one time?
- what is the optimal way for the PRNs and the Board of Regents to interface?
- what, if any, role should the PRNs have in the College's policy development process?
- what other issues, if any, should be addressed by this Task Force?

Leading this Task Force is Michael Klepser, past chair of the Infectious Diseases PRN. Other Task Force members are Marcia Buck (past Pediatrics chair), Deborah Carson (past Women's Health chair), Elizabeth Farrington (past Pediatrics chair), Robert MacLaren (member of the Critical Care and GI/Liver/Nutrition PRNs), Patricia Marken (past CNS chair), Judith Smith (Secretary/Treasurer Pharmacokinetics/Pharmacodynamics PRN), and Betty Dong, Board Liaison (member, Ambulatory Care PRN).
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The Task Force had its first meeting in November 2000 and has already provided the Board with an interim report of its thoughts. A final draft of the Task Force's report is due in July and will no doubt provide valuable insights as to how to further enhance the PRNs and prepare for their future within the College. If you have thoughts or opinions about these matters, please contact Michael Klepser at (319) 335-8861 or michael-klepser@uiowa.edu, or me at (319) 335-8456 or barry-carter@uiowa.edu.

PRN Networking Forums Offer Opportunity for Learning, Networking at Spring Forum

The Practice and Research Networks of the American College of Clinical Pharmacy are intended to help the College meet the evolving needs of members with similar interests within the field of clinical pharmacy. The structure and functions of the PRNs are designed to reflect the philosophy of excellence embraced by ACCP's members regarding clinical pharmacy practice, research and education.

At the ACCP Spring Practice and Research Forum, slated for April 22-25, 2001, in Salt Lake City, Utah, PRN members and meeting attendees will have the opportunity to participate in the PRN Business Meetings and Networking Forums. Each PRN will conduct a business meeting, and many will also have a reception-style gathering for members to network within their area of interest, listen to presentations of research and articles, and participate in discussions of timely topics in their related fields of study.

A schedule and description of the PRN Business Meetings and Networking Forums at this year's Spring Forum follows. Mark your calendar now and make plans to become involved!

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### **Business Meetings**

Monday, April 23, 2001

11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Central Nervous System

Critical Care

GI/Liver/Nutrition

Hematology/Oncology

Pain Management

Women's Health

### **PRN Business Meetings and Networking Forum**

Monday evening, April 23, 2001

#### **Adult Medicine**

**6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.**

PRN members and other interested attendees are invited to

this PRN's business meeting and networking session, during which the group will discuss and debate timely topics in adult medicine. Light refreshments and hors d'oeuvres will be provided.

#### **Ambulatory Care**

**4:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.**

Members and all interested parties are invited to attend this group's business meeting, followed by a short presentation on mentoring, and concluding with roundtable discussions. Hors d'oeuvres and drinks will be available.

#### **Cardiology**

**6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.**

Please join Cardiology PRN members for a business meeting, followed by a social hour. All are welcome to join this group for a time of networking and refreshments.

#### **Geriatrics**

**6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.**

Members and all interested attendees are encouraged to attend this PRN's business meeting, journal club presentations, and discussions regarding the development of a position paper addressing issues affecting the practice of geriatrics in the community pharmacy arena. Refreshments and hors d'oeuvres will be provided.

#### **Immunology/Transplantation**

**4:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.**

Members and all interested attendees are encouraged to attend this PRN's business meeting and networking reception.

#### **Infectious Diseases**

**4:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.**

PRN members and other interested parties are invited to this group's business meeting, followed by two 20-minute research presentations. The evening's events will be completed with a reception with hors d'oeuvres and beverages. Don't miss this opportunity to interact with members of this PRN.

#### **Nephrology**

**6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.**

Join this PRN for their business meeting and mini poster session. A reception and opportunity to network with fellow practitioners in this field will follow.

#### **Outcomes and Economics**

**4:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.**

PRN members are invited to the business meeting and a social hour, during which informal networking will take place. Hors d'oeuvres and refreshments will be served.

## **Pediatrics**

**5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.**

Attendees practicing in the field of pediatrics and others interested may join this PRN for their business meeting, social hour, and guest presentation on current topics in pediatric drug therapy. Hors d'oeuvres and refreshments will be served.

## **Pharmaceutical Industry**

**6:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.**

Plan to attend this PRN's business meeting and networking reception, during which you will have the opportunity to discuss recent and upcoming activities of the PRN. Light snacks and refreshments will be available.

## **Pharmacokinetics/Pharmacodynamics**

**5:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.**

Members and attendees alike are encouraged to join in this PRN's business meeting, followed by a networking reception and roundtable discussion of "How to Be a Better Reviewer of Pharmacokinetic/Dynamic Abstracts." Plan to attend!

## **Women's Health**

**4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.**

PRN members are invited to a working session to continue development of a women's health curriculum. This professionwide curriculum is being developed collaboratively among ACCP, AACP, APhA, Georgetown University, and the University of Illinois at Chicago. Your input is needed to further refine the curriculum and to help identify potential speakers and authors. Light snacks and soft drinks will be served.

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## **PRN Elections Are Coming . . .**

If you are looking for a way to become involved, now is the time to speak up! All PRNs are seeking candidates for their upcoming PRN elections. PRN Nominations Committees are being formed, and the call for nominations will be going out in March.

If you think you might be interested in serving as a PRN officer, or would like to nominate someone for a PRN office, contact your chair at your earliest convenience. Please see the list of PRN chairs on page 4 of this newsletter for information on how to contact your PRN's chair.

Each year, there are many questions about the process followed for PRN elections. The bullets in the next column highlight several important steps in the process.

- Each Nominations Committee should consist of at least two individuals who are appointed by the PRN's chair; these individuals may be the PRN's current elected officers. Those who comprise the PRN's Nominations Committee are ineligible to run for office in that PRN's election that year.
- Whenever possible, there should be two or three candidates for each office up for election. In those infrequent cases when only one candidate can be identified, an election will still be held, with voters given the option of identifying a write-in candidate. In those cases when there are more than three possible candidates, it is the duty of the PRN's Nominations Committee to make the final selection of candidates for the slate.
- The Nominations Committee should obtain a brief biographical sketch or statement from each candidate that can be included in the ballot mailed to members. The call for nominations should be made in March of each year, and all ballots mailed to PRN members by July 15.

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## **They Just Keep Growing . . .**

During the past year, each one of ACCP's PRNs has experienced continued growth. Total PRN membership increased a whopping 31%, with the number of ACCP members who belong to at least one PRN increasing by 26%.

Phenomenal! The largest growth spurts occurred for the three newest PRNs: Adult Medicine, GI/Liver/Nutrition, and Pain Management. Other PRNs with large gains include: Geriatrics 42%, Pharmaceutical Industry 36%, Infectious Diseases 33%, Immunology/Transplantation 31%, and Pharmacokinetics/Pharmacodynamics 28%.

Below are the actual membership numbers:

|                            |     |
|----------------------------|-----|
| Adult Medicine             | 168 |
| Ambulatory Care            | 800 |
| Cardiology                 | 423 |
| Central Nervous System     | 204 |
| Critical Care              | 388 |
| Geriatrics                 | 201 |
| GI/Liver/Nutrition         | 79  |
| Hematology/Oncology        | 281 |
| Immunology/Transplantation | 166 |
| Infectious Diseases        | 460 |
| Nephrology                 | 127 |
| Outcomes and Economics     | 241 |
| Pain Management            | 137 |
| Pediatrics                 | 239 |
| Pharmaceutical Industry    | 311 |
| Pharmacokinetics/Dynamics  | 175 |
| Women's Health             | 151 |

**For More Information . . .**

**Adult Medicine:** Donald Brophy, (804) 675-5000 x 4470; e-mail: donald.brophy@med.va.gov  
**Ambulatory Care:** Allen Shaughnessy, (717) 231-8651; e-mail: ashaughnessy@pinnaclehealth.org  
**Cardiology:** Allison Miller, (336) 713-0144; e-mail: amiller@wfubmc.edu  
**Central Nervous System:** Marilyn Semenchuk, (520) 694-6000; e-mail: mrs35498@glaxowellcome.com  
**Critical Care:** Henry Mann, (612) 624-9431; e-mail: mannx002@tc.umn.edu  
**Geriatrics:** Janet Pitner, (843) 762-1641; e-mail: jpitner@awod.com  
**GI/Liver/Nutrition:** Rosemary Berardi, (734) 763-2350; e-mail: rberardi@umich.edu  
**Hematology/Oncology:** Philip Hall, (843) 792-8979; e-mail: hallpd@musc.edu  
**Immunology/Transplantation:** Iman Bajjoka, (313) 916-3709; e-mail: ibajjok1@hfhs.org  
**Infectious Diseases:** Michael Kays, (317) 613-2315 x 319; e-mail: mkays@iupui.edu  
**Nephrology:** Michelle Chapman, (617) 636-9947; e-mail: mchapman@lifespan.org  
**Outcomes and Economics:** Lynn Okamoto, (602) 381-9318; e-mail: lokamoto@simatics.com  
**Pain:** Virginia Glen, (612) 672-5497; e-mail: vglen1@fairview.org  
**Pediatrics:** Ralph Lugo, (801) 581-8054; e-mail: rlugo@pharm.utah.edu  
**Pharmaceutical Industry:** Rolin Wade, (408) 996-8446; e-mail: rolin.l.wade@monsanto.com  
**Pharmacokinetics/Dynamics:** Paul Williams, (209) 946-3152; e-mail: pwilliams@uop.edu  
**Women's Health:** Elena Umland, (215) 596-8584; e-mail: e.umland@usip.edu

**Is Your E-mail Changing?**

If your e-mail address is changing, you will need to make the changes necessary to maintain your subscription to your PRN's listserv. To do this, go to your PRN's page on the ClinNet portion of the ACCP Web site and click on "Services for PRN Members Only."

- \* Then, click on "Unsubscribe from the Listserv" and enter your old e-mail address.
- \* Next, go back and click on "Join the Listserv" and enter your new e-mail address. (This is also how to join a PRN listserv initially.)



**WHERE PHARMACY IS GOING**

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**  
 Task Force on PRNs  
 Networking Forums at the Spring Forum  
 PRN Elections Are Coming  
 They Just Keep Growing  
 How to Contact PRN Chairs  
 Updating Your E-mail Address on the Listserv

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