

## American Society of Consultant Pharmacists

### Experiential Rotation Program for Pharmacy Students

April 2009

#### About ASCP's Experiential Rotation Program for Pharmacy Students

In each rotation with the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists (ASCP), student pharmacists have opportunities to:

- Focus on geriatrics, geriatric pharmacotherapy, and the unique medication-related needs of seniors;
- Assist with the development of programs, resources and tools for pharmacists and pharmacy students;
- Learn about how ASCP vision, mission, goals, and core strengths relates to pharmacy practice

Through this program, students participate in a number of projects that focus on educational affairs, medical communications, organizational affairs, and/or policy and advocacy. The program provides students with the opportunity to expand their awareness, knowledge, and skills, and to develop professional experience. There is no patient contact involved.

Some examples of past projects include:

1. Reviewing ASCP's *Geriatric Pharmacy Curriculum Guide*; making recommendations for enhancements; and identifying resources, both ASCP and non-ASCP, for each component.
2. Attending principles of geriatric drug therapy lecture, and completing a pre-test and post-test before and after the lecture
3. Identifying resources that support the components of *Geriatric Pharmacotherapy: Essential Tools for the Community Pharmacist*;
4. Assisting with educational program planning for the mid-year and/or annual meetings
5. Researching and reporting various states' requirements for medication administration to residents of assisted living facilities
6. Attending and reporting on congressional hearings and/or federal regulatory meetings;
7. Monitoring current and upcoming legislative and regulatory developments, and researching and analyzing policies and issues
8. Reviewing the "Students and New Practitioners" section of [www.ascp.com](http://www.ascp.com) to make recommendations for improvements and/or enhancements
9. Writing an article for publication in *The Consultant Pharmacist*. An award-winning peer reviewed journal.
10. Attending and participating in ASCP leadership meetings, such as the Board

of Directors, Professional Development Curriculum Committee, CCGP's Exam Development Committee, etc.

11. Attending various pharmacy meetings, such as the Joint Commission of Pharmacy Practitioners, the Pharmacy Manpower Project, the Council on Credentialing in Pharmacy, etc.

ASCP welcomes the opportunity to discuss its rotation program with each pharmacy student prior to assignment of projects, in order to align the student's goals and interest with the Society's goals and projects, such that both parties may be positioned for optimal experiences.

### **About the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists**

ASCP is differentiated from other national pharmacy organizations by its three core strengths and areas of excellence:

- Knowledge and skills in geriatric pharmacotherapy
- Expertise in long-term care settings for the frail at-risk elderly
- Patient-centered advocate for seniors at-risk for medication-related problems.

ASCP's vision for the future is to secure optimal medication management and improved health outcomes for all seniors.

Therefore, the mission of ASCP is to empower pharmacists to enhance quality of care for all older persons through the appropriate use of medication and promotion of healthy aging.

In their role as medication therapy management (MTM) experts, consultant and senior care pharmacists take responsibility for their patients' medication-related needs; ensure that their patients' medications are appropriate, effective, safe, and used correctly; and identify, resolve, and prevent medication-related problems that may interfere with the goals of therapy.

Upon completion of this rotation, each student will have developed a thorough understanding of the challenges facing the senior population and how the role of a pharmacist can help this underserved population.

ASCP's over 8,000 members manage and improve drug therapy and improve the quality of life of senior patients and other individuals residing in a variety of environments, including nursing facilities, subacute care and assisted living facilities, psychiatric hospitals, hospice programs, and in home and community-based care and wherever seniors reside.