



SEPTEMBER 2022

UTAH SOCIETY OF HEALTH-SYSTEMS PHARMACISTS

# FALL NEWSLETTER

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## INTERESTED IN JOINING USHP?

Our volunteer-run Committees are organized by passionate, talented, and selfless individuals looking to make a difference in pharmacy practice in the state of Utah. They are always looking for others who are passionate about pharmacy and motivated to give back to the profession.

If you are interested in serving on a USHP Committee, please read more about the unique opportunities they offer for service, visit the USHP committee website: [ushp.wildapricot.org/committees](http://ushp.wildapricot.org/committees)

## CONTACT US

We always welcome questions, ideas, and feedback! Don't hesitate to contact us at [ushp@ushp.org](mailto:ushp@ushp.org).

## REGISTER NOW FOR THE 2022 USHP ANNUAL MEETING SEPTEMBER 24TH 7:30 AM - 2:00 PM | IN-PERSON & VIRTUAL

Come enjoy a day of networking, fellowship, and education with colleagues from all around Utah!

Keynote speaker Anne Policastri, PharmD, MBA, FASHP, FKSHP, will discuss "Utilizing Pharmacy Technicians in Advanced Roles," one of the ASHP Practice Advancement Initiatives (PAI) 2030. Her address will provide insights to pharmacists and technicians alike, and CE will be available for this session. Additional sessions will include medication safety CE Targeted Medication Safety Best Practices for Hospitals, and new drug update CE The 2022 New Drug Academy Awards for pharmacists and technicians. Pharmacy students programming includes a session on how to rock an interview: A Good Defense is the Best Offense: Interview Tips for Success and a research poster session with an award for Best Student Research.

Attend virtually by Zoom, or in person at Roseman University of Health Sciences, College of Pharmacy (10920 S River Front Parkway, South Jordan, UT 84095). For more information and to register visit [ushp.org/annual](http://ushp.org/annual).

### TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

**7:30 AM** CHECK-IN & BREAKFAST

**8:00 AM** WELCOME, AWARDS, OFFICER INSTALLATION

**8:30 AM** KEYNOTE CE - "ASHP PRACTICE INITIATIVE (PAI) 2030: UTILIZING PHARMACY TECHNICIANS IN ADVANCED ROLES"

**9:30 AM** MEDICATION SAFETY CE

**10:30 AM** BREAK: VENDOR BOOTHS & STUDENT POSTERS

**11:00 AM** CE - "THE 2022 NEW DRUG ACADEMY AWARDS"

**12:00 PM** LUNCH, VENDORS, STUDENT POSTERS

**1:00 PM** PRECEPTOR DEVELOPMENT CE - "TIPS FOR PRECEPTING RESIDENT/STUDENT RESEARCH PROJECTS"

**1:00 PM** STUDENT BREAKOUT - "A GOOD DEFENSE IS THE BEST OFFENSE: INTERVIEW TIPS FOR SUCCESS"

**2:00 PM** CLOSING REMARKS & RAFFLES

# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Happy Fall from USHP!

Ok, Fall technically is not until Sept 22, but it is right around the corner. I'm often guilty of looking towards the future and wishing it was here today. When it comes to pharmacy, I'm wishing drug shortages are mitigated (\*dobutamine anyone?\*), that we are recognized as Providers and reimbursed for clinical services rendered, and the FTC probe has led to stopping PBM anticompetitive practices. But we can't zoom ahead to the future, we've got to attack the current problems head on to get the outcomes we want. A couple of issues health-system pharmacies and USHP are grappling with now are with 340B restrictions and technician shortages.

With at least 18 drug manufacturers imposing restrictions on 340B discounts when drugs are dispensed at contract pharmacies, millions (potentially billions) of dollars are being channeled out of rural and safety net health-systems and being retained in manufacturer's pockets. Without this vital funding, health-systems in many cases are cutting patient care services, laying off staff, and be at risk for closure. This year, USHP with collaboration from ASHP, provided education on and advocated for Utah House Bill 308 to prevent these manufacturer restrictions. Unfortunately, the bill did not pass, but USHP remains committed to providing state support and resources for the 340B Program.

Pharmacy technician shortages remains an issue state- and nationwide. There are many contributing factors, but two at the top of the list are inadequate pay and lack of meaningful career ladders. USHP encourages health-systems to recognize and implement changes to address these factors. One-way USHP is helping is by promoting advanced pharmacy technician roles. USHP offers scholarships for member Technicians who complete any of the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board (PTCB) certifications and certificates. Some of those examples include the Certified Compounding Sterile Preparation Technician (CSPT), Controlled Substance Diversion Prevention Certificate, and the Billing and Reimbursement Certificate. The goals of the scholarships are to remove the financial barrier that may prohibit technicians from pursuing these and also to increase skills and knowledge which supports pay increases. Please visit the [webpage](#) to learn more!

Something that is right around the corner is our [Annual meeting](#) in-person on September 24th! I look forward to meeting with all of you and learning from our great presenters and vendors. It's been such an honor to serve as USHP President alongside our incredible Board and Committee members. I am thrilled about what we have accomplished this year and sincerely look forward to what else USHP has in store just around the corner.

Cheers,  
Brian Bothwell, PharmD, BCPS  
USHP President



**Brian Bothwell, PharmD, BCPS**  
**USHP President**



# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT-ELECT



**Dustin Christensen-Grant,  
PharmD, BCPS  
USHP President-Elect**

Greetings USHP!

I hope everyone has had a phenomenal summer. One filled with lots of warm weather, professional productivity, and some dedicated time for yourself. I am very excited to start my USHP Presidency and wanted to take a moment to give a friendly hello to those that know me and a warm introduction to those that don't.

My name is Dustin Christensen-Grant, a southern guy raised on a pig/tobacco farm in eastern North Carolina. My studies carried me through the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and Wingate University where I obtained my BS in Biochemistry and Doctor of Pharmacy degree. I traveled to Indianapolis where I completed my PGY1 training at Indiana University Health followed by a food/music-filled year in Austin, Texas. Oh, I also completed my PGY2 in Internal Medicine with the University of Texas while I was there, but seriously the food was great. I moved to Utah in 2014 to join the College of Pharmacy at Roseman University of Health Sciences with a clinical practice site at Intermountain Medical Center. I eventually moved into an

administrator role in admissions and student affairs, and I am now an Associate Professor of Pharmacy Practice and the Assistant Dean of Admissions. Since then, I met, and married, my husband (insert sappy music), bought a house in South Jordan (insert cheering emoji), and expanded our family to include an adorable 9lb chihuahua named Sombra (insert aww GIF).

All silliness aside, I have thoroughly enjoyed my professional career here in Utah. One of my favorite things is the interconnectedness of the pharmacy world in Utah. It has almost become a joke amongst the faculty when trying to mentor our students.

"You think pharmacy is a small world? You should check out pharmacy in Utah."

And despite the strong professional connections that we may have, I believe that we can do even more. It is my hope that USHP continues to grow its membership and leverage our connections with other key stakeholders. This year, I would like to challenge our membership to help strengthen USHP. Maybe you consider running for a leadership position, maybe you find a mentor to help you navigate the organization, or maybe you email us to let us know how we can better serve you. This year, we will do our best to tackle the challenges ahead, but we will need your help. Our most important asset is our membership. Your voice, your time, and your willingness to serve and participate will be invaluable as we look to tackle the challenges that our profession has ahead.

I look forward to seeing many of you at our upcoming annual meeting and don't forget to bring a pharmacy friend.

Kind regards,  
Dustin Christensen-Grant, PharmD, BCPS  
USHP President-Elect



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Fall Resident Continuing Education (CE) Series:

14 hours of available CE

- We will be hosting our bi-annual Fall Resident CE series starting Tuesday, Oct. 25, 2022 from 3:30 to 5:30 PM. The series will continue on Oct. 27, Nov. 1, Nov. 3, Nov. 7, Nov 9, Nov. 14. Registration for this event is coming soon!

## Fall CV Review Night:

- We will be hosting our biannual CV Review Night this upcoming October. Stay tuned for more details!

# PHARMACIST SPOTLIGHT

MARGARET LEE, PHARMD

## SHARE A LITTLE BIT ABOUT YOU AND YOUR JOURNEY IN PHARMACY

My name is Margaret and I am originally from Chicago, IL. I became interested in pharmacy when a few of my childhood friends started pursuing pharmacy. I completed a 2+4 program through Midwestern University-Chicago College of Pharmacy in 2019. I also worked as pharmacy technician and intern at CVS pharmacy during those years. When I'm not doing pharmacy, I enjoy checking out new restaurants, snowboarding, and traveling.

## TELL US ABOUT YOUR CURRENT ROLE/POSITION

My current role is being a float clinical pharmacist at Utah Valley Hospital. Most of my work is focused in critical care and emergency medicine. I've held this role for about 3 years.

## GIVE US SOME INSIGHT INTO YOUR DAY-TO-DAY

Being a float, my day to day varies. I will typically work up my patients and check my consult queues first. I rely heavily on our pass-off sheets to get a quick overview of my patients so I know who is the sickest, who has culture results pending, etc. I'm always around for nurses to ask questions and to collaborate with our physicians.

## SHARE YOUR FAVORITE PART OR SOMETHING UNIQUE ABOUT YOUR ROLE

A unique part about my role is definitely being a float pharmacist. I'm trained in just about all areas of pharmacy. I can be working in the emergency department one day and then the OR pharmacy the next day. So it's a lot of switching gears to provide the best patient care to our patients.

## WHAT DO YOU ENJOY ABOUT YOUR WORKPLACE?

I really how Utah Valley Hospital has a close-knit community feel. Everyone is so friendly and pleasant to work with. We have a great relationship with our nurses and physicians. Our pharmacy department is also fun and always supportive of one another. It's not uncommon for us to plan a fishing outing after work in the summers.

## WHERE DO YOU GROW FROM HERE? ANY ADVICE FOR OTHERS PURSUING A SIMILAR PATH?

I hope to grow into a more specialized role in the next few years. I've always enjoyed working in critical care and emergency medicine, so that's where I would ultimately like to end up. My advice to others is to network and get involved as a student. Find out what you're passionate about and pursue it. Choose rotations that spark your interests and never be afraid to challenge yourself. It might be hard in the present, but it will build such a strong foundation for you in the future.



# PHARMACY IN THE NEWS

## H.R. 7213: Equitable Community Access to Pharmacist Services Act

In March 2022, H.R. 7213, the Equitable Community Access to Pharmacist Services Act was introduced to national legislation. The purpose of this legislation is to ensure Medicare beneficiaries have access to the care and services provided by pharmacists. The bill was introduced by Congressman Ron Kind (D-WI), Congressman David B. McKinley (R-WV), Congresswoman Nanette Diaz Barragán (D-CA), and Congressman Buddy Carter (R-GA) and has since gained sponsorship from 40 representatives. Legislation such as this would ensure that pharmacists receive reimbursement for the services pharmacists are qualified to provide and give Medicare patients better access to crucial care.

