



## Committee on Pharmacy Education/Internship

### Members Present:

Dr. Andrew J. Bartilucci (NY) *Chairman*; Doris Calhoun (MN); Albert Lockamy, Jr. (NC); Michael Noel (AZ); Joseph Sabino, Jr. (OH); Robert Snively (DE); Ted Walker (GA).

### Others Present:

Roslyn Scheer, *Executive Committee Liaison*; Dr. Richard P. Penna, *Associate Executive Director, AACP*; Dr. Daniel A. Nona, *Executive Director, ACPE*; Dr. Jeffery Wadelin, *ACPE*; Jack Coffey, *NABP Appointment to the ACPE Board of Directors*; Leonard DeMino, *NACDS*; Dr. Kurt Proctor, *NACDS*; Frances Peknik, *NABP Staff Liaison*; and Cathy Cacciatore, *NABP Staff*.

### Introduction:

The Committee on Pharmacy Education/Internship met January 25-26, 1991, at NABP Headquarters in Park Ridge, Illinois. The Committee reviewed its charge, and agreed to accept the charge as presented.

### The charge of the Committee on Pharmacy Education/Internship remains as follows:

1. Study and report on current issues in pharmacy education affecting the regulation and practice of pharmacy;
2. Review existing educational curricula, experiential programs (internship and externship), continuing education, and other educational programs to assess their impact on the regulation and practice of pharmacy; and protect the public by encouraging all boards to regulate internship activities through the registration and/or licensure of all preceptors, interns, and intern sites;
3. Make recommendations relative to experiential programs and provide mechanisms, tools, and input related to the evaluation process of such programs; work toward the standardization of internship experiences among the boards of pharmacy in an effort to meet the needs of contemporary practice;
4. Assist the Executive Committee in its relations with other educational agencies and organizations and the public, emphasizing the need for boards of pharmacy and colleges of pharmacy to work together in developing a meaningful training experience for the pharmacy student; encourage discussion between NABP and AACP through regular meetings and participation at district meetings; and

5. Recommend to the Executive Committee, for referral to the Committee on Law Enforcement/Legislation, the development of model regulations for important educational issues.

### **Recommendation CPEI #1: Standardization of Internship**

The Committee on Pharmacy Education/Internship recommends that the Committee on Law Enforcement/Legislation develop model regulations for standardization of state internship requirements. They further recommend that such model regulations should include:

1. Board of pharmacy registration of preceptors and interns.
2. Provisions for structured learning experiences for interns in various practice settings. The learning experience should be predicated on defined objectives and provide for an evaluative process documented in a written, board-approved manual.
3. And updated version of the NABP/AACP *The Internship Experience: A Manual for Pharmacy Preceptors and Interns* should form the basis for material to be incorporated in a model regulation, allowing for modifications as needed to accommodate special state requirements.
4. The learning objectives and experiences provided for the interns should take into account the college-based clerkship and externship programs.

### **Background:**

The Committee discussed the material and background information that has been accumulated over the past ten years and concluded that there is a continuing need for practical experience over and beyond that provided by college-based clerkship and externship programs. There is a difference in attitude on the part of an individual exposed to a practice site as a student and as an intern. While this may not be quantifiable, the collective feeling of the Committee is that a difference does exist. Much of the experience provided in college externship programs is by observation and not the actual hands-on experience gained in internship programs.

The Committee reviewed NABP's publication, *The Internship Experience: A Manual for Pharmacy Preceptors and Interns*, and concluded that with some updating, based on the revised standards of practice, the *Manual* could well provide the basic material to be included in model regulations to standardize internship requirements.

Standardizing state internship requirements has been a topic of discussion for the Committee for well over ten years. The position of NABP, as reflected in the resolutions adopted by the membership at past Annual Meetings has been, "to work toward a standardization of internship requirements among state boards of pharmacy," and that "boards of pharmacy accept actual internship hours earned outside their jurisdictions . . . for the purpose of meeting requirements for licensure by examination or reciprocity." This position served the Association well in establishing uniform requirements that were accepted by the states and facilitated licensure transfer among the states.

Among the colleges of pharmacy, dramatic changes occurred in the structure and composition of externship and other experiential programs offered by the colleges as part of the curriculum. Within the colleges, programs focused on patient care activities within institutional settings. The

programs also included detailed manuals for administering and evaluating externship programs. This flurry of activity was complimented by the drive of some colleges of pharmacy to offer the doctor of pharmacy degree as the sole undergraduate degree. Included in this program was a minimum of six months clinical rotation in the institutional setting.

The discussion soon turned to questions of equivalent programs and the meaning of state internship requirements in relation to the college-based externship programs. There has been considerable discussion on this issue at the NABP/AACP District Meetings as well as among the individual committees of NABP and AACP. Over the past two years, NABP and AACP have made a determined effort to answer many of the questions raised concerning internship and externship programs. The two associations have explored ways in which individual state and college programs could be standardized. NABP and AACP have agreed that a cooperative effort is needed to develop internship and externship sites in community pharmacies. They have also agreed to pursue a partnership between the state boards and colleges to develop quality experiential programs that satisfy legal requirements for internship and are college-based.

The Committee reviewed the progress that has been made to standardize internship/externship programs. Included in the discussion was a review of a study conducted by Boh and Popovich that examined the various manuals utilized by the college of pharmacy as well as a report by Boh that highlights of a project aimed at identifying issues or problems experienced by preceptors of experiential programs.

Richard Penna, Associate Executive Director of AACP, met with the Committee to discuss both of these studies and the cooperative efforts between NABP and ACPE to develop clinical training sites in the community pharmacy and structured experiential programs which are college-based and meet the legal requirements for internship.

Dr. Penna provided an excellent analysis of the current state of experiential programs at the colleges, as well as a keen view of what future programs should embody in order to prepare our future practitioners for the practice of pharmacy. The Committee appreciates the cooperative efforts of AACP and the time spent by Dr. Penna in meeting with them.

### **Recommendation CPEI #2: Task Force to Standardize Learning Objectives**

The Committee recommends to the NABP Executive Committee that a task force of NABP and AACP representatives be formed for the purpose of developing standard learning objectives that will be accepted by all state boards of pharmacy as meeting the requirements for licensure by examination or reciprocity, regardless of the hours awarded. The task force should include members of the 1990-91 Committee on Pharmacy Education/Internship.

#### **Background:**

The Committee reviewed the NABP/AACP publication, *The Internship Experience: A Manual for Pharmacy Preceptors and Interns* and agreed that the *Manual*, although more than ten years old, remains a valuable tool for structuring and evaluating experiential programs. The Committee asked if the *Manual* is still being used by colleges of pharmacy. Richard Penna from AACP reported that the *Manual* had been a starting point from which many colleges developed their own experiential program manuals.

The manuals now used by the colleges are more sophisticated from an educational objective viewpoint, and are tailored to the individual programs and resources of the institution. After considerable deliberation, the Committee decided that the NABP/AACP *Manual* should be used by the task force to develop the standard learning objectives for state internship programs. College of Pharmacy faculty members would provide information on college-based clerkship and externship programs, which would allow maximization of the time spent in the internship.

Consideration should also be given to the appointment of community practitioners from the Committee on Pharmacy Education/Internship to the joint committee.

### **Recommendation CPEI #3: Continuing Education**

The Committee recommends to the NABP Executive Committee that time be afforded at NABP national meetings for board members and Executive Officers to meet with representatives of ACPE to discuss suggestions for improving the completion of and compliance with CE requirements, and long-range planning for continuing education programs.

#### **Background:**

As boards of pharmacy work with mandatory continuing education requirements for license renewal, questions arise concerning the type, quality, and accreditation on particular programs. A meeting with ACPE representatives to discuss these questions would also afford an opportunity to share experiences with other boards.

#### **ACPE Continuing Education**

Jeffrey Wadelin, Associate Executive Director of ACPE, met with the Committee to update them on the **PLAN** and **PREP** programs, which are co-sponsored by ACPE. He also apprised the Committee of a conference that ACPE is organizing in November for CE providers. Dr. Wadelin's presentation was informative, and the Committee appreciated his participation.

#### **ACPE Declaration of Intent:**

The Committee met with ACPE Executive Director Daniel Nona and NABP Appointee to the Council Jack Coffey. Dr. Nona informed the Committee about the progress that has been made in implementing the process for discussing ACPE's Declaration of Intent to accredit only a Doctor of Pharmacy degree by the year 2000. The Committee urged the Council to strongly consider basing any revision of the Accreditation Standards on the revised Standards of Practice and the NABPLEX and FDLE competencies. They also urged that the degree program accredited focus on meeting the needs of the public health and not extend into areas that may be outside the scope of the practice for pharmacy. The Committee appreciated the open and honest discussions with Dr. Nona and Mr. Coffey and reaffirmed its support for the accreditation process and for maintaining close working ties between NABP and ACPE. It was particularly useful to have Mr. Coffey participate in the meeting and provide his perspective on a number of issues.

#### **NACDS – SRI International Survey “Future Educational Needs For Community Pharmacists” and the “Gallup Survey of Pharmacy School Faculty”**

The Committee met with representatives of the National Association of Chain Drug Stores (NACDS) to discuss the SRI International Survey, “Future Educational Needs for Community

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Pharmacists,” and the “Gallup Survey of Pharmacy School Faculty”. Discussion ensued over the results and conclusions of the study.

No action was taken by the Committee. The Committee thanks Len DeMino and Kurt Proctor for their time and the opportunity to discuss the two studies.

**Comments:**

AACP should be encouraged to promote the expansion of the teaching of ethics in the pharmacy curriculum.

The Committee reaffirms its opinion that it is premature for NABP to state its position regarding the ACPE “Declaration of Intent.” There is a need to review, revise as necessary, and validate the Standards of Practice, update the NABPLEX Competency Statements as needed, and review the proposed ACPE Accreditation Standards in light of the new Standards of Practice and the NABPLEX Competency Statements before such a position can be taken.

The Committee supports the concept of nontraditional approaches by colleges of pharmacy to provide an opportunity for BS Graduates to obtain a PharmD degree.