**APhA’s new practitioner community a home for all recent graduates**

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While pharmacy school graduation can sometimes feel like the finish line, the stark reality that this is the starting line can make the transition to pharmacy professional intimidating. While we rely on the framework of professional organizations like APhA to help us grow as student pharmacists, this does not need to change as a new practitioner. APhA continues to provide professional opportunities for new graduates, with our new practitioner community being a home for all new graduates.

While originally siloed, three separate groups have come together to create one community allowing for graduate researchers, residents, fellows, and newly practicing pharmacists to seamlessly integrate as contributing members of the pharmacy profession.

The APhA–APRS Postgraduate Advisory Committee oversees the Postgraduate Initiative, serving members pursuing postgraduate degrees (e.g., Masters, PhD) in health care fields with an interest in pharmacy and pharmacy research. This committee aims to promote scientific research among peers, establish collaborative relationships between members and postgraduate leaders, and increase awareness of postgraduate-related resources, tools, and opportunities. It provides a platform for members to speak on the role of science and research in advancing pharmacy practice.

The committee’s goals are to build a community for postgraduate members to network and collaborate nationwide.

The APhA–APPM Pharmacy Residency and Fellowship Standing Committee (PRFSC) provides services to all pharmacy residents (years 1 and 2), as well as academic, non-academic, and executive fellows seeking advanced training in pharmacy practice. The purpose of the committee is to increase communication and interaction among pharmacy residents and fellows, grow leadership skills, and share best practices. The committee also connects pharmacy residents and fellow colleagues today so that they may learn more about available residency and fellowship resources, tools, and elected and non-elected opportunities.

PRFSC’s goals are to build and create a community among pharmacy residents and fellows so that we can network and collaborate with colleagues across the country.

The New Practitioner Advisory Committee (NPAC) provides oversight for all pharmacists in their first 7 years of practice. With a direct focus on leadership, innovation, friendship, and education, NPAC supports all new pharmacists in their pursuit of changing the profession. With initiatives centered around mentorship and professional development, the NPAC works to empower those transitioning into pharmacy practice to continue cultivating meaningful relationships, thus leading the next generation of pharmacists.

Together, APhA provides a framework for all pharmacy professionals to engage in change. With the merger of these three strongly supported groups, new graduate researchers and practitioners will have increase opportunities to be represented at the highest level of pharmacy. Whether you are a researcher, resident, fellow or pharmacist: once you complete education and enter professional practice, APhA can support you in connecting with likeminded professionals, helping to make health care outcomes for patients better, one prescription at a time.