

PAUL AMBROSE
SCHOLARS
PROGRAM

Empowering Tomorrow's Healthcare Leaders Today



2008 Educational Scholarships Awardees

APTR provided nine interprofessional student scholarships for the 2007 Paul Ambrose Scholars Program (PASP) participants to attend TEACHING PREVENTION 2008. The selected students were paired with an APTR member mentor from their discipline for the duration of the meeting. The mentor introduced the students to other participants, answered general questions and served as a guide to help the students select relevant sessions for their interests and disciplines.

Following the meeting, each scholarship recipient was required to report back to APTR following the meeting about the impact of this experience on their personal, academic, and career goals. Below are some of the impressions and feedback the students shared with APTR.

Eric Crumbaugh

School of Pharmacy
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences

“At this meeting, I was treated not like a student, but as a colleague. There is a stigma that health care professionals are in competition with each other, but this meeting showed me that the quality of care is improved when we all work together on the same team. Since this meeting, I have been looking into programs at my school that would enable me to pursue my masters in public health (MPH) because I feel like this will have positive impacts on my career beyond my imagination.”

Eberenna Egwu

College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
Butler University

“I attended a session entitled ‘Bridging the Gap’ in which the presenters discussed in detail the necessity for cultural competence and ways to incorporate cultural competency practices into any setting. The session made me believe that I have the power to create change, to educate other healthcare practitioners and to spread awareness. Not only did it provide inspiration, but it also provided the tools to put the plan in action. In the beginning of the workshop, I feared that very few of the suggestions were feasible, but then we roll played to make the challenges set before us realistic. And afterwards, I knew that I could do it.”



Mitul Kanzaria

Albany Medical College

“This meeting made it extremely obvious to me the importance of working with other health professionals. I have kept in touch with some of the other Paul Ambrose Scholars who attended the meeting and I appreciate their abilities and talents more with each day. This has led to me trying to improve the access of different programs here at Albany Medical College so that they are open to other students here at our school. Just this past year, my experience from PASP led me to get in touch with a pharmacy student from Albany College of Pharmacy. Together we planned a very successful week of events for AIDS awareness day.”



Jacqueline Lessard

College of Nursing
Indiana State University

“To Suzanne Cashman, Janet Allan, Wayne Dysinger, Jack Dillenberg, Susan Meyer, and Jim Cawley—your experience, guidance, and enthusiasm both encourage and inspire us. I felt the opportunity for such personal access to mentors who are recognized national leaders in preventative medicine truly unique. Their wisdom and experience act like beacons in the fog for students who can still only but dream of making a difference...

The tone and climate of the convention upheld the spirit of collaboration and shared knowledge which was a new experience for me to behold. I learned that inter-professional presentations provide a more comprehensive learning experience. Why? Because it increased my professional knowledge base, promoted an awareness of national issues, exposed me to new innovations, and encouraged networking. At Teaching Prevention 2008, I truly felt the art of possibility was revealed through the power and depth of these interprofessional gatherings.”



Stephanie McKinney

Wayne State University
Physician Assistant Program

“The conference has reaffirmed my passion to educate and provided the fire under my seat to take an active role in bringing a preventive medicine aspect into my career in cardiology. I have the motivation; now I need to find the path to blaze to make this a reality.”



Tina Ptacek

Arizona School of Dentistry and Oral Health

“Dr. Douglas Wood, Dr. Michael Glick, and Dr. Jack Dillenberg couldn’t have said it better: “It Takes a Village: Teaching and Practicing Prevention”. As oral health care professionals we literally believe “that person is attached to the tooth”, and we treat our patients this way. As we advance in our knowledge about the oral-systemic health link, it is essential that the medical and dental community unite to best serve our patients. Medical and dental professionals, educators, and students can work together as a team to provide our patients with an optimal treatment plan—which should include oral health.”



Kelly Sanderson

School of Nursing and Health Studies Georgetown University

“First and foremost, I want to thank APTR for giving me the opportunity to attend Teaching Prevention 2008! I would not have been able to attend if it had not been for the financial support of APTR.

What struck me was that the attendees at the conference were exceptionally passionate about their specialties. Sessions were filled with individuals anxious to share their knowledge and learn from others. There were ample opportunities for lively discussion, and occasionally for respectful dissent. While I’d always known that the science of health care is not as exact as my textbooks have led me to believe, the dialogue reminded me that there are still a lot of very simple questions that remain to be answered. (Perhaps the most hotly debated question during the event was, “What does a healthy diet look like?”) While this state of affairs can feel incredibly frustrating to me as a future clinician, the scientist in me sees numerous opportunities for research.”



Melissa Sanko

Wayne State University Physician Assistant Program

“Teaching Prevention 2008 completely changed the way I look at myself within the medical field and the opportunities that I have to change the way I approach my patients’ illnesses, as well as the healthcare system as a whole. I learned that just suggesting lifestyle modifications is not enough. We as practitioners must take an active role in our patients’ health. I learned that incorporating prompts into EMRs allows us to more consistently, and easily, address risk factors, such as BMI and smoking, into every single office visit. And by addressing these risk factors, we can actively engage our patients in preventive measures. I learned about the importance of dentistry in prevention, and the roles dentists are now playing in screening for chronic diseases.”



Jing Wang

School of Nursing
University of Pittsburgh

“With the guidance of my mentor in the conference, I learned how prevention clinical guidelines were developed. Dr. Janet Allen, Dean of School of Nursing at University of Maryland, generously shared her experience in the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force with me, and she explained how these powerful guidelines came about from research evidence and interprofessional networking. Even Healthy People 2010, which is always my gold standard in introducing the significance of a problem in my nursing studies, became accessible. As a future researcher in the field of prevention education, I hope that I will be able to contribute to Healthy People 2020 or 2030.”