

Thank you for joining us today and congratulations to the 2021 award nominees and recipients. This past year has been challenging as we learned how to navigate the world of COVID-19. Over the year, our workloads have drastically increased, we quarantined and made it through many unknowns. During this time of uncertainty, I am proud to say CPS did not miss a beat. I am thankful for our outstanding leadership that made decisions and ensured Colorado Pharmacists Society continued to meet our strategic efforts. Thank you to Jen and Emily for your hard work and leadership during this challenging time. I would also like to thank the entire Executive Committee for working tirelessly to lessen the impact of COVID-19 on the Society and the BOD for their dedication. I would also like to welcome our new BOD. I am excited for our new Board and to hopefully transition back to in-person meetings, and conferences.

There are three pillars that drive CPS efforts and those are Membership, Advocacy and Networking. I would like to take a few moments to touch on each of these.

Membership: One of our goals continues to be to increase membership throughout the state of Colorado and to engage our current members. This past year we started our ambassador program. The goal of this program is to reach and engage our CPS members that are outside of the Denver Metro Area. We have expanded to several, remote areas, of the state and hope to expand this program in the years ahead. Our ambassador program will help to engage our remote CPS members, but we need your help to promote CPS to your friends and colleagues.

Education: Our Annual Meeting and Winter Meeting have always been a great time to gain CE credit while networking with friends from near and far. We hope to transition back to in person meetings this year, so mark your calendars for the 2021 Winter Meeting in Keystone on January 27th thru 30th. This will hopefully, be our first in-person meeting and will be a great environment to reconnect with friends and colleagues. Our 2022 Annual Meeting will take place in beautiful Estes Park, CO. We hope you can make it. We are very excited to announce that CPS will offer its first residency conference, Residency Conference of the Rockies the day before the 2022 Annual Meeting on June 1st. Finally, be on the lookout for various Townhalls and webinars throughout the 2021-22 year.

Advocacy: Advocacy has been an area that CPS has really impacted in the past few years and this last year was no exception. This year we were able dedicate a lot of our efforts into updating our Pharmacy Practice Act which drastically expanded the pharmacists role, including expanding prescribing services. The chair and the committee worked tirelessly to make this happen. Thank you to Gina, Emily, Katie and the entire legislative committee for all of your hard work.

In addition to our pillars there are other areas that I would like to focus on in the upcoming year. The first is Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. We have started a DEI taskforce, to help educate and lead these efforts for the Society. To keep DEI at the forefront, we will offer DEI programming at each of our conferences and offer other programming to share perspectives and to provide education on the subject. We will also make sure that DEI is interwoven throughout CPS. I challenge each Academy and Committee to make DEI a focus by dedicating at least one of their 2021-22 charges to DEI efforts.

COVID-19 has drastically impacted our communities and I think this is a great time for CPS to give back. Over the course of the upcoming year, CPS will be coordinating service projects and seek volunteering opportunities for our members. The first of these will be a school supply drive. CPS will be hosting a school supply drive for Denver Human Services. We will also plan to hold a Toy Drive during the

Holidays, and a canned food drive. These are only a few ideas and ways that CPS can work with membership to give back.

Finally, as mentioned, we hope to transition back to in person meetings. This means that we will be able to move back to in person happy hours and networking events. And we hope to see all of you attending these various events. Most of these networking events will take place through one of our Academies. If you have not done so already, make sure to join at least one of our Academies to stay up to date with your colleagues and Academies are a great way to network.

In closing, I want to thank you for trusting me to lead the Society in 2021-22. I am so excited to serve CPS and I look forward to a very successful year.