

## A missed exit ramp, an unforgettable year

Myrella Roy

My car is one of the most productive branches of CSHP. That is where I plan my day every morning. Although I should probably not admit publicly to sharing my concentration between the road and my work, the only distracting technology involved is my brain.

During a recent drive back from Montreal, where I attended the 2006 Professional Development Week (PDW) conference held by the Canadian Association of Pharmacy Students and Interns (CAPSD), I was reminiscing about CSHP's accomplishments over the past year. I was dazed by the extent of our collective achievements.

The year 2005 started with the hiring of 3 new staff members: Ken Wou, our Coordinator of Professional and Membership Affairs; Susan Korporal, Administrative Assistant supporting the Ontario Branch; and Christina Cella, our pharmacy student intern for the summer. This growth in human resources in turn allowed us to undertake and complete numerous initiatives.

The Standards and Publications Committee and the New Standards Committee were reincarnated as the Practice Standards Steering Committee. This reshuffling has given fresh life to the Committee, which will soon be issuing new *Guidelines on the Pharmacist's Role in Home Care*, new *Guidelines on Drug Use Control* (to replace the *Guidelines on Practice*), and revised *Guidelines on the Preparation of Sterile Products in Pharmacies* (which will incorporate guidance on the application of USP Chapter 797 in Canada).

CSHP has filled out its publication list with several other titles. A new brochure promoting a career in hospital pharmacy was released in the fall. *Direct Patient Care: A Curriculum for Learning* is getting a facelift: its content is being revised and repackaged into a contemporary, interactive CD format. Watch for the imminent release of module 2 of the curriculum on *Comprehensive Patient Assessment and Identification of Drug-Related Problems*. The publications of the American Society of Health-Systems Pharmacists (ASHP), available to our members at a competitive price

(in Canadian currency) through a reseller agreement, further enrich CSHP's list.

Through the year, the Society has strengthened its relationships with pharmacy and health care organizations across North America. Under the auspices of the North American Compact on the Advancement of Hospital Pharmacy, signed in December 2004, the "Asociación Mexicana de Farmacéuticos de Hospital" welcomed delegates from CSHP and ASHP in Pachuca, Mexico, in the spring of 2005 to provide greater insight into the needs related to hospital pharmacy practice in its country. Just recently, CSHP, the Canadian Association of Chain Drug Stores, and the Canadian Pharmacists Association have endorsed a common declaration, "Principles and Elements for Optimal Pharmacy Participation in the Development of Pharmacy Information Networks", which will serve to advocate e-health principles with government stakeholders. Furthermore, the Society participated in numerous consultations and provided feedback to a variety of stakeholders: the Canadian Council for Accreditation of Pharmacy Programs (*Accreditation Standards and Guidelines for the Baccalaureate Degree Program in Pharmacy*), the Canadian Council on Health Services Accreditation (*Medication Use and Medication Management Standards*), the Canadian Institute for Health Information (project on database development of pharmacist human resources), Health Canada (*Mandatory Reporting of Adverse Reactions*, an authentication approach to e-prescribing, and an evaluation of real-world drug safety and effectiveness as an element of the *National Pharmaceuticals Strategy*), and the National Association



of Pharmacy Regulatory Authorities (*Guidelines to Pharmacy Compounding*), to name a few.

What else? Several accomplishments can be grouped under the theme of “efficiency”. Nearly 70 professional inquiries from CSHP members and nonmembers were answered in a timely fashion. Online registration to the Professional Practice Conference was made available at the CSHP Web site, for the convenience of participants. Last but not least, CSHP relocated to its very own office condominium, a seamless and fiscally sensible move.

In collaboration with CAPSI, CSHP launched an annual 4-pronged program to strengthen the interest and participation in hospital pharmacy practice of pharmacy students across Canada. In addition to providing summer employment for one pharmacy student in CSHP’s Ottawa office, the staff assisted the Branches with hosting symposia for second-year

students at each of the faculties of pharmacy, which included helping with the design of a presentation intended to showcase the opportunities of hospital practice. All second-year students will also receive a complimentary CD copy of CSHP’s Direct Patient Care: A Curriculum for Learning. The last component of the CSHP–CAPSI collaborative program is the Hospital Pharmacy Student Award, which I presented during CAPSI’s 2006 PDW conference to Justin Lee, a fourth-year pharmacy student at University of Toronto and a promising future hospital pharmacy practitioner.

Now where was I? Oh yes—on the road back from Montreal, and I missed the exit to Ottawa! When I did get home, I raised my glass to CSHP and a most successful year in 2005.

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