

Introducing . . . Margaret Gray, CSHP President 2001/2002

Margaret Gray has a vision. A vision of a strong Society of skilled professionals. A vision of volunteerism that moves industries and organizations ahead in their fields. A vision of a momentum that propels pharmacists across the nation into the future of their profession. And Margaret's vision embraces the energy and enthusiasm that she herself brings to her new role as President of CSHP.

Margaret is no stranger to empowering the future. Her executive portfolio, Vision 2003, encourages us as a Society to define both our goals for a dynamic future and the means by which we will achieve them.

Active in "setting the course" for many years, Margaret has served CSHP at the Branch level as a Chapter Chair, Branch President, and Branch Delegate. She has been a member of several Branch and National Task Forces, including the Pharmacist Prescribing Task Force and the Entry-Level PharmD Task Force. In addition to these roles, she has been a dedicated member of the Planning Committee for the CSHP Western Branches Banff Seminar, as well as the CSHP Public Relations and Strategic Planning Committees, and has been Chair of the CSHP Bylaws Committee. This past year, Margaret completed her first year as a presidential officer, serving as President-Elect 2000/2001.

As a longstanding member of CSHP, Margaret maintains an unwavering commitment to the goals and objectives of the Society. "The more involved I become with CSHP, the more excited I get about what a wonderful organization it truly is," says Margaret. "I am inspired by the members and their commitment to passionate volunteerism. At the Chapter, Branch, and National levels, there is the potential to give back, in very real and dynamic terms, to our profession. Over and over again I am overwhelmed by the willingness of our members to do just that."

Her own path to the presidency began when she earned her Bachelor of Science with Distinction from the University of Saskatchewan. After graduation, Margaret became a staff pharmacist at Edmonton's Misericordia

Hospital in 1987. Her clinical practice focused on critical care and infectious diseases.

When the Capital Health Region was created in 1995, Margaret became 1 of 3 drug utilization pharmacists in the region, with her focus continuing in the areas of the drugs used in critical care and infectious diseases. Margaret is now a member of a team of antimicrobial drug utilization pharmacists working in the Capital Health Region. She is responsible for issues related to infectious diseases, primarily for the University of Alberta Hospitals, the Caritas Health Group (which comprises 2 active-treatment hospitals and 1 long-term care facility), and the Leduc Community Hospital.

Margaret's vision encompasses a belief in full participation in her profession and in CSHP. She has shared her expertise as a teacher, a speaker, and a mentor. Her insight has contributed to the professional development of students, residents, and pharmacists in pharmacokinetics, infectious diseases, and pharmacoconomics. Her experience in interdisciplinary team work has resulted in ongoing development of programs in internal medicine and critical care.

She continues to demonstrate a passion for learning and sharing her knowledge with students and colleagues alike. Says Margaret, "As President you realize that it's never an easy job, but you are heartened by the idea that in taking your turn, you are helping your profession grow. In sharing what we all know, we commit to leadership and the delivery of excellence in pharmacy."

When Margaret is not busy envisioning the future of CSHP, she enjoys golf, reading, bicycling, and walking, and she even finds time to play flute and piccolo. Margaret continues to live in Edmonton, Alberta, with her husband, Brian, their 3-year-old son, Ian, and their new baby daughter, Lindsay.

