



SIUE's Butler is Chair-elect for Pharmacy Practice Section of AACCP

by Doug McIlhagga
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EDWARDSVILLE - Southern Illinois University Edwardsville's Lakesha Butler, PharmD and associate professor of pharmacy practice in the SIUE School of Pharmacy, will become the chair-elect for the pharmacy practice section of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) in Summer 2017.

The AACP is the national organization representing pharmacy education in the United States. Butler was selected by pharmacy practice peers through a national election. She will serve in the chair-elect capacity for one year (2017-18 academic year) and will assume the role as chair for one year (2018-19). She will serve as immediate past chair for the following year (2019-20).

"I believe in not just being a member of an organization, but being an active member and having an impact, leaving an imprint and facilitating growth," Butler said. "This position is quite significant to me, because I was chosen to represent my direct peers in the world of pharmacy academia. I am humbly honored to serve my profession in this capacity."

Butler has been an active AACP member, serving in a number of leadership roles for the past 10 years. The pharmacy practice section represents the special interests of faculty engaged in pharmacy practice and clinical sciences. She previously chaired the section's research and scholarship committee. The section has more than 2,000 members and is the largest AACP section.

"Dr. Butler has been involved in the AACP pharmacy practice section for several years, and it is commendable that her peers have elected her to lead the section," said Gireesh Gupchup, dean of the SIUE School of Pharmacy. "I am confident that she will contribute positively to section and AACP as a whole."

The chair-elect assumes the chair's duties and responsibilities in the event of the latter's absence at section or association meetings, or in the event of the chair's death, resignation or incapacity. Butler will chair the section's program committee for the coming year.

The pharmacy practice section chair has the overall responsibility for conducting the section's affairs between annual meetings. The chair also presides at the section's business meetings and serves as a member of the association's section council. The chair has overall responsibility for setting the direction for annual section activities, and formulates and manages the section's budget.

Founded in 1900, the [AACP](#)'s mission is to lead and partner with its members in advancing pharmacy education, research, scholarship, practice and service to improve societal health. AACP is comprised of all accredited colleges and schools with

pharmacy degree programs accredited by the [Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education](#), including more than 6,400 faculty, 62,500 students enrolled in professional programs and 5,100 individuals pursuing graduate study.

[School of Pharmacy](#): Today's pharmacists improve patients' lives through the medication and education they provide. Dedicated to developing a community of caring pharmacists, the SIUE School of Pharmacy curriculum is nationally recognized as a model that offers students a unique combination of classroom education, research, community service and patient care. The School of Pharmacy's areas of excellence include a drug design and discovery core; pediatric practice; chronic pain research and practice; and diabetes research and practice. As the only downstate Illinois pharmacy doctorate program, the SIUE School of Pharmacy is addressing the growing need for highly trained pharmacists in a rapidly growing field.