

House of Delegates

**REPORT OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
ON
NOMINATIONS FOR ASHP TREASURER**

June 8, 2025

Charlotte, North Carolina

This year, our Treasurer, Ms. Christene Jolowsky, will complete her term in that office. Accordingly, and pursuant to section 4.1.3 of the Bylaws, the Board hereby submits two names as nominees to the office of Treasurer. As provided in section 5.2.1 of the Bylaws, ASHP members will elect by majority vote a Treasurer to a three-year term of office.

Through announcements in various ASHP communications, the entire membership was advised of the forthcoming opening in the Treasurer's office and recommendations and expressions of interest were solicited. That solicitation outlined the formal duties of the Treasurer and summarized other qualities that the Board would consider in selecting the most qualified nominees.

To facilitate selection of the nominees, the Board formed a committee consisting of Kristine K. Gullickson (Chair), Melanie A. Dodd, Nishaminy Kasbekar, Vickie L. Powell, Jennifer E. Tryon, John R. Heberlein, and Paul W. Abramowitz. The committee met on March 21, 2025, via teleconference and reviewed the qualifications of members who had agreed to be considered as candidates and selected two candidates. The Board of Directors approved the slated candidates on April 10.

The role of the Treasurer is unique among the Board members and selection of these nominees involved special consideration of these unique responsibilities. In addition to serving as a member of the Board and providing leadership to the profession, the Treasurer is specifically charged with significant and specific fiduciary responsibilities for financial oversight of ASHP and, thereby, the ability of this organization to serve the needs of the profession.

The Treasurer must be an active member and able to perform the duties of a Director, as set forth in article 5 of the Bylaws. Therefore, it is important that a nominee possess those qualities of commitment, leadership, vision, professional awareness, and intellect necessary for being a member of the Board, including:

- professional experience, involvement, vision, and perspective;
- communication and motivational skills; and
- involvement in ASHP and affiliated state societies.

Because of the uniqueness of the Treasurer's position in the governance process, additional assessments must be made. The Treasurer serves as the financial planner and overseer of ASHP under the obligations set forth in section 4.5 of the Bylaws. Under the Bylaws, the Treasurer must be able to:

- oversee conservation and prudent investment of ASHP assets;
- assure that expenditures are in accord with program priorities;
- approve internal controls relative to management and handling of funds;
- inform the Board and membership about ASHP's financial needs and projections;
- oversee ASHP activities to assure budget objectives are met; and
- serve as Chair of the Committee on Finance and Audit.

The Treasurer of ASHP also serves as Treasurer of the ASHP Foundation.

Finally, the Board assessed those intangibles that would permit the Treasurer to balance technical financial capabilities with professional vision, so as to permit this person to serve as a cornerstone of the Board. Among the qualities are:

- credibility with members, Board, and staff;
- ability to interrelate substantive ASHP policy, goals, objectives, and financial issues;
- willingness to commit the time to do the job;
- a sensitivity to membership needs and wants, and to practice; and
- ability to assess and evaluate the details of financial management of ASHP.

The Board's job was a difficult one because selection of the nominees involved matters of degree, not the mechanistic application of a formula. We are confident that our nominees are outstanding; both have the capacity to provide financially responsible and responsive leadership.

Your Board is pleased to place in formal nomination two members for election as the Treasurer of ASHP, John A. Armitstead and Lisa M. Gersema.

CANDIDATES FOR ASHP TREASURER

John A. Armitstead, MS, RPh, CPEL, FASHP, (john.armitstead@leehealth.org) is vice president - pharmacy services, Lee Health, Fort Myers, Florida. He is responsible for practice advancement, strategic planning, financial management and coordination of pharmacy care provision in a five hospital, three skilled nursing facility and county-wide ambulatory health system with a \$330 million budget, including a workforce of 440 team members. Over 250 new pharmacy practice positions have been initiated at Lee Health under approved, innovative business plans.

John obtained a master's degree in hospital/clinical pharmacy from The Ohio State University and completed a pharmacy residency at Riverside Methodist Hospitals in Columbus, Ohio. He received a Bachelor of Science in pharmacy from Ohio Northern University, Ada, Ohio. He earned the Certified Pharmacy Executive Leader credential from ASHP in 2023. John has directly precepted 250 pharmacy residents and 100 Doctor of Pharmacy students throughout his career. He also serves as a residency program director for the Lee Health PGY2 program in health services pharmacy administration and has written two financial management book chapters among over 50 publications.

As an active member of ASHP for over 40 years, John is a past president and board member of the ASHP, the Ohio Society of Health System Pharmacists, and the Kentucky Society of Health System Pharmacists (KSHP). He has served as board member and chair of the House of Delegates for the Florida Society of Health-System Pharmacists (FSHP). Armitstead is a Fellow of the ASHP, FSHP, and KSHP.

Statement of Philosophy

John's professional philosophy emphasizes alignment with the ASHP vision, strategic plan, policies, and statements with a commitment to patient care, advocacy for pharmacy practice advancement, workforce development for our future, and a focus on an individual's pursuit of excellence.

- *Optimizing patient outcomes through interdisciplinary medication management.*
- *Advance, expand and promote pharmacy services in an enthusiastic, innovative and consistent manner, in which pharmacy is recognized as a leader, advancing practice, and care to patients where continuity of care from the patient's perspective is expected and delivered.*
- *Develop and expand pharmacy training programs for pharmacy residents, student pharmacists, and pharmacy technician students, demonstrating professionalism, competency, and excellence while providing a highly trained pharmacy workforce for future challenges in optimizing care for patients.*
- *Contribute to providing an environment and culture for personal and professional growth for pharmacists and pharmacy technicians through encouragement, continuous professional development, recognition and utilization of the skills, talents and strengths of the individual.*

Lisa M. Gersema, BSP Pharm, PharmD, MHA, BCPS, CPEL, FASHP (lisa.gersema@allina.com) is the system director of clinical pharmacy services for Allina Health, Minneapolis, Minnesota. She completed her BSP Pharm, PharmD., and a one-year fellowship in clinical pharmacology at the University of Iowa. She received her MHA from Simmons College located in Boston. She has maintained her BCPS since 1993 and became a Certified Pharmacy Executive Leader in 2022.

In her current role, she provides leadership of clinical pharmacy services to develop, advance, and optimize system practice standards. This is inclusive of formulary management, cost-savings initiatives, policy harmonization, EMR clinical decision support, development of practice standards and outcomes, and clinical workload metrics for use at 10 hospitals in the health system. Prior to this position, Gersema was director of pharmacy and clinical manager at United Hospital, part of Allina Health, for more than 25 years. As director, she advanced a decentralized and integrated pharmacy practice model emphasizing accountability, collaboration, and team-based care.

Gersema's service to ASHP includes serving as president and on the board of directors, chair of the International Accreditation Commission, chair of the Council on Pharmacy Practice, member of the Commission on Therapeutics, chair of the ASHP Task Force on Opioids, served in the House of Delegates representing Minnesota, and was a member of several other ASHP committees and advisory groups. She also served as president and treasurer of the Minnesota ASHP affiliate (MSHP). She received MSHP's Hallie Bruce Award (highest honor bestowed by MSHP) and the Hugh F. Kabot Award (leadership and innovation).

Statement of Philosophy:

We live in a chaotic and challenging time. It can be daunting to demonstrate positive outcomes and the value of our professional services while evaluating practice advancements, implementing innovative technologies, and managing unprecedented financial challenges in this environment. Collaboration between ASHP leadership, staff, and members is essential to remain nimble and effectively engaged, and to capture and disseminate the extensive knowledge, wisdom, creativity, and aspirations of ASHP members. These efforts must include:

- *Providing leadership and developing best practices on the safe and effective use of artificial intelligence and other innovations to advance efficient pharmacy practice*
- *Assertively advocating with legislators and regulatory bodies to recognize pharmacists as providers, advance the role of technicians, and ensure safe medication use and supply*
- *Supporting research and programs that enhance well-being in our pharmacy environments and workforce*
- *Promoting collaboration with the interdisciplinary healthcare team to quantify pharmacists' unique and irreplaceable contributions to positive clinical and fiscal outcomes*

I have witnessed the vital role of the ASHP treasurer in providing oversight and communication regarding ASHP's financial status to the board and ASHP members. The treasurer's role to ensure resources are available to sustain ASHP's rich history to advance pharmacy initiatives is a critical one. The treasurer's previous board experience also positions them to provide insight, context, and mentorship regarding historical Board activities or decisions.

Through our collective wisdom, I am confident we can be successful in advancing our agenda in these challenging times. I would be honored to serve as treasurer to contribute to this success.