

The Knowlton Center for Pharmacist-Based Health Solutions:

Executive Fellowship

in Association Management & Leadership

Coordinated under the APhA Foundation, along with APhA senior staff, the **Executive Fellowship** trains pharmacy graduates in the many aspects of association management including leadership, advocacy, pharmacy practice advancement, and constituent engagement.

Since the program launched 2008, the **Executive Fellowship in Association Management & Leadership** has trained 14 individuals for leadership positions within the profession and in national, regional, state, and local professional pharmacy and/or other health-related organizations.

HERE IS A LOOK AT WHERE THEY ARE NOW.



Olivia Welter, PharmD (2021–2022)

Current Position: Executive Fellow at APhA Foundation

"I can already tell how drastically my experience with APhA Foundation as Executive Fellow will impact my future career. The most valuable part of this program is the opportunity to connect with pharmacy stakeholders nationally, including our Board of Directors, the APhA Board of Trustees, and any other VIPs who decide to visit the world home of pharmacy. Through managing three of the primary Foundation programs, I have been able to discover new mentors and new passions. I know that my newfound experience with managing people, partners, and programs will be invaluable as I transition into the next step of my career."



John Little, PharmD (2020–2021)

Current Position: Research and Innovation Project Management Specialist at APhA Foundation

"The Executive Fellowship greatly prepared me for a successful pharmacy career by presenting me with very unique opportunities and surrounding me with a fantastic team that ensured a successful start to my career. Now that I've transitioned to Research and Innovation Project Management Specialist, I frequently draw upon skills obtained from the Fellowship, such as collaboration with others, organization and project management, and professional communication. Thanks to the Executive Fellowship, I feel very equipped to succeed in my current role, and confident knowing that the skills and relationships gained through the Fellowship will continue to help me moving forward."



Meg Freiter, PharmD (2019–2020)

Current Position: Senior Manager of Pharmacy Practice at American Pharmacists Association

"The Executive Fellowship afforded me the opportunity to work alongside top leaders to empower pharmacists to care for patients through research, innovation, and leadership. My engagement in managing and growing the APhA Foundation's research and scholarship programs developed key skillsets that I continue to draw from in my current role. The experience gave me the knowledge and experience to be an advocate for the profession and advance pharmacy practice. In my current role with the pharmacy practice team at APhA, I work on initiatives related to transforming pharmacists' role and expanding access to patient care services."



Rajan Vaidya, PharmD (2018–2019)

Current Position: Vice President of Practice & Professional Development at California Pharmacists Association

"Through the Fellowship, I was able to develop lasting relationships with national pharmacy leaders that continue to positively influence my development as a pharmacist. The formal training, mentorship, and breadth of experiences provided me the ability to actively lead in government affairs, professional development, and membership roles and to quickly transition into a senior management position."



Jing Wu, PharmD, MPH (2017–2018)

Current Position: Account Executive at Esri

"The greatest value of the Executive Fellowship was that it exposed me to a network of pharmacy profession leaders of whom I could learn from directly. To this day, I am in contact with many of my peers who still influence my communication and relation styles, as well as my personal and professional ethos. Moreover, the residency provided me with opportunities that helped me build my confidence in being a leader. As I progressed onto my endeavors post-residency, I was able to provide tangible examples of challenges and successes in a variety of different projects and experiences; therefore allowing me to demonstrate flexibility in breadth as well as depth in my skills. By merging my experiences in pharmacy, public health, advocacy, and leadership, I was able to successfully translate the skills gained into helping me become a valuable asset for advancing business and technology in the health sector in my current role."



Drew Register, PharmD (2016–2017)

Current Position: Associate Director of Membership Engagement and Communications at American Pharmacists Association

"I currently serve as the Associate Director, Membership Engagement and Communications at the American Pharmacists Association. In this role, I'm responsible for strategizing member acquisition, retention, and engagement and strengthening the overall value proposition of membership through the development of new benefits. The Executive Fellowship allowed me to foster my leadership potential, strengthen my communication skills, and gain invaluable project management experience that I've been able to apply to the work that I do even today."



Brian Donahue, PharmD
(2015–2016)

Current Position: Medical Science Liaison representing Moderna

Brian completed the APhA Foundation Executive Fellowship in Association Management & Leadership following his graduation from the Mercer University College of Pharmacy in 2015. While at Mercer, Brian served two years on the National Executive Committee of the American Pharmacists Association – Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP).



Brian Wall, PharmD
(2014–2015)

Current Position: Director of APhA Governance & Foundation Administration at American Pharmacists Association

“The Executive Fellowship provided me the opportunity to see how the APhA Foundation and APhA impact the profession of pharmacy, members, and donors. I was able to gain hands on experience and grow my skills in project management, member engagement, research and innovation, governance, communication, and leadership. These skills have been invaluable in my current role where I work with APhA’s House of Delegates and policy development process, serve as a staff liaison to the APhA Board of Trustees and APhA Foundation Board of Directors, coordinate aspects of the APhA Awards and Elections programs, and support immunization practice activities. I cannot thank the Knowlton’s enough for their continued support of this program and the continued impact they have provided for future Fellows.”



Ryan Burke, PharmD
(2013–2014)

Current Position: Director of Professional Affairs at Pharmacy Technician Certification Board

“The Executive Fellowship prepared me for a unique and rewarding career in pharmacy association management. I would not be where I am today without the knowledge and skills I acquired during my time with the APhA Foundation. I am grateful to the Knowlton’s for their generosity in supporting the program for so many years.”



Krystalyn Weaver, PharmD, JD
(2012–2013)

Current Position: Associate at Sidley Austin LLP

“The Executive Fellowship program provided a springboard to launch my career in pharmacy association management. The connections I made during my year at the APhA Foundation led not only to my subsequent position with the National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations (NASPA), but also enhanced my work there. In my new career as a healthcare attorney, echoes of my time with the APhA Foundation ring through in the form of project management and leadership skills and knowledge of the broader healthcare system.”



Farah Towfic, PharmD, MBA
(2011–2012)

Current Position: Director of CEO Operations at United States Pharmacopeia

“In my current position as Director of CEO Operations at United States Pharmacopeia (USP), I apply many of the skills that I developed and refined during my residency. These include communications, stakeholder engagement, and advocacy. In addition to building a solid foundation for lifelong learning, the residency helped me identify how best to communicate ideas, prepare presentations, and advance strategic objectives for a mission driven non-profit.”



Lindsay Kunkle, PharmD, MBA
(2010–2011)

Current Position: Clinical Program Development Manager at Kroger Health

“Before joining Kroger Health in January 2022 as Clinical Program Development Manager, I led American Pharmacists Association’s strategic technology solutions for credentials verification and workforce development as Associate Vice President of Pharmacy Profiles and ADVANCE. My APhA Foundation Executive Fellowship grew my knowledge, skills, and confidence to understand the national pharmacy landscape, navigate association dynamics, manage projects and colleagues, and solve problems with a determined, positive outlook.”



Megan Coder, PharmD, MBA
(2009–2010)

Current Position: Executive Director at Digital Therapeutics Alliance

“Immediately following my Fellowship, I worked at Pharmacy Technician Certification Board (PTCB), where I honed many of the skills I first learned through the Fellowship. And today, I can directly point to those early days with the Foundation and PTCB as the catalyst for the international trade association (Digital Therapeutics Alliance) I launched in 2017. What started as a post-graduate opportunity, has now led to a lifelong passion.”



Brian Lawson, PharmD
(2008–2009)

Current Position: Associate Executive Director at Board of Pharmacy Specialties

“As I reflect on my time as the first Executive Fellow, I recognize this post-graduate experience enhanced skills in adaptability, communications, and people and project management; these are competencies I continue to develop and refine 12 years later. Over the last nine years with the Board of Pharmacy Specialties, I’ve accepted new challenges and responsibilities that advance strategic goals, create more efficiencies, and manage growth.”



To learn more about the Executive Fellowship and the application process, visit aphafoundation.org/knowlton-center.