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## **CSHP Foundation's ASHP Pharmacy Leadership Academy Scholarship Recipient (2016)**

*The CSHP Foundation is committed to offering educational opportunities to develop Canada's hospital pharmacy leaders using innovative, evidence-based methods. The ASHP Pharmacy Leadership Academy, a 12-month distance-learning program, provides training for those aspiring to leadership positions. The Foundation's scholarship covers the program's tuition.*

### **Q: Why did you decide to enroll in the ASHP PLA program?**

**A:** I have long been interested in leadership, having held various formal and informal leadership positions in pharmacy organizations (notably CSHP) and the workplace. After reviewing information about the ASHP PLA program and hearing testimonials from PLA alumni (including one of my colleagues on CSHP ON Branch Council), I realized that the PLA program provided the right combination of practical and "textbook" learning opportunities that I was looking for to advance my leadership training.

### **Q: What did you gain from the ASHP PLA program?**

**A:** Over the course of the PLA, I had the opportunity to grow as an individual and as a professional. The various assignments, reflections, projects, and interactions were valuable learning experiences, and the course e-books and articles are excellent resources that I continue to refer to even after completing the program. Thanks to the PLA, I feel much better equipped to be a leader in the pharmacy profession.

In addition to the course material that was taught, there were several intangible benefits. For example, through the ongoing group work, I met and collaborated with pharmacists from across the United States as well as the Middle East. It was interesting to learn that, despite the geographic diversity, pharmacists ultimately face similar challenges all over the world.

### **Q: How will you leverage what you gained from the ASHP PLA program in your professional career?**

**A:** It did not take long for me to begin applying what I had learned from the program, both in my patient care duties and my teaching responsibilities. To date, this application has been on a micro level (i.e. individual discussions with other pharmacists and modifications to my day-to-day activities). I am now interested in taking the learning from the PLA to the next level and sharing the knowledge and skills with my colleagues and others on a larger scale (e.g. by leading workshops at my pharmacy department and my local CSHP chapter).

### **Q: Why should others consider the ASHP PLA program and the CSHP Foundation PLA Scholarship?**

**A:** Regardless of where one is in his/her professional career – whether he/she is a "little l" leader or someone who holds a formal leadership role – the ASHP PLA is an excellent program for building one's leadership skills. What makes the PLA particularly effective is that, unlike other healthcare leadership programs, it is tailored to a pharmacist audience and provided by leading pharmacy faculty from the United States.

I am very grateful to the CSHP Foundation for providing the support to pursue the PLA program. I encourage CSHP members to consider applying for this very generous scholarship in order to have the privilege of benefiting from the PLA and representing CSHP.

**The role of the hospital pharmacist is changing; research and education will support the change.**

**Apply now for a PLA Scholarship.**

**Information and application deadlines at [www.cshpfoundation.ca](http://www.cshpfoundation.ca)**