Greetings and Happy Holidays!

It was an honor to be elected as President of NASCSA at the 2019 annual business meeting and I look forward to working with our exceptional Executive Committee and Executive Director in taking care of the business and affairs of the association.

Important News from the NASCSA Executive Committee - Barb Carter, Chair, recently informed the Executive Committee that her responsibilities with the
NASCSA is pleased to announce that it is now on Twitter and the number of followers continues to grow each month so please follow us at @NASCSA.

Minnesota Board of Pharmacy were expanded which will require more of her time and attention. In order to meet the needs of her expanded role, Barb regrettably made the decision to resign her NASCSA Chair position. Barb will certainly be missed but we greatly appreciate her significant contributions and continued support of NASCSA.

In accordance with NASCSA Bylaws, in the event the Chair is unable to serve, the Executive Committee shall select a person who has previously served as a member of the Executive Committee to serve as Chair. After careful consideration, the Executive Committee selected Alan McGill with the Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General. Alan was recently elected to his second term as a NASCSA Member at Large and graciously accepted the invitation of the Executive Committee to serve as Chair. We certainly appreciate Alan's willingness to serve.

As a result of Alan McGill's move to Chair and Christie Frick's election to Vice-President during the annual business meeting, 2 vacant positions for Members at Large were created. In accordance with the NASCSA Bylaws, the Executive Committee is tasked with selecting a person to fill the vacancy for each of the unexpired terms. As you may recall, there were multiple individuals who were nominated and ran for the vacant Members at Large seats during the annual business meeting. The Executive Committee made the decision to select from the pool of individuals who ran for the vacant positions by the number of votes received from the membership during the election. The Executive Committee selected Jason Slavoski of Delaware to fill the 2-year term left by Alan and Sid Seal of Mississippi to fill the 1-year term left by Christie. On behalf of the Executive Committee, I wish to congratulate both Jason and Sid and welcome them aboard.

In other news - The NASCSA Committee assignments are almost complete and if you would like to be part of a committee do not hesitate contacting me.

I want to take this opportunity to wish everyone a safe and happy holidays!

Joe Fontenot, President, NASCSA

Record Attendance at 2019 Annual Conference

The 35th annual conference took place in October in Richmond, with over 180 attendees from over 36 states as well as industry representatives. In an effort to “go green” presentations were posted online in advance of the
conference and we continue to receive positive feedback to this change. Presentations and attendance lists from the conference are found here.

Conference Highlights

Highlights of the 2019 conference include the following:

Election of Officers:

The following slate of officers and executive committee members were approved at this year's conference:

- Joseph Fontenot (LA) - President
- Joshua Vinciguerra (NY) - Secretary/Treasurer
- Christie Frick (SC) - Vice President
- Eric Griffin (OH) - Executive Committee
- Alan McGill (PA) - Executive Committee
- Yenh Long (NV) - Member at large (continued)

The Executive Committee wishes to extend a very special thanks to our sponsors who help support NASCSA during the conference and throughout the year. A list of sponsors can be viewed here.

Adoption of Resolutions:

The membership voted to approve one resolution at the annual conference:

Encouraging the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to Allow Opioid Treatment Programs to Disclose Dispensing Data to State Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs

Copies of these resolutions as well as all resolutions adopted by NASCSA's members can be found here.

Revised Bylaws Passed:

Several changes to the bylaws were enacted by the membership, a copy of which is found here.
The 2019 President's Award was presented to Christie Frick, Director of the South Carolina Prescription Monitoring Program for her many years of support to NASCSA and her tireless support of the organization over the years. Ms. Frick was presented the award from Barb Carter, president of NASCSA. Christie is a graduate of the Medical University of South Carolina's College of Pharmacy. She has over 10 years' experience in retail pharmacy. In 1999, Christie joined the SC Department of Health and Environmental Control's Bureau of Drug Control. As part of her duties as a controlled substance inspector for the Bureau, Christie completed basic law enforcement training at the SC Criminal Justice Academy and was certified as a state law enforcement officer. In June 2013, Christie became the Director of the SC Prescription Monitoring Program. In addition, Christie was a recipient of the 2018 SC DHEC Director's Award. Christie is a member of the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy PMP Interconnect steering committee, and the National Association of State Controlled Substance Authorities Executive Committee.
2019 Bill Ward Education Award Presented to Katrina Howard

The Executive Committee of the National Association of State Controlled Substances Authorities (NASCSA) authorized the establishment of a special memorial education award in honor of long-time state member, committee member, volunteer, webmaster, photographer and treasured friend, William P. "Bill" Ward who died in August of 2018. This year's recipient was Katrina Howard, PharmD of the Minnesota Prescription Monitoring Program (MN PMP) within the Minnesota Board of Pharmacy. Dr. Howard oversees pharmacy compliance with reporting and data integrity as well as the unsolicited notification process for the MN PMP. She received her Pharm.D. from the University of Minnesota College of Pharmacy. Dr. Howard currently chairs the National Association of State Controlled Substance Authorities (NASCSA) PMP Committee.

Save the Date for NASCSA's Annual Conference!

It's hard to believe that plans are well underway for our 36th annual conference that will take place at the Embassy Suites Hotel in downtown Birmingham, Alabama October 26-29, 2020. So please save the date on your calendars. We have some exciting plans for this year's conference so check the website on a regular basis for updates.
Catizone Announces 2020 Retirement in His 35th Year at NABP

After 34 years of steadfast commitment to the mission of the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy® (NABP®), NABP Executive Director/Secretary Carmen A. Catizone announced that he will retire in 2020, his 35th year with the Association, and aid in the transition to new leadership.

A search committee is working diligently to select a new executive director to support NABP’s mission of protecting the public health and lead the Association into a data- and technology-focused future. During his time at the Association, Catizone has laid the groundwork for his successor to accomplish this feat.

Catizone began his career at NABP in 1985, when he was hired as the test and measurement director, overseeing the Association’s examination programs, and served as national news editor for the State Newsletter Program. As the test and measurement director, Catizone oversaw the transition of the NABPLEX®, which is now known as the North American Pharmacist Licensure Examination® (NAPLEX®), from five separate examinations to an integrated examination more accurately reflecting the practice of pharmacy. His tenure as executive director began in 1988, succeeding Fred T. Mahaffey.

A copy of the full press release is found here.

Industry News

- Indivior launches "Keep Moving Towards Recovery" - The purpose is to heighten awareness of opioid use disorder (OUD) as a chronic disease and to help reframe the perceptions of those struggling with moderate to severe opioid addiction. The goal of the campaign is to motivate those with OUD - and those who care about them - to seek help from health care professionals to keep moving towards recovery. A copy of the press release is found here.

- Job Opening - Mylan Pharmaceuticals has an opening for a Director of Director, Regulatory Affairs, DEA. The position is listed here.