

Strategic plan

Board of
Pharmaceutical
Sciences

2018



SCIENCE



International
Pharmaceutical
Federation

Colophon

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Background and introduction

In 2008, the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) developed a strategic plan that articulated its vision and mission as an organisation for the next 10 to 15 years (“2020 Vision”):

- The vision is that wherever and whenever decision makers discuss any aspect of medicines on a global level, FIP is at the table.
- FIP’s mission is to improve global health by advancing pharmacy practice and science to enable better discovery, development, access to and safe use of appropriate, cost-effective, quality medicines worldwide.

To support its mission and achievement of its vision, FIP has set three strategic objectives, two of which relate directly to the pharmaceutical sciences:

- Advance pharmacy practice in all settings;
- Advance the pharmaceutical sciences;
- Increase FIP’s role in reforming pharmacy and pharmaceutical sciences education.

In 2011, the Board of Pharmaceutical Sciences (BPS) developed a strategic plan to define how it intended to support and contribute to the strategic goals of FIP. Much has happened since these plans were developed and so the BPS has sought to update and refine its plan to define ambitious but achievable goals for the next five years.

The purpose of this document is to present this realigned plan, which is inspired by the revised (2016) FIP mission: *“To improve global health by advancing pharmaceutical education, pharmaceutical sciences and pharmaceutical practice thus encouraging, promoting and enabling better discovery, development, access to and responsible use of appropriate, cost-effective, quality medicines worldwide.”*

In the context of the BPS, a pharmaceutical scientist is defined as *“a qualified expert in aspects of the science and technology of medical products. This includes, but is not limited to, the discovery, development, manufacture, regulation, and utilisation of medical products — embracing how medicines work, how safe and effective products are brought to the market, their impact on the body and their effects on the prevention and treatment of disease”*.

Vision of the Board of Pharmaceutical Sciences

The vision of the BPS is to be the global focal point for the promotion of pharmaceutical sciences and thereby contribute to the promotion of world health, especially through disease prevention and treatment. Advances in the pharmaceutical sciences improve the discovery, development, manufacture and use of safe, effective and quality medicines and medical products. In order to ensure that science remains at the core of pharmacy, the BPS vision includes being a partner in related aspects of pharmaceutical education.

Mission of the Board of Pharmaceutical Sciences

The mission of the BPS is to serve as the leading international forum for the promotion of scientific interchange among pharmaceutical scientists, education in the pharmaceutical sciences, and the advancement of the pharmaceutical sciences globally.

Strategic objectives

In order to realise its vision and mission, the BPS seeks to achieve the following strategic objectives via the activities presented later in this document.

Strategic objective #1

To advance awareness and appreciation of the contribution of pharmaceutical sciences to healthcare globally, through active engagement with and between relevant stakeholders.

Strategic objective #2

To provide membership benefits that will encourage membership of the BPS through predominantly scientific member organisations and individual membership.

Strategic objective #3

To promote scientific excellence and the dissemination of science globally.

Strategic objective #4

To promote and improve the education of students in pharmacy and the pharmaceutical sciences, through collaboration with FIP Education, and to support the continuing scientific education of pharmacy practitioners and pharmaceutical scientists.

Strategic objective #5

To ensure that the pharmaceutical sciences are properly represented in all discussions about policy within FIP, through active engagement with the Board of Pharmaceutical Practice and FIP Education.

Specific activities to achieve the objectives

Activities to accomplish each of the strategic objectives listed above are presented for each objective.

Objective #1

To advance awareness and appreciation of the contribution of pharmaceutical sciences to healthcare globally through active engagement with and between relevant stakeholders.

- Increase and improve communication with predominantly scientific member organisations (PSMOs) through newsletters, webcasts, presentations at national conferences, etc, with the aim of increasing understanding of the BPS and FIP, and their sense of involvement.
- Encourage PSMOs to use their local communication channels to distribute information from the BPS, such as major publications, position papers and reports of BPS activities.
- Identify topics to highlight the role of pharmaceutical science in improving health and tackling major healthcare challenges in developing and developed countries, and use them as the basis of media campaigns.
- Actively promote new science that is presented at FIP conferences through media communications.
- Engage with stakeholders such as regulators, to support implementation of new scientific and technological developments, especially those involving the integration of diagnostics, medicines and devices.

Objective #2

To provide membership benefits that will encourage membership of the BPS through predominantly scientific member organisations (PSMOs) and individual membership.

- Ask PSMOs and individual members what they want from BPS — what would represent “added value” for them?
- Ask FIP special interest group (SIG) leaders what help and resources they need to be effective; ask them what they want from the BPS.
- Consider offering further financial benefits for being a member of the BPS, such as reduced conference fees or travel bursaries for students or young scientists.
- Develop a clear statement of membership benefits for both PSMOs and individual members.
- Improve the FIP website with respect to BPS visibility, clearly indicating the aims and structure of the FIP SIGs and PSMOs and associated member benefits.
- Develop a regular electronic BPS newsletter with an editorial from the BPS chair, prepared with the help of BPS vice president(s).
- Work with FIP’s Board of Pharmaceutical Practice to encourage all individual FIP members to identify with both an FIP section (where they work) and a SIG (what they are interested in).
- Develop roles and pathways for PSMOs and individual members to be more actively engaged with the BPS, especially those attending conferences — get them involved while they are full of enthusiasm!
- Regularly communicate with SIG leaders and provide training and tools to enable them to communicate easily with each other and with the members of their SIG.
- Review the SIG topics regularly and initiate new SIGs or disband old ones to ensure that the topics remain relevant to members and to the current state of scientific research.
- Define targets for SIG chairs and consider replacing those not meeting their objectives
- Strongly encourage each SIG to develop a programme of webinars (minimum of one every two years), a Q&A platform for members, grant applications to the BPS for small meetings and periodic reviews of challenges and opportunities in their area.
- Seek input from BPS members on agenda topics for BPS meetings.
- Identify PSMO representatives to chair sessions at FIP conferences.
- Reach out to scientists engaged in drug development and research into medicines, even if they do not necessarily identify themselves as pharmaceutical scientists, and encourage them to become part of FIP/BPS.

Objective #3

To promote scientific excellence and the dissemination of science globally.

- Define criteria for scientific contributions to conferences and meetings and ensure that session proposals, abstracts and speakers are selected against these criteria.
- Provide feedback to authors or proposers whose submissions are considered not to meet the expected standard, in order to help them to improve.
- Ensure that the Pharmaceutical Sciences World Congress (PSWC) profile is truly global and embraces the full breadth of pharmaceutical science.
- Ensure that a high proportion of speakers at the FIP annual congress and at PSWC are new to the conference and active in current research. Minimise invitations to “repeat performers”.
- Involve PSMOs and SIGs in programme planning for PSWC in a timely manner.
- Engage with PSMOs to provide input for Programme Committee of annual congress.
- Include debates and round tables, especially those addressing societal, ethical and clinical aspects of the application of pharmaceutical science at both PSWC and the annual congress.
- Encourage SIGs to collaborate with similar groups within PSMOs in order to work on projects, share new information or identify “hot topics”.
- Prepare position papers on “hot topics” through the expertise of the SIGs.
- Develop fee-paying workshop sessions and short courses on cutting-edge topics, especially those involving new methodology, either in association with PSWC or as stand-alone events.
- Promote the *Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences* as a journal for BPS members to publish their research but recognise that publication in other journals may sometimes be more appropriate.
- Increase response rate to consultations on scientific policies such as those from the World Health Organization.
- Cooperate with PSMOs and partner organisations to develop scientific programmes for conferences, symposia or training courses.
- Develop a partnering strategy for collaboration with PSMOs and other organisations.
- Embrace all forms of communication technology to promote science and scientific excellence.

Objective #4

To promote and improve the education of students in pharmacy and the pharmaceutical sciences, through collaboration with FIPed, and to support the continuing scientific education of pharmacy practitioners and pharmaceutical scientists.

- Collaborate with FIPed to ensure that relevant pharmaceutical sciences retain an appropriate place within the pharmacy curriculum and to promote high quality standards for pharmaceutical science degree courses
- Develop continuing education and professional development materials to help pharmacists and pharmaceutical scientists update their knowledge and put it to use in daily practice.
- Work with BPP and FIPed to develop the critical faculties of pharmacists and pharmaceutical scientists so that scientific statements and publications can be appropriately evaluated for their relevance and significance to pharmacy practice and healthcare and form the basis of evidence-based decision-making
- Work with FIPed, to formulate guidelines for the development of academic courses devoted specifically to drug discovery, development, evaluation and regulation
- Increase engagement with IPSF and YPG to promote awareness of scientific career paths and provide appropriate training modules to support their career choices
- Encourage all SIGs to engage with young scientists

Objective #5

To ensure that the pharmaceutical sciences are properly represented in all discussions about policy within FIP, through active engagement with the Board of Pharmaceutical Practice and FIP Education.

- Establish joint taskforces with the Board of Pharmaceutical Practice (BPP) and FIP Education (FIPed) to prepare reports and statements on relevant topics. There is nearly always a scientific and educational element to practice related issues.
- Recommend topics of scientific relevance to form the basis of FIP reports and statements.
- Expand the opportunities for dialogue with the BPP beyond the leadership breakfast meetings.
- Encourage greater communication and collaboration between sections and SIGs, not only in organising conference sessions. For example, SIGs could provide articles for section newsletters.
- Engage with the FIP Bureau to identify appropriate funding models for BPS and BPS activities, including potential new sources of funding (will require an analysis of acceptable risk profile).
- Actively promote “science informing practice and practice informing science” as the core of FIP.
- Work with the BPP to bring information and understanding to pharmacy practitioners with respect to new drugs, new formulations, new developments in personalised medicine (including the alliance of diagnostics, drugs and devices and the fact that individualised dosing is not just about pharmacogenetics) and new aspects of drug evaluation and regulation.
- Expand the scope of the Special Interest Group on Pharmacy Practice Research to include health and pharmaceutical policy research as part of FIP’s interface with the WHO.

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