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## **Michigan Pharmacists Association Members Receive Hank Fuhs Good Government Award at 2018 Annual Convention**

Michigan Pharmacists Association (MPA) members Michael Alverson, R.Ph., Linda Arrabi, Pharm.D. candidate 2018, and Carrie Germain, R.Ph., will be awarded the Michigan Pharmacy Political Action Council (PAC) Hank Fuhs Good Government Award at the MPA Annual Convention & Exposition, Feb. 23-25 at the Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center.

The Hank Fuhs Good Government Award is presented by Pharmacy PAC to student pharmacists and pharmacy professionals in recognition of continued public service, outstanding participation in Association events and political action on behalf of pharmacy in Michigan.

Michael Alverson has experienced every facet of the pharmacy profession in his 32 years of practice. He owned and operated a small community pharmacy in Athens, Mich. for 13 years, learning first-hand the many intricacies to the profession. He has since moved onto a corporately owned pharmacy, first with both Rite Aid and now SpartanNash, where he has been for the last ten years. Alverson has also dedicated time to MPA by serving on several committees and boards including the Michigan Society of Community Pharmacists Board of Directors and the MPA Workplace Taskforce. He is active in his community and is currently the Village president of Athens and has been involved in many philanthropic efforts. He is continually working to advance the profession with his involvement in MPA activities, advocacy efforts and demonstrating daily to patients in his community what it means to be a Michigan pharmacist.

Linda Arrabi is currently a P4 pharmacy student at Wayne State University, graduating in May 2018. Since joining the Association as a student in 2014, Arrabi has involved herself in the many activities and opportunities MPA provides student pharmacists. Currently she is in her third year on the MPA Student Pharmacist Executive Council, serving as council chair, and represents pharmacy students in Michigan on the MPA Executive Board. She has served as a delegate for the MPA House of Delegates since 2014 and has been awarded the Michigan Pharmacy Foundation Student Scholarship in 2016 and 2017 for her exceptional performance as a student and her activities outside of the classroom that promote the profession. She is currently a member of the Phi Lambda Sigma-Pharmacy Leadership Society, and served as president for the Wayne State University Student Society of Health-System Pharmacists. There she was able to partner with local pharmacy associations to launch a shadowing program that matched over 60 pharmacy students with practicing specialists in the health-system setting. She currently is an inpatient intern at the Children's Hospital of Michigan, Detroit.

Carrie Germain is the senior director of performance improvement and management of HEDIS, Medicare Stars and reporting for Health Alliance Plan (HAP). She has a diverse pharmacy experience, serving in numerous capacities within the profession including community practice, managed care and pharmacy benefit management. She has recently been a strategic leader for medical management, health and wellness and quality management for HealthPlus and HAP. She has been active with MPA for many years, including serving as a previous Executive Board member and Speaker of the House of Delegates. She has served on the MPA Third Party Committee since 1997 and is past-chair of the Michigan Pharmacy Foundation. Currently she serves as chair of the Michigan Association of Health Plans' (MAHP) Pharmacy Director Committee, a member of the MAHP Medical Directors Committee and chairs the Michigan Medicaid Drug Utilization Review Board. She is also the current president of the Swartz Creek Community Schools Board of Education. These positions have provided her the opportunity to recommend pharmacy and public health policy and legislation, comment on legislation, meet with legislators and provide expert testimony to House and Senate committees. Germain is passionate about the pharmacy profession and advocating for programs and initiatives that will reduce the opioid epidemic in Michigan communities.

The Michigan Pharmacy Political Action Council (PAC) is a voluntary, nonpartisan organization of pharmacy professionals that actively seeks to promote good government and public health. Pharmacy PAC serves as the advocacy arm of Michigan Pharmacists Association, which advances the profession of pharmacy and patient care on behalf of the 9,000 pharmacists and 15,000 pharmacy technicians in the state.

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