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**In our 31st annual presentation,
The Pharmacy Leadership & Education Institute (PLEI) announces
Afton M. Wagner, PharmD, recipient of the
Albert B. Prescott Pharmacy Leadership Award for 2017**

February 13, 2017, East Hanover, NJ – Dr. Afton M. Wagner, Manager of Federal Affairs for the Health Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS), will be honored with the 2017 Prescott Pharmacy Leadership Award during the Annual Meeting of the American Pharmacists Association (APhA) in San Francisco, on Sunday evening, March 26, 2017, when she will give a scholarly address. Dr. Wagner is a health IT policy professional based in Arlington, VA. She serves as a liaison providing support to federal government agencies within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the staff liaison to the Federal Health Community, a community-of-profession initiative that ensures a collaborative voice for federal employees and fosters cross-agency policy and program coordination.

An award for leadership by a young pharmacist was established by Phi Delta Chi in 1987. The Albert B. Prescott Pharmacy Leadership Award is given annually to a pharmacist no more than 10 years into his or her career. The recipient delivers a scholarly lecture on issues such as pharmacy as a profession, leadership, or future trends in pharmacy practice or education.

Albert Prescott was dean of pharmacy at the University of Michigan from 1870 to 1905. A maverick, he was rebuffed by APhA for his heretical view that pharmacy should be an education-based profession – not an experienced-based trade. The credentials committee at the 1871 APhA convention rejected Prescott as unworthy of being seated as a voting delegate. But Prescott persevered. By the 1890s, Prescott's vision and convictions were proven correct. The rest of the country began to follow Prescott's lead. Ironically, he was eventually elected president of APhA in 1899, and became the first president of the organization we now know as the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP), when it was founded in 1900.

Today, the Prescott Pharmacy Leadership Award is coordinated by the Pharmacy Leadership & Education Institute (PLEI), with major support from the Phi Lambda Sigma Pharmacy Leadership Society.

Nominator Thomas M. Leary, MA, CAE, FHIMSS, Vice President, Government Relations at HIMSS,



writes: “Dr. Wagner is consulted on pharmacy issues that are raised at the congressional, federal, and state levels. She also provides support to the federal affairs team in developing HIMSS comment letters on proposed legislation affecting health care, specifically surrounding health IT. Most recently, Dr. Wagner played an integral role in analyzing and preparing HIMSS comments on the Medicare Access and Chip Reauthorization Act of 2015 (MACRA) proposed and final rules.”

Nominator David P. Zgarrick, PhD, RPh, FAPhA, Acting Dean and Professor, Northeastern University Bouvé College of Health Sciences writes: “She is active in her state pharmacy associations, working on committees which engage students and members in the important work of these associations. She has served on Cardinal Health’s Women in Pharmacy Advisory Board. She is active in her community, both as a community pharmacist and in her volunteer work with the Junior League of Washington on literacy issues.”

The selection committee was comprised of Macary Marciniak, PharmD, Chair of the Committee, PLEI Board Chairman John Grabenstein, RPh, PhD; PDC Board member Traci Thompson, RPh; and by previous winners of this prestigious award: Sonak D. Pastakia PharmD, MPH, BCPS, Alex J. Adams, PharmD, IOM and Joshua J. Neumiller, PharmD, CDE, FASCP.



About Afton Wagner, PharmD – Manager of Federal Affairs, Health Information and Management Systems Society

Dr. Afton Wagner, Manager of Federal Affairs for the Health Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS), is responsible for cultivating HIMSS’ relationships with federal government agencies. Additionally, Dr. Wagner serves as a policy convener to a community of federal employees to encourage innovation and elevate the quality of health and health IT policy.

Previously, Dr. Wagner served as Assistant Professor and Assistant Director of Experiential Education at the Notre Dame of Maryland University School of Pharmacy. She also contributed to the professional staffs of the National Community Pharmacists Association (NCPA) and the National Association of Chain Drug Stores (NACDS), where she respectively served as Director of Student Affairs and Manager of Pharmacy Technology Standards and Policy.

Dr. Wagner received her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the Northeastern University Bouvé College of Health Sciences (2007) and completed an Executive Residency in Association Management at the National Association of Chain Drug Stores (2008). She is an active member of the American Pharmacists Association (APhA), Lambda Kappa Sigma Professional Pharmacy Fraternity, National Council for Prescription Drug Programs (NCPDP), and the Virginia Pharmacists Association (VPhA).

About Pharmacy Leadership & Education Institute, Inc.



The Pharmacy Leadership & Education Institute (PLEI) develops leaders among student pharmacists and pharmacists by conducting programs to improve leadership skills, to strengthen the profession as a whole, and thereby advance the public health. PLEI takes a special interest in supporting and advancing the Phi Delta Chi Pharmacy Fraternity's mission of developing pharmacy's future leaders.

As a nationally active enterprise, PLEI strives to reach as many student pharmacists and young pharmacists as possible, in a variety of venues, to help them grow in their personal leadership skills, giving them examples of how to apply these skills in pharmacy settings (e.g., ambulatory, inpatient, long-term care, corporate, academia, government) and in their personal lives. The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) recognizes PLEI as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization; EIN 582296988.

PLEI coordinates the Prescott Pharmacy Leadership Award, Leader Development Seminars, Leader Development Institute, the *Lead←Grow→Shape* leadership workbook, and other educational events for pharmacists and student pharmacists

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