



Bert Lum, PharmD
10-Year ASCPT Member and TPM Network Member
Principal Scientist and Scientific Expert
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/bertlum>

❖ ***Why did you initially join ASCPT?***

I initially joined ASCPT in the early 1980's when I was transitioning from an academic clinical investigator to pharmacokinetic modeling. I saw that ASCPT was the leader in this field, having the scientific program that would help me develop this specialized skill set. I tremendously enjoyed the energy and the clinical pharmacology focus at ASCPT.

❖ ***Why do you continue renewing your ASCPT membership?***

The people at ASCPT – both the scientific colleagues as well as the wonderful ASCPT staff. Sharon Swan has developed a strong staff base at ASCPT and working with them is a pleasure. I served as Chair/Vice Chair on the Scientific Program Committee, but also became interested in learning more about ASCPT as an organization. This led to my involvement with the Finance Committee, Social Media Task Force, Community Leadership, and others. ASCPT provides the opportunity for continued learning and participation as well as the chance to contribute and collaborate with experts and colleagues in the field.

❖ ***How has ASCPT helped with your professional development/career goals?***

ASCPT helped in my early career development as it was a great place to meet experts and develop select skill sets. Scientific growth as well as networking and meeting individuals that I could dialogue with and acquire formal mentors were essential in my early career growth. Later in my career, I derived a lot from ASCPT by working on various Committees. I learned how an organization works and the necessary steps to put together a scientific program. The Society also provides a platform to meet experienced and early career individuals who can contribute and advance the profession.

❖ ***What is the best thing that you have acquired from ASCPT?***

Again, the people! The relationships I have developed throughout my membership are the best part of my ASCPT membership tenure.

❖ ***What would you suggest to new members?***

Become involved with and stay active within ASCPT. Presenting your work and volunteering for Committees is a great place to start. New members need to get a feel for the organization including the steps involved in the overall tasks of the Society. Team up with other members to come up with proposals, talk to the Chairs of Networks, Communities, or Committees you are interested in, and reach out to the ASCPT staff who are very helpful and approachable. Look over the various areas of the organization and explore the numerous opportunities that are available to get further involved with ASCPT.

❖ ***What are the current challenges in clinical pharmacology?***

The biggest challenge I feel is how clinical pharmacology will adapt with emerging health care technology and the data acquisition in the future. With the emerging digital technologies, the first challenge is being able to identify what technologies are just shiny objects versus which are real clinical research opportunities.

❖ ***How useful do you find involvement in the ASCPT Networks and Communities like the TPM Network?***

I am extremely enthusiastic about the Networks and Communities. These groups provide leadership experience, foster innovation, and encourage interaction amongst members. The ASCPT structure provides something for everybody. If you are involved in clinical pharmacology, the Networks and Communities allow for individual participation in various branches like Systems Pharmacology and the International Transporter Consortium, as well as regulatory aspects such as Early Development and Drug Safety. The ASCPT Communities also allow for networking with members within similar interest areas that can be very helpful for development. A strong synergy is evident amongst all the Networks and Communities.