Adeola Coker, Ph.D., is a professor of pharmaceutical sciences at the University of the Incarnate Word, Feik School of Pharmacy, San Antonio, TX. She received a dual Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry and biology from McPherson College, Kansas, and a doctorate in pharmaceutical sciences from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Following her post-doctoral training at the University of Kansas Pharmaceutical Chemistry Department, she worked as a senior scientist in the sterile products formulation group at the Schering-Plough Research Institute. She then worked as lead formulation scientist for two monoclonal antibody products at Human Genome Sciences, Inc., before transitioning to academia.

Coker is passionate about diversity and inclusion in the pharmaceutical workforce. In her position, she mentors students from diverse backgrounds and prepares them to master important pharmaceutics principles for their profession. Her research interests range from bench research on protein formulation and stability to pedagogical research related to student learning and engagement. She has published in the *Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Journal of Molecular Biology, Protein Science, American Journal of Pharmaceutical Education, Currents in Pharmacy Teaching and Learning*, and *AAPS Newsmagazine*. Coker is an alum of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) Academic Fellows Leadership Program. She is also a recipient of the United States Department of Agriculture E. Kika De La Garza fellowship, and the McPherson College Young Alumni Award.

In her current role, Coker directs the Feik School of Pharmacy Master of Science in Applied Pharmaceutical Sciences program. Besides her teaching and research activities, she has chaired and served on many committees at the school, including those focused on accreditation and assessment. Her leadership extends beyond the pharmacy school to the broader university community. She has served on the Honors Council, Faculty Senate, and Institutional Effectiveness Council, and chaired the Nominations and Elections Committee.

Coker serves on the Editorial Advisory Board of the *Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences*. She has held various committee positions with the AACP and leadership positions in the San Antonio local section of the American Chemical Society. These include serving as chair, member-at-large, as well as counselor. She currently serves on the board of Each One Teach One San Antonio, a non-profit organization dedicated to improving adult literacy. Coker has served with AAPS in various capacities, including as abstract reviewer, the Awards Committee, the Student Program Support Committee (SPSC), and the SPSC liaison to the Career Development Committee.
Why are you interested in serving AAPS in the capacity of member-at-large and how has your experience prepared you to lead AAPS?

“I am committed to AAPS’ vision and mission of advancing pharmaceutical sciences and enhancing the capacity of pharmaceutical scientists to improve global health through the products and therapies they develop. With a career spanning both industry and academia, I bring a unique perspective on the needs and challenges facing members of both sectors. Over the years, I have cultivated a broad network of connections and gained valuable leadership experience and training in diverse professional environments. I am excited at the opportunity to use my experiences and network to be a voice for AAPS members as a member-at-large.

“AAPS provides an environment for pharmaceutical scientists to grow and thrive. I joined AAPS early in my career and have enjoyed many benefits from being a member and a volunteer. My past AAPS experiences include being a presenter, an abstract reviewer, a résumé reviewer, and a mock interviewer. I have also served on the Awards Committee, on the Student Program Support Committee (SPSC), and as the SPSC liaison to the Career Development Committee. I have contributed to AAPS webinars and career-development articles in AAPS Newsmagazine. These experiences have been rewarding and led to my professional growth. I am eager to contribute to the success of AAPS in continuing to provide an environment for pharmaceutical scientists to thrive.

“I have also volunteered with other scientific professional organizations, including the American Chemical Society and the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy. I am also currently on the board of a local non-profit organization. Adept at assessing situations to discern effective solutions, I have the experience and skills to serve on the AAPS Board. Promoting diversity, equity, and inclusivity in the pharmaceutical sciences is a cause dear to my heart, and I am eager to contribute to these efforts at a leadership level. I am committed to fostering collaboration and teamwork around a shared mission, driving tangible results, and look forward to advancing AAPS’ mission, core values, goals, and objectives as a member-at-large.”