



## Member-at-Large Candidate



**Peter W. Swaan, Ph.D., FAAPS**  
University of Maryland

Peter W. Swaan, Ph.D., FAAPS, is a distinguished university professor, department chair of Pharmaceutical Sciences and associate dean for Research and Advanced Graduate Studies at the University of Maryland. He received his master's degree in pharmacy and pursued his doctorate in biopharmaceutics with Professor Daan Crommelin at Utrecht University in The Netherlands. He was a postdoctoral fellow at the University of California, San Francisco with Drs Svein Øie and Frank Szoka, prior to accepting his first faculty position at The Ohio State University College of Pharmacy, Pharmaceutics Division. He moved to the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy in 2003. He has published nearly 200 articles that have been cited over 12,500 times ( $h$ -index = 55). His work focuses on all aspects of transporter proteins in drug targeting and delivery, pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics and his research has been funded by the National Institutes of Health, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, and various other foundations, non-profits as well as pharmaceutical industry. His major research contributions involve the application of transporters as targets for prodrugs; additionally, Swaan pioneered the application of computational modeling to determine the structural requirements of transport proteins, thereby paving the way for the rational discovery of novel substrates and inhibitors.

Swaan has been an AAPS member since 1990 and has volunteered in many capacities, initially as chair of the Oral Absorption focus group, then as Abstract Screening Committee chair, Section chair (Pharmaceutics and Drug Delivery) and as a member of the Annual Meeting Programming Committee. In 2000, he received the AAPS New Investigator Award in Pharmaceutics and Pharmaceutical Technology and was elected Fellow in 2010. He is also serves as the Maryland representative for the Globalization of Pharmaceutics Education Network. He is a founding member of the International Transporter Consortium (ITC), a group of academic, industry and regulatory scientists that provides guidelines to industry regarding drug transporter testing. ITC was instrumental in organizing the inaugural AAPS Transporter Workshop. Lastly, since 2015 he has served on the Executive Board of the American Foundation for Pharmaceutical Education, currently as chair for the Board of Grants where he coordinates review and funding of predoctoral student fellowships. Beyond his volunteer work, Swaan has served on numerous scientific advisory and review panels in the United States and Europe.

Swaan served for over a decade as editor-in-chief for the Nature-Springer publication and official AAPS journal *Pharmaceutical Research*. As an academician, he teaches pharmaceutics and physical pharmacy to undergraduate, pharmacy doctorate, and doctoral students. He also teaches a required course on responsible conduct of research and research ethics and gives lectures internationally on publication success and ethics. He has received several teaching awards. Swaan has mentored and graduated over 25 doctorate students and served on the dissertation committee of over 50 students.

### **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 remain loyal to AAPS as my primary professional organization ever since my graduate student days. I believe that I can effectively contribute to the organization as member-at-large drawing on my extensive experience as member

volunteer in various roles (focus group and section chair) and having served for over a decade as editor-in-chief for a flagship AAPS journal, *Pharmaceutical Research*.

“As an academician, I have taught pharmaceuticals and physical pharmacy to undergraduate, pharmacy doctorate, and doctoral students. I also teach a course on responsible conduct of research and research ethics. I have mentored over 40 doctorate students and postdocs and believe that junior scientists should align themselves early on with the right professional organization that enables their success. In my role as journal editor, I have always been a strong advocate for recruiting a diversity of early researchers and I would continue that effort for the organization as a whole. Importantly, my experience with publishing and managing publications will be invaluable to AAPS as we see greater emphasis on publications as a conduit to interact with members. AAPS publications have had great impact on the organization and its members and maintaining and growing their importance and value to members will be challenging owing to increased journal competition, especially in the realm of open access.

“My experience as department chair has allowed me to stay at the forefront of pharmaceutical research and help mentor junior investigators to successfully apply for funding and advise on their career development. In my role as Associate Dean for Research I have managed academic research at the campus level and spearheaded initiatives in entrepreneurship and entrepreneurial development at the school of pharmacy. I believe that these leadership skills allow me to serve effectively on the AAPS board as the organization pivots in how it interacts with its members through virtual meetings and other innovative content delivery platforms.

Lastly, my advocacy work and scholarly activity in the area of diversity, equity and inclusion, particularly in recruitment, retention and mentoring of students and faculty will be invaluable to the organization where I can help implement cultural changes to better serve our diverse membership.”