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Greetings FAMU CoPPS, IPH Alumni and Friends,

It is time for all the Rx Rattlers to stand up and join forces and accept the challenge of becoming members of the National Diamondback Pharmacy Alumni Council for the 2024-25 fiscal year. Invite your classmates and friends to ride on this Family voyage with us! My personal theme for this year as President is **“Growing Stronger, Together.”**

Under the leadership of our past President, we have achieved many goals: 1) provided multiple scholarships for the past two years to students, 2) assisted students with funding to travel to Kenya to participate in medical mission trips, 3) funded registration for several students to attend NPhA/SNPha Annual Convention, 4) funded students to attend the NDPAC Annual Convention for the last two years, and 5) added an opportunity for students to participate as student members of the NDPAC. These are just a few of the powerful movements that have occurred. Now, we need to increase our membership!

Currently, FAMU and the CoPPS, IPH are under attack, and we must pull together to assist them. We can do this by increasing the membership of our organization! People tend to listen more when we gather in large numbers and with a strong voice. We must let the powers that be know that we are here to support the CoPPS, IPH. We must be able to show them our accomplishments in assisting the CoPPS, IPH. If we take the time to reach out to at least five or more of our classmates and colleagues and encourage them to join this prestigious organization, we will see a big difference. We then need to motivate those five or more classmates and colleagues to reach out to five more people and continue this cycle. I challenge each of you to start this process NOW! I believe in leading by example, so I accepted the challenge by reaching out and as a result I have had three alumni to join. I plan to continue this powerful movement and watch our numbers grow over the next couple of months.

The funds from membership dues assist us in ensuring that we can continue to function as an organization. If we can increase our numbers in membership, then we will have more people to assist us with reaching the aforementioned goals and more, especially fundraising and volunteering with the students.

In conclusion, I am dedicated to this organization and to our students at FAMU CoPPS, IPH. I believe we can accomplish this if each of us reaches out to five or more of our classmates and colleagues and encourages them to become a member of NDPAC and the local chapter in their area. The active local chapters are posted on our website: www.nationaldpac.com. If there is not a local chapter in the area, still join the national council. We need them and we need **YOU!** Rattlers, are you up for the challenge? Remember, **“We must STRIKE, STRIKE, and STRIKE again!”** Let me see if you understand that we can **“Grow Stronger, Together!”**

Respectfully,

Marrison C. Walker

Marrison C. Walker, PharmD, RPh
NDPAC President