Volunteer Pharmacy Preceptors

A volunteer preceptor is an individual who is not a full-time employee of a school or college of pharmacy who is responsible for the experiential education of student pharmacists. Experiential education is critical in pharmacy education programs and comprises one third of the curriculum. Without the preceptors who collaboratively oversee this component of pharmacy education, the socialization and training of the next generation of pharmacists would not be possible. This year 58% of Introductory and Advance Pharmacy Practice Experiences (IPPEs and APPEs) at Husson University are directed by volunteer preceptors.

Pharmacy preceptor criteria are established by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) and regulated by boards of pharmacy. Both the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP); and the American Society of Health-System Pharmacist (ASHP) organizations recognize the importance of this component of pharmacy education and have provided additional recommendations and guidance. Adhering to these guidelines each school of pharmacy establishes their criteria for all preceptors and sites leading to a quality pharmacy practice experience for pharmacy students. Credentials, site quality, evaluation criteria of student learning and curriculum effectiveness, continuous quality improvement programs for sites and preceptors with targeted continuing professional development (CPD) programing are but a few of the arenas that are addressed.

The AACP Professional Affairs Committee was charged in 2011 to analyze the concept of a “master preceptor” and a recognition system that would be beneficial and motivational. The resulting report, “Addressing the Teaching Excellence of Volunteer Pharmacy Preceptors” provides extensive background to the needs and wants of “specific training/continuing education or professional development” of preceptors. Husson School of Pharmacy is utilizing this template to design a longitudinal preceptor development program with skill sets that will augment other training opportunities while meeting the needs of the preceptor and our students.


Class of 2013 Fully Licensed

All 47 members of the inaugural class have successfully passed the NAPLEX and are fully licensed. The first time testing pass rate was 93.62%. HUSOP graduates had the highest Maine jurisprudence passing rate at 88.9% (n = 36) and a 100% passing rate outside of Maine (n = 12).

Congratulations
RxPreceptor Corner

Linking Accounts
RxPreceptor currently provides every preceptor an individualized login for each institution the preceptor has an affiliation. Many sites are utilized by multiple schools of pharmacy, resulting in confusion and lack of efficiency for the preceptor to effectively communicate with the host school. With the collaborative efforts of the New England Regional Directors for Experiential Education (NERDEE), New England schools were able to work with RxInsider (the parent company) to make it possible for preceptors to link all their accounts into one log-in and password for RxPreceptor!

If you ever have questions regarding RxPreceptor, please contact me at bragginsk@husson.edu.

How to link all your RxPreceptor Accounts:
*Log into one of your RxPreceptor Accounts and click on Linked Accounts (at the bottom of the left hand menu).
*Enter the username and password for your other RxPreceptor account and click “add new account”.
*You will come to a confirm screen that will list the two school accounts. Make sure the school name and access level is correct. A Switch School Accounts button will appear at the top right hand part of the screen.
*In order to switch between your two accounts, click “Switch School Accounts” in the top right hand corner and click on the account that you would like to log into.

(How-to instructions courtesy of RxInsider.)

Faculty Earn Board Certification Fall 2013
Dr. Stephanie Nichols earned her Board Certified Psychiatric Pharmacist (BCPP) in addition to her existing credentials as a BCPS (pharmacotherapy specialist).
Dr. Evan Williams passed the Pharmacotherapy Pharmacy Board Examination and is now a Board Certified Pharmacotherapy Specialist (BCPS).

Dean Rodney Larson lauded the newly certified faculty “The fact that two of our clinical faculty successfully passed the Board of Pharmacy Specialties examinations this fall is a reflection of the caliber of our faculty and the strengths they bring to a quality program. They join HUSOP clinical faculty members Drs. Gwen Bartlett, BCPS, Sandy Bartlett, BCPS, Tim Gladwell, BCPS, BCACP, Dan Moellentin, BCPS, and Michael Remkus, BCPS, with an external recognition of their commitment to the practice of pharmacy. The entire school, students and faculty, are privileged to have colleagues who model excellence at such a high level.”

Research Day
The annual Husson Research & Scholarship Day is scheduled for Thursday, April 24th with all activities in the Beardsley Meeting House. The day is composed of oral presentations in the morning, research posters (11:30-12:45) and concludes with Keynote Speaker, Edison Liu, M.D., President and CEO, Jackson Laboratory, who will be presenting “My Life in Science—Lessons Learned.” The public is welcomed. Questions may be directed to William Lindblad, Director of the Office of Research and Scholarship at linbladw@husson.edu.

Accreditation Visit
Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education is scheduled April 9—11, for a focused on-site evaluation of the Husson University School of Pharmacy. The ACPE Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for June 18-24, after which accreditation status will be announced.

Experiential Advisory Board
The Experiential Education Advisory Board will meet April 24, 2014, on the Husson University Campus. This working board provides valuable insights to OEE in the preparation of students for the ‘experience’ component of the curriculum. This meeting will provide updates on previous projects and then focus on Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCEs) and the new ACPE Standards.

News Bits
Drug and Medical Information Resources

In an effort to ensure that you - our preceptors - have a ready access to contemporary news and resources to support your practice, this column will be the second in a series of articles to apprise you of the numerous news and drug information databases now available to all Husson preceptors. Each newsletter will highlight one or two resources and the unique features that may be of use.

The following are three of the many data bases available. You may access them at http://www.husson.edu/library. Click on “Pharmacy Resources” then the database you wish to use. You will need your 9-digit Husson ID number that can be found in RxPreceptor under Pager #. Be sure to put HUS in front of your ID number at the appropriate prompt. Our students also have access and would be more than happy to walk you through the process.

A popular web-based resource, Clinical Pharmacology puts everything you need at the point-of-care within three clicks of the mouse. It’s simple, intuitive interface offers a search bar and features a variety of tools that divide information into four streamlined categories: Reports, List/Find, Patient Education and Resource Center. Use the search field or “Find/List” to look up a drug, natural product or disease state and the ‘jump to’ feature to quickly navigate to the information you need. Easily identify drugs with Black Box warnings or those with REMS programs. Employ the “Multiple Criteria” feature to identify drugs may be suitable (or not) for a given patient or disease state. Generate reports of drug interactions (including lifestyle filters like tobacco or alcohol use), adverse reactions, IV compatibility, product and clinical comparisons. You can also find patent information, identify tablets and capsules, print MedGuides or other patient information, check normal lab values or get manufacturer contact information. Real-time updates provide the latest information from leading authoritative sources. A free ‘app’ allows access to Clinical Pharmacology via smart phones and tablets.

Up-to-Date (UTD) is a medical information resource used by over 600,000 clinicians in 149 countries. The medical information in UTD is written, reviewed and continually updated by a faculty of more than 5,100 leading physicians. UTD offers busy clinicians quick-reference, point-of-care information as well as in-depth information on over 9,500 topics in 20 specialties, evidence-graded treatment recommendations, numerous medical calculators and patient information leaflets on their disease states. The drug information component of UTD draws significantly (though not completely) from Lexi-Comp. UTD also provides “What’s New” and “Practice Changing Updates” to help clinicians stay abreast of developments in medical practice.

Facts & Comparisons (F&C) is one of the main drug information resources used by pharmacists at thousands of independent and chain retail pharmacies. A trusted source of unbiased and comprehensive drug information for over 65 years, F&C is well-known for its comparative drug (class) tables. Now online, F&C online helps you to easily search for technical information on drugs and natural products by brand or generic name, compare 2-4 drugs side-by-side, screen for drug interactions, identify potential drugs by disease/symptom (indicated/not indicated for, contraindicated in/not contraindicated in, may cause/may not cause), find Orange Book ratings, search for patient assistance programs, and more. There are over 5,000 useful tables including look-alike/sound-alike drugs, “Do not crush/chew” and drugs with Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategies (so called “REMS” drugs). Information on drugs in pregnancy and lactation is based on the textbook by the same name by G. Briggs.

If you have specific questions about on-line resources, don’t hesitate to contact me at bakerr@husson.edu.
The regional leader in integrative pharmacy education, committed to advancing the practice and science of pharmacy and rural health care delivery.


Student News

Pharmacy Student Organizations

When the School of Pharmacy was established a staggered, systematic introduction of student organizations was determined. By incrementally introducing student organizations it ensured participant numbers and maximize diversity of opportunities. The following organizations are represented in the School of Pharmacy: APhA - Academy of Student Pharmacists; Phi Delta Chi, National Community Pharmacists Association; ASHP- Student Societies of Health-system Pharmacy; Phi Lambda Sigma, and Kappa Psi. Rho Chi will be added following their national guidelines in 2014-2015.

This space permits only a small snapshot of how Husson students are impacting their college, institution, local, state and national communities. A short list includes: health fairs; education programs to schools and after school programs; fund raising for Relay for Life, St. Jude’s, Ronald McDonald’s House; providing local competitions to send students to national competitions; state and regional officers; staffing flu clinics; organizing bone marrow drives; working soup kitchens. The list is limited by space, not enthusiasm, commitment and creativity.

ASHP-SSHP: The annual Clinical Skills Competition took place this year on October 29, 2013. Ten teams were given a patient case and asked to come up with a comprehensive treatment plan including dosing, monitoring, and follow up. Students have 2 minutes to present their plan and 8 minutes for questioning from judges regarding their therapeutic decisions.

Judges for this year’s competition included Dr. Jamie Cronin, Clinical Manager at Eastern Maine Medical Center’s inpatient pharmacy, Dr. Dennis Wood, PGY1 resident at Eastern Maine Medical Center, and alumnus Dr. Peter McLean, Dixmont Rite Aid Pharmacy.

The first place winners of this year’s competition were Mary Gartley (P4) and Hubert Tse (P4). Winners of the competition receive a complimentary registration to 2013 ASHP Midyear in Orlando, Florida and participate in the National Clinical Skills Competition.

Kappa Psi Pharmaceutical Fraternity, Inc.

Zeta Beta Chapter

The newest pharmacy student organization at Husson University is Kappa Psi!! The Zeta Beta Chapter was chartered on Feb 1, 2014, with the initiation of 27 new members. National Officer, Latha Radhakrishnan, and chapter representatives from University of New England, University of Connecticut, and University of Rhode Island and local graduate members were in attendance for the chartering and initiation. Kappa Psi’s national philanthropies are the Ronald MacDonald House and Wounded Warriors.

Student Published: Four HUSOP students attended the Utah School on Alcoholism and Other Drug Dependencies the summer of 2013. Whitney Jandreau, P3, wrote of her experience in The January/February 2014 issue of Student Pharmacist, An open letter about my Utah School experience. In the article Whitney says, “I cannot remember a week so full of profound life experiences...lectures about the pathophysiology of addiction, treatment issues, recovery, and family dynamics...group therapy, Al-Anon meetings...pharmacists with alcohol and drug addiction [sharing their stories].”

According to Whitney, “it was an amazing experience that will make me a better practitioner.” Dean Larson emphasizes that the School of Pharmacy encourages students to seek out opportunities to expand their education beyond the classroom and share that experience with their classmates. This is one of those programs that the School continues to promote as it provides an immersion program on addiction. “When we allow our students to add unique tools to their tool chest, we are impacting society through the practice of pharmacy.”

Pharmacy Preceptor Bulletin: editor Jane Jarvi. Story ideas or comments may be sent to: jarvij@husson.edu