



Husson University School of Pharmacy Bulletin

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Special points of interest:

- **School awarded site visit by ACPE**
- **Clinical affiliation agreements established**
- **First year professional curriculum in approval process**
- **Student interviews begin**
- **Remodeling underway**

School of Pharmacy Awarded Site Visit

Four members of the School's executive team traveled to Austin, TX to meet with the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education on January 8th. As a result of that meeting and the accompanying final pre-candidate application, Husson has received word of a formal site visit to be conducted this spring.

Information from the on-site evaluation will be considered by ACPE at the June 2009 meet-

ing in determining if pre-candidate accreditation status will be granted to Husson.

Pre-candidate status denotes a developmental program, which is expected to mature in accord with stated plans and within a defined time period. Pre-candidate status is awarded to a new school of pharmacy that has not yet enrolled students in the professional program and authorizes the school to admit its first class.

Clinical Affiliation Agreements Established

The School currently has 25 signed affiliation agreements representing 117 physical experiential rotation sites. With the majority of pharmacy practice faculty yet to be hired, and more than three years before the APPE sites are needed, and with due diligence, there is sufficient time to identify the remaining APPE sites.

The experiential component of the curriculum represents one-third of the professional program. Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experiences (IPPE) in-

volve a three-week (120 hours each) rotation in community, hospital and special populations in each J-term during the first three years of the curriculum.

Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experiences (APPE) involve six 6-week rotations (240 hours each), four required and two elective. The required rotations include Acute Care, Hospital Care, Ambulatory Care and Community practice.



First-Year Curriculum in Approval Process

The first-year of the proposed four-year, 137-credit curriculum, is going through the final approval stages from Husson University and is now posted to the School's website.

The curriculum, while designed to meet the ACPE accreditation standards, embodies several innovations to professional pharmacy education, including fewer credits/semester than comparable programs.

The didactic portion of the program is built around a six-semester Cognitive, Communication and Case-based Critical Thinking (4C) course sequence. This is a recitation/lab-based course where smaller groups of students meet six hours per week (3 x 2-hour). The sequence promotes acquisition of extensive practice skills, in addition to physical assessment and problem solving experience

while reinforcing knowledge acquired from lecture topics.

The first year curriculum also makes use of the January term for the first of three required Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experiences as required by the accreditation standards.

Additionally a three-year long Longitudinal Patient Practice Experience (LPPE) beginning in the first year provides students with meaningful contact with real chronic disease patients to foster a patient-centered approach to the practice of pharmacy. Each student group will visit their patient volunteer and patient's family. During these visits, students will complete specific assignments related to the history of the chronic illness, social and cultural context of the condition, impact on family and health care policy impact.



Student Interviews Begin

ACPE accreditation standards now require interviews as part of the admissions process. The School held the first two of an anticipated 10-12 interview sessions on the afternoons of January 6 and 16. Interviews are projected to continue through July under the rolling admissions process being used this year.

Nine applicants are brought in for each interview date. The interview process involves a 30 minute group case

study discussion; a 30 minute timed writing based on a question from that case study; and then participating in a 40 minute interview with a faculty team consisting of a member from both the basic and clinical science departments.

Math and science GPAs from prepharmacy course work as well as PCAT scores are used to determine which applicants are invited for interviews.

Peabody Remodeling Underway

Remodeling has begun on 25,000 ft² in the Peabody/Commons academic complex. The School will adjoin all of the institution's science labs as well as those facilities dedicated to the pre-pharmacy program. Renovations include faculty/staff offices; four 40-seat classrooms; two

80-seat classrooms; three 20-seat classrooms; a 40-seat cognitive skills laboratory with adjoining patient counseling room; a dispensing laboratory including a simulated IV/sterile compounding area; and a basic pharmaceutical sciences research laboratory.

Husson University School of Pharmacy — a regional leader in integrative pharmacy education committed to influencing the practice of pharmacy and rural health care delivery in the State of Maine.