Summer salutations! All of us at the University of Wyoming School of Pharmacy (UWSoP) wish you a happy and restful summer. Hopefully you will be able to enjoy some time off to enjoy those things that help you to decompress and refresh your spirit. If there is anything we can do to help make your year with students go smoothly and as stress free as possible, please let us know. We are here to help.

In this quarter’s PRN we are going to provide information on some updates to our program that may be of interest to you and assist you with designing your rotations to build upon the skills our students are learning in their didactic courses. In addition, we will cover some changes in our Experiential manual that may highlight some useful information you can use throughout this academic year.

As always, please feel free to share your comments or provide suggestions for future topics in the PRN with the UWSOp Experiential Education program. You can contact us by phone at: 307-766-3090 or by email at: abrown13@uwyo.edu.

UWSoP Curricular Changes

Co-Curriculum. In the 2017-18 academic year co-curricular learning activities became a required component for graduation from the UWSoP. Students must participate in at least one activity in the following categories: Clinical Skill Development, Professional Development, Leadership, Health-related Community Engagement, Non-medical Community Engagement and Research/Advocacy. These activities are designed to complement and advance the learning and development that occurs within the formal didactic and experiential curriculum. These learning experiences are conducted outside the classroom and are an extension of, or integrated with, the formal curriculum, offering a wide-range of opportunities to enhance development of key skills and attitudes. Approved activities will promote collaboration with a wide range of people and disciplines and promote growth in multiple domains including problem solving, creative thinking, communication, professionalism, leadership, teamwork, innovation, and self-awareness. For example, to enhance Research or Advocacy skills, students might participate in Legislative Day, providing health screening activities for the Wyoming Legislature and the public, as well as promoting the profession of pharmacy. Similarly, to build skills in Health-related Community Engagement, students might participate in a health fair providing services such as immunizations, diabetes screenings or OTC education. Students might also choose to volunteer at a clinic for low-income patients working with other healthcare professionals to provide care or participate in a medication take-back event working with local law enforcement and others to ensure the security and proper disposal of the medications collected.
Scheduling. This past year the UWSoP implemented block scheduling for the P1, P2 and P3 classes. The new schedule has one-day each week when traditional didactic courses will not occur. This allows for personal and professional development days so students can focus on project work, hold meetings, attend presentations, work on professional development, attend experiential, Interprofessional Experiences (IPE) and co-curricular events, as well as many other school related activities. In spring 2019, the students had Wednesdays available to carry out their personal and professional development days. This fall they will have Tuesdays open for these activities.

Pharmacy Skills Course Series. Starting in the fall semester the School will initiate a longitudinal Pharmacy Skills Course. This course will afford students the opportunity to practice what they learn in didactic classes with an integrated approach from all courses in any given semester. For example, this application-based course will give students additional opportunities to practice activities such as patient education, practicing components of the Pharmacists’ Patient Care Process such as creating patient care/SOAP notes, answering drug information questions, journal article evaluation, practicing physical assessment, solving problems, etc. Pharmacy Skills Course objectives are interwoven over three years will culminate in the ensuring that each student is ready for APPE rotations.

1. Pharmacists’ Patient Care Process (PCPP)
2. Pharmacy systems management
3. Leadership
4. Public Health/Population management
5. Managed care
6. Quality Assurance

Experiential Manual Updates
If you haven’t reviewed the UWSoP Experiential Manual in a while, you may want to take a few minutes and peruse it. The manual is attached for your convenience, and it can also be located on your E*Value homepage. There are a few important updates to the manual we thought you should know about.

The manual now includes information about the Pharmacists’ Patient Care Process (PCPP). This process is applicable to any practice setting where pharmacists provide patient care. As students prepare for and undertake rotations they need to become familiar with and prepare to use a patient-centered approach in collaboration with other providers on the health care team to optimize patient health and medication outcomes. Using principles of evidence-based practice, students/pharmacists carry out the five components of the process:

1. Collecting patient information
2. Assessing the information collected
3. Developing an individualized patient-centered care plan
4. Implementing the plan
5. Monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of the care plan.

Additional details about using this process in experiential education will be available in future PRNs as preceptors are critical to reinforcing this concept during patient care rotations. To aid in student learning, preceptors can discuss how the student will use each of these steps during the rotation and assess the student’s skills in each area.

The Experiential Manual also covers a change to the P4 curriculum that went into effect this academic year. In the past students were required to have two rotation blocks of faculty led Internal Medicine and one block of a faculty led Ambulatory Care rotation. Based on student input and faculty consideration, our P4 students are now able to choose which faculty led rotation they will take for two rotation blocks, Internal Medicine II or an Ambulatory Care II. The rotations can occur in either back to back four week rotation blocks or separated by other rotations in order to maximize each student’s ability to take rotations at the times and sites that work best for their schedule. Students now have the opportunity to immerse themselves more fully into the learning opportunities provided by our clinical faculty. Students can take their second Internal Medicine or Ambulatory Care rotation from the same faculty member as their first rotation, or they have the option of working with a different faculty member for their second rotation in order to gain experiences from multiple sites and faculty expertise. Students continue to have the option to take elective Ambulatory Care or Internal Medicine rotations to further enhance their clinical knowledge and development in these areas.

Collaborative Education Institute CE
To help make the most of your time with students while staying on top of all of your other responsibilities so you can enjoy the summer months, we suggest taking advantage of free CE through the Collaborative Education Institute (CEI). Access to the CE programs is through E*Value. Please note, CEI has a new look and allows access to CE through a Partner Code you enter in the Enter Code box. Please see instructions below for more details.

This quarter’s suggested CE is “Managing Time as a Preceptor”. This course is designed for pharmacists to identify and categorize time management barriers and provides strategies to address each area. The layered learning model will also be discussed as an example to effectively manage time when precepting multiple learners. This activity is one hour in length and provides 0.1 CEU.

CEI can be accessed directly by current preceptors through E*Value, the rotation management system used by UWSop.

1. Access the E*Value login page via the following link: https://www.e-value.net
2. Log in to your E*Value account and click on the “Learning Modules” tab
3. Choose “CEI” within the submenu Taskbar
4. Click on “Connect to CEI Account” which takes you to the CEI Preceptor Education page

5. Enter your Partner Code (Wyoming19) in the Enter Code box on the left hand side of the screen

5. To access modules specific to preceptors, click on the round “Preceptor” icon. You can register for free and complete the CE by following the on-screen prompts.

Acknowledgements & Achievements

Congrats Class of 2019!

Congratulations to the class of 2019! Students and faculty participated in a convocation ceremony at the UW Conference Center on May 17, 2019 to honor the graduating class of 2019. Forty-three students received their Doctor of Pharmacy degree on Saturday, May 18th. The UWSoP is honored to call these graduates colleagues and alumni.

Enjoy the sunshine!
The University of Wyoming Experiential Program