From the Assistant Dean for Experiential Learning

Dear preceptors,

Happy New Year! I have exciting news to share with you. Three University of Maryland School of Pharmacy preceptors recently received American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) Preceptor of the Year Awards. This recognition acknowledges their commitment to precepting as well as their dedication to the patient care team. The award recipients are:

- Ifeanyi Egbunike-Chukwuma, PharmD, BCPS, BCACP - University of Maryland Midtown Campus
- Kristin Fink, PharmD, BCPS, BCACP, CDCES - Kaiser Permanente Mid-Atlantic Region
- Patricia A. Ross, PharmD, MEdHP, BCACP - The Johns Hopkins Hospital

We are thrilled that three of our preceptors were selected for these inaugural awards and look forward to seeing other preceptors honored in the future.

Dr. Egbunike-Chukwuma also recently gave a wonderful presentation on diversity and inclusion for many of our preceptors. A recording of the presentation can be found at [https://www.pharmacy.umaryland.edu/about/offices/elp/online-preceptor-development-modules/](https://www.pharmacy.umaryland.edu/about/offices/elp/online-preceptor-development-modules/). If you are looking for other continuing education opportunities related to precepting, the ELP website offers nearly seven hours of free activities. Descriptions and links can be found at the link above.

With the rising rate of COVID-19 infections, many of you have reached out to inquire about virtual rotations. Our accrediting body continues to allow students to complete rotations remotely given that the rotation objectives can be accomplished. Our office is happy to chat about strategies for remote precepting. Another question we regularly receive is related to the ability of students to administer vaccines. Our third- and fourth-year students are certified to deliver immunizations under supervision.

We hope that you and your families stay safe and healthy in 2022. If the ELP team can help you in any way, please reach out to us.

Sincerely,

Agnes Ann Feemster, PharmD, BCPS
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Associate Professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science
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What the ELP Office Needs from Preceptors

Please help us be 100 percent compliant with preceptor requirements by doing the following:

• Submitting all required midterm and final evaluations by their due dates
• Submitting an W9 form if you can accept honorarium payments
• Entering your site requirements in CORE ELMS by clicking “My Requirements”
• Reading all emails that come from the School via CORE ELMS
• Completing two hours of preceptor development each year
• Providing a brief description in your preceptor profile in CORE ELMS by clicking “Profile Information,” then “Description”

Library Access

One of the many benefits of being a School of Pharmacy preceptor is having onsite access to Facts and Comparisons Online and Micromedex only through the University’s Health Sciences and Human Services Library (HS/HSL). **Access is limited to School of Pharmacy preceptors who are scheduled to take a student for at least one block in the current academic year.** If you would like to take advantage of this benefit, please contact LaTia Few at Lfew@rx.umaryland.edu for more details.

We welcome the following newly appointed preceptors:

• Alexandria Gochenauer
• Amy Bittner
• Anupama Koram
• Bharath Ravichandran
• Briana Murray
• Deanna Bauerlein
• Deidre Peters
• Emily Seidl
• Erika Saunders
• Hager Elgendy
• Jessica Holstein
• Jesvin Thomas
• Jina Patel
• Lise Alessio
• Macey Wachal
• Olivia Renaldo
• Patricia Dieso
• Sheetal Jailwala
• Tim Dang
• Tracy Tran

Preceptor News

The ELP Office recently received news of the retirement of four preceptors:

• Denise Allen, BSPharm - Greater Baltimore Medical Center
• Angela Kaitis, PharmD - Upper Chesapeake Medical Center
• Laura Sampson, BSPharm - Safeway Pharmacy
• Larry Siegel, PharmD - Carroll Hospital Center

All have served as preceptors for the school of pharmacy for many years and have mentored countless students. They have proudly served the profession of pharmacy through their practice and their precepting, helping to train the next generation of pharmacists. We wish them all the best as they embark on the next phase of their lives.

If you have preceptor news that you would like to share, please contact the ELP Office at elp@rx.umaryland.edu.

Focus on Policy

The timely submission of mid-point and final evaluations for students on rotation is a critical component of successful precepting. Students use the feedback to improve their knowledge and skills as they follow the path towards becoming practicing pharmacists. One of the questions that the ELP Office frequently receives from preceptors is how to grade the mid-point evaluation for an outcome/skill that has not yet been covered. The ELP Office recommends that the preceptor select “Level 1” for the outcome/skill and to note in the “Comments” that the student has not had the opportunity to work on that outcome/skill during the first half of the rotation, but it will be covered and assessed for the final evaluation.
Upon receipt of such a mid-point evaluation, the ELP Office will send an email to the preceptor asking them to verify the reason for the low grade. Please respond with the appropriate answer in a timely manner.

Another area of confusion for our preceptors is the winter blocks for the IPPE 300 and IPPE 307 rotations - Blocks 4 and 6, respectively. The IPPE 307 rotation is 120 hours (three weeks) and the IPPE 300 rotation is 160 hours (four weeks). Because the winter blocks for these rotations occur during the holiday season and students typically request time off, the ELP Office has added an additional week to the rotation’s schedule to account for time away from the rotation due to the holidays. This does not mean that the student is required to complete an additional week of rotation (40 hours), nor does it mean that the student is entitled to time off for the holidays. Students are to discuss with their preceptors if time off will be allowed, with the student only taking time off if the preceptor has authorized time away from the rotation. The 120- or 160-hour rotations may be completed at any time during the 4- or 5-week period, respectively. If the student does not request holiday time off, the IPPE 307 rotation may be completed in three weeks, and the IPPE 300 rotation may be completed in four weeks.

Should you have further questions, please contact the ELP Office at elp@rx.umaryland.edu.

Preceptor Profile

The 2022 winter edition of the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy’s Capsule magazine is now available. This issue features a profile on preceptor Godwin Odunze, RPh, BSP, MS, MBA.

Learn more about Odunze here.