

# Maryland Mentor

A Newsletter for the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy's Academy of Preceptors

Winter 2018

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## From the Assistant Dean for Experiential Learning

Dear Preceptors,

Happy New Year! This time of year is an exciting one in the Experiential Learning Program (ELP) Office as students begin to make their rotation selections for the 2018-2019 academic year. If you have not already done so, please update your rotation specific information.



We are entering our eighth year of the clinical track program with a record number of health-system and community site participants. In this program, students complete several rotations in a variety of practice areas at either a hospital or a community pharmacy and affiliated clinics. This concentrated experience allows students to gain a deeper understanding of the practice site and its culture, build deeper relationships with the site's staff, and participate in longitudinal projects and research. Students must apply to and be accepted by the site to participate. If you have an interest in participating in the program next year, please reach out to me or any member of the ELP staff.

We will be embarking on the preceptor reappointment process soon. Currently preceptors receive a faculty appointment in the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science for not more than five years. Continued appointment requires departmental review and approval. Prior to reappointment, preceptors must provide an up-to-date curriculum vitae and complete two hours of preceptor related continuing education. Free opportunities for education may be located at <https://www.pharmacy.umaryland.edu/preceptors/online-preceptor-development-modules/>.

Experiential education represents a significant portion of the Doctor of Pharmacy curriculum, and our preceptors are essential members of our School's faculty. Thank you for your commitment to training and educating tomorrow's pharmacists. I wish you much success and happiness in the new year.

Sincerely,

Agnes Ann Feemster, PharmD, BCPS  
Assistant Dean, Experiential Learning Program  
Assistant 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
- Supplying your Social Security number if you are able to 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

## Library Access

One of the many benefits of being a School of Pharmacy preceptor is having offsite access to Facts and Comparisons Online and Micromedex 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 2017-2018 academic year.** If you have questions, please contact Alexa Mayo at [amayo@hshsl.umaryland.edu](mailto:amayo@hshsl.umaryland.edu) or 410-706-1316.

## Focus on Policy

This issue's policy focus is the professionalism criteria. The mark of any profession is the manner in which its members comport themselves. It is for this reason that the School of Pharmacy strives to instill the importance of professionalism in all of our students.

The Curriculum Committee has approved the professional criteria that are used for all students on rotations. The criteria measured are Altruism, Honesty and Integrity, Respect for Others, Professional Presence, and Dedication and Commitment to Excellence. These criteria do not count towards the student's grade; however, students must receive an "Acceptable" grade for each of the criteria in order to pass rotations. A single "Unacceptable" rating results in an automatic rotation failure.

Preceptors have the opportunity to define what constitutes acceptable and unacceptable behavior for each of the criteria, and should make their expectations very clear during the student's orientation. In addition, preceptors should provide timely and direct feedback to the student regarding any breaches of professionalism.

The question then becomes, when does a student's behavior merit an "Unacceptable" rating? Does a single instance of unprofessional behavior deserve an "Unacceptable" rating? As stated above, the preceptor is given the authority to determine what crosses the line into unprofessional behavior at the site and whether or not that behavior deserves an "Unacceptable" rating. For many minor infractions, a single instance of unprofessional behavior may not result in an "Unacceptable" rating, especially if the preceptor makes the student aware of the infraction in a timely manner and such behavior is not repeated during the rest of the rotation. However, if the student does not change his or her behavior, and continues to commit the infraction, an "Unacceptable" rating would be warranted. Conversely, a single instance of a major offense, such as theft or breach of confidentiality, may be sufficient for the preceptor to assign an "Unacceptable" rating for the professionalism criteria.

The full text of the professionalism criteria, including explanations of the intent for each criteria appear on page 22 of the Preceptor Orientation and Training manual. The manual and additional information about rotations can be found in the CORE ELMS Document Library.

In the event that a student has committed a major breach of professionalism or displays a continuing pattern of minor offenses, the preceptor is justified in assigning an "Unacceptable" rating for the student. Should you have questions about the criteria, their implementation and use or any other issue regarding rotations, please contact the ELP Office at (410) 706-2432 [elp@rx.umaryland.edu](mailto:elp@rx.umaryland.edu).

## Preceptor News

**O'Neal Malcolm, PharmD, PAHM, BCGP, DrPh®, CHES**, was the guest speaker at the 6th Grace Allen Young lecture series at the University of Technology (UTech), Jamaica on Nov. 19, 2017. The topic of the lecture was "Beyond Your Potential: Pursuing Advanced Pharmacy Practice." The event was sponsored by UTech Pharmacy Alumni, Caribbean Institute of Pharmacy Practice and Research, and UTech's College of Health Sciences.

**Mary Lynn McPherson, PharmD, MA, MDE, BCPS, CPE**, was named one of the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicines's 30 Visionaries in Hospice and Palliative Medicine.

## Continuing Education Opportunity for Preceptors

Did you know that the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) offers continuing education courses? The FDA's Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER) now features several online CE courses, including "FDA's Role in Public Health: Drug Efficacy, Safety, Quality, and Beyond." It provides 1.5 ACPE Contact Hours for pharmacists.

This and additional courses may be found at: <http://www.fda.gov/cderlearn>. All courses are available to pharmacists and other health care practitioners, so pass the opportunity on to colleagues.

Additional opportunities for continuing education credit related to precepting can be found at [www.pharmacy.umaryland.edu/preceptors/online-preceptor-development-modules/](http://www.pharmacy.umaryland.edu/preceptors/online-preceptor-development-modules/). New learning modules include "The Pharmacists' Patient Care Process" and "An Update on the Doctor of Pharmacy Accreditation Standards 2016."

## We welcome the following newly appointed preceptors:

- Alyssa Han
- Anne Marie Ruhe
- Christian Carr
- Crystal Lu
- Diment Singh
- Elizabeth Hasegawa
- Fang Lu
- Fausat Sulaiman
- Gina Lee
- Janine Douglas
- Jenora Parker
- Juliana Zschoche
- Julie Slomkowski
- Karen Slagle
- Kendra Prater
- Lisa McCarthy
- Maggie Chan
- Meghan Tolan
- Patrick Dougherty
- Rahel Goitom
- Richard Muffoletto
- Ryan Burke
- Sarwat Khan
- Tyler Dalton
- Whitney Swears

## Third Annual APPE Fair

On Oct. 26, the ELP Office hosted the third annual APPE Fair in Pharmacy Hall. As in previous years, preceptors were invited to “market” their site to the P3 students who will soon be selecting their fourth year rotation sites and preceptors. During the two hour event, students were able to interact with several sites and preceptors to learn more about the types of rotations that can be selected during the P4 year. Fifteen sites and 28 preceptors participated. Seventy-one students took advantage of the opportunity to learn more about the sites and preceptors.

Overall, everyone seemed to be happy with the fair and came away with smiles on their faces. Some of the comments from the attendees include:

- The students were impressively well prepared.
- It is always a pleasure working with the ELP Office.
- It would be great if this event could be scheduled before the Clinical Track Program.
- A list of rotations and the types of rotation offered at each site would have been helpful.
- Have labels on each table.
- I appreciated the diverse sites represented at the APPE Fair.

In response to suggestions from attendees of last year’s fair, the date was moved from January to October. The ELP Office will review all the comments from this year’s event and incorporate improvements for next year.

If you feel that your site would benefit from attendance at next year’s APPE fair, please contact LaTia Few, senior program specialist, at (410) 706-7118 or [lfew@rx.umaryland.edu](mailto:lfew@rx.umaryland.edu).

