

Collaborative Approaches to Enhancing Student Education



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BACKGROUND

The University of Wyoming School of Pharmacy (UWSOP), located in Laramie, Wyoming, consists of faculty members from diverse backgrounds including biomedical, pharmaceutical, social-administrative, behavioral, and clinical sciences. Collaboration among this tight-knit group enriches the work of our faculty, and enhances and broadens the education and experiences of our pharmacy students.

FACULTY TEAMS

The faculty are involved in all aspects of UWSOP administration and student educational experiences.

Pharmacy Student Candidate Interviews

- Students experience this collaboration initially with pharmacy student candidate interviews when they meet with pairs of core faculty from different disciplines to ask questions regarding the program.

Advising

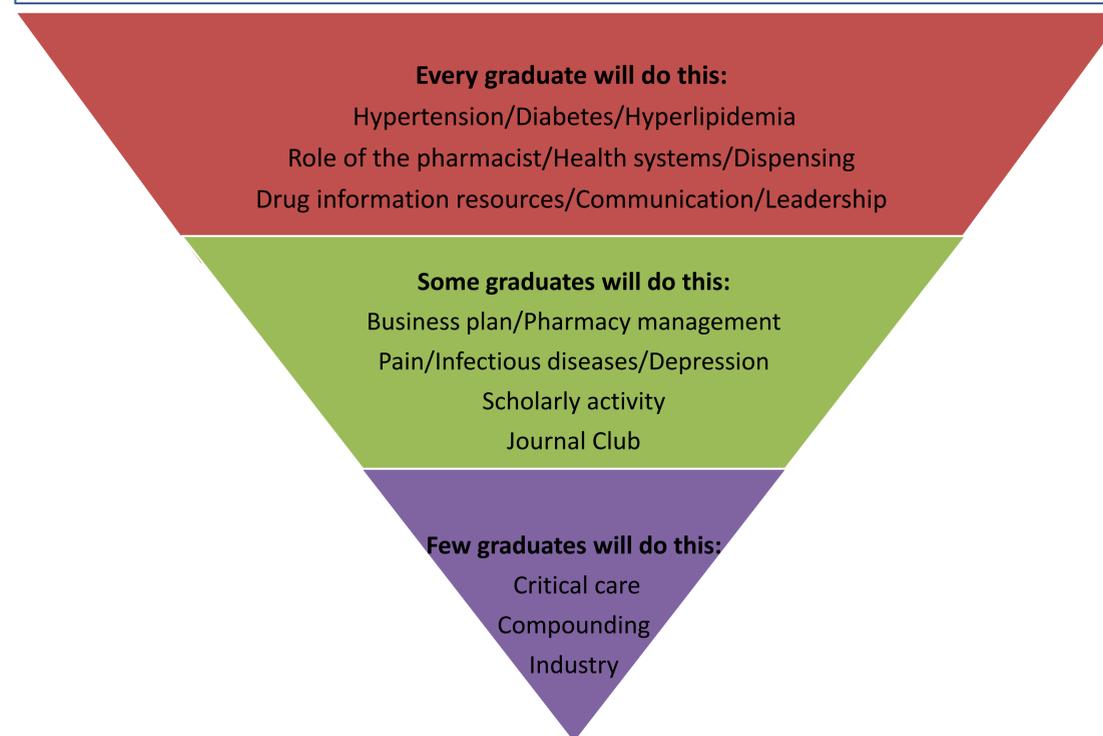
- Once enrolled, students are assigned to a team of faculty advisors from different disciplines that guide, encourage, and support them through their pharmacy education.
- The faculty advisors' role to support students ranges from curricular and career advising to co-curricular activities.

Teaching and Evaluation

- Team-taught courses are offered throughout the curriculum.
- Faculty-led rotations offer a unique opportunity for on-going faculty mentoring and guidance.
- Faculty evaluate student reflections of co-curricular activities and P4 student seminar presentation.
- Faculty peer evaluations are done across disciplines.

LONGITUDINAL SKILLS & CURRICULAR ALIGNMENT

- The most recent collaborative undertaking for the UWSOP is the development of a longitudinal skills course and curriculum alignment.
- This new curricular design aims to reinforce knowledge application through integrating all course content into the patient care process.
- Our curriculum is being mapped to identify the breadth and depth of content coverage.
- This endeavor has required focused collaboration and discussion of the curriculum amongst the entire faculty, with the end-goal being a revamped curriculum for future UWSOP classes that will produce quality graduates ready to participate in direct patient care.
- This experience has provided insight into how well a given learning expectation is being addressed.



LEADERSHIP

Students and faculty from multiple disciplines undergo formalized leadership training utilizing the "5 Voices" curriculum from GiANT Worldwide.

All UWSOP committees are intentionally comprised of faculty from all disciplines ensuring a broad view of all activities and processes within the school of pharmacy.

RESEARCH & SCHOLARLY ENDEAVORS

Faculty from all disciplines, PharmD students and PhD candidates, often work simultaneously on research, grant writing, and other scholarly endeavors.

- Clinical and translational research is conducted among the faculty.
- Collaborative publications and internal/external grants/awards.
 - Faculty supported by COBRE/INBRE/MW CTRIN.
- Collaborative research, posters, and presentations with students.
 - PharmD faculty are included on the PhD thesis committees
 - UWSOP Honors research program includes PharmD and MS students.
- The UWSOP has a wealth of knowledge in all branches of Pharmacy and drug discovery/development.
 - Several faculty have ongoing patents/approved patents based on the development of innovative strategies to counter human diseases.
- Faculty collaborate to provide a research track for undergraduate, graduate and PharmD Students.

