The spirit of collaboration at Falk School of Pharmacy (FSOP) has been present since our school opened in 2006. Pharmacy practice and pharmaceutical sciences faculty offices are intermixed on the same floor, promoting interaction, collaboration, and collegiality. Our curriculum includes pharmacotherapeutics modules that integrate practice and science by combining medicinal chemistry, pharmacology, and therapeutics. We work together to develop and facilitate patient cases that have been incorporated into several of our first-year science courses, pharmacotherapeutics modules, and objective structured clinical examinations (OSCEs). In addition, practice and science faculty collaboratively manage an international advanced pharmacy practice experience (APPE) and a “Basic Drug Knowledge and Calculations” program that runs through our Applied Pharmacy Care laboratory series.

Integration of faculty in coursework has fostered collaboration in scholarship, service, and professional activities as well. Many of our scholarly partnerships that resulted in poster presentations, podium presentations, and peer-reviewed publications started with ideas generated after practice and science faculty taught together and shared experiences. The FSOP environment cultivates teamwork among practice and science faculty to advance professional and service activities, including committee work, co-advising student organizations, and facilitating development activities for students, staff, and faculty.

Collaboration between practice and science faculty is a foundational part of FSOP. Our joint efforts model the School’s dedication to integration of faculty in coursework has fostered collaboration in teaching throughout our curriculum, with the proportion of collaboration increasing throughout the three didactic years. Relationships built through office interactions improve teaching effectiveness and communication.

Examples of 2017-2018 teaching collaboration include:

- Twelve-course pharmacotherapeutics series in second and third year co-taught by two professors from each department to cover medicinal chemistry, pharmacology, and therapeutics
- Non-pharmacotherapeutics courses:
  - Pharmacy practice faculty join pharmaceutical sciences courses to facilitate patient case discussions
  - Pharmaceutical sciences faculty join pharmacy practice courses to enhance basic science concepts
- Basic drug knowledge list and calculations practice to facilitate weekly lab quizzes and annual high-stakes exam
- OSCE case writing
- International APPE managed by faculty from both departments

Relationships and experiences built through office interactions and teaching stimulate collaboration through scholarship. Pharmacy practice and pharmaceutical science faculty collaborate to produce peer-reviewed manuscripts, review articles, and podium/poster presentations at local, state, and national professional meetings.

Examples of 2017-2018 scholarship collaboration include:


Presentations:


Collaborations between pharmaceutical science and pharmacy practice faculty continue through university and community service. Working together to serve builds relationships that improve collaboration in scholarship and teaching.

Examples of 2017-2018 service collaboration include:

- 50:50 participation in FSOP standing and ad hoc committees
- Faculty search committees
- Peer reviews for teaching
- Student organization advising
- Community presentations
  - Pharmacy workshops for middle/high-school students (e.g., “Expanding Your Horizons” for STEM promotion in young women)
  - Community service
    - University and local service projects (e.g., “Word in Action”)
  - Professional development forums (e.g., women’s panel to celebrate women in pharmacy)

Conclusion

Teaching, scholarship, and service collaborations are fundamental to FSOP. Working side-by-side and teaching together enhance relationships and foster scholarship and service. We continue to explore additional opportunities to work together to improve student education.