Preceptor Spotlight

JJ Bernabei, RPh, of the Tri-State Medical Group, is a graduate of the WVU School of Pharmacy (SoP) and has been precepting student pharmacists for the past 15 years. He precepts a first professional year student pharmacist each year for their introductory pharmacy practice experiences (IPPEs), and he precepts several fourth professional year student pharmacists for their advanced pharmacy practice experiences (APPEs) in the community pharmacy setting. JJ’s practice, Tri-State Medical Group (Tri-State Pharmacy, Tri-State Medical and Follansbee Pharmacy), located in the Weirton, WV area has strong ties to the community. For the past 10 years, his group has sponsored a Community Health Fair that reaches as many as 1000 participants annually. He and his wife Sue (also a WVU SoP alumna) also volunteer and support the Free Health Clinic in their community. This community involvement sets a great example for the student pharmacists that work with JJ throughout the year. JJ is also a strong financial supporter of WVU SoP. He and his family established a WVU SoP Endowment Fund that provides scholarships to pharmacy students living in Hancock, Brooke or Ohio counties.

What do you like most about serving as a preceptor? Once I got over the fact that each student is smarter and sharper than me in some area, I enjoyed teaching what I knew and getting them to help me make my practice better by allowing them to share their new fresh knowledge.

What advice do you give students entering practice? No one expects you to know the answer off the top of your head. What patients and health care professionals do expect is that you know how to get the answer quickly and deliver the answer professionally. That is the definition of credible.

What kind of rotation do you offer students? We offer a compounding rotation and a management rotation. The management rotation is unique because we can cover everything from HR issues to advertising issues, scheduling to inventory control and budgets to strategic plans.

What are your ties to WVU and WV? I have lived in Weirton WV my entire life with the exception of living in Parsons WV for one year after graduating. One factor keeps me here and one factor alone: Family. You can be happy and productive anywhere your family is. WVU School of Pharmacy is at the root of all my success as health care professional.

Site Spotlight

Harpers Ferry Family Medicine Clinic, located in Bolivar, WV, serves as an ambulatory care site for the WVU School of Pharmacy (SoP). 2014 marks the 10th anniversary of WVU SoP students on APPE rotations at the clinic. The site provides rotation students opportunities to perform diabetes self-management education, run an anticoagulation clinic and participate in multidisciplinary rounds at Jefferson Medical Center with the clinic’s family medicine service. Additionally, the clinic’s pharmacist, Dr. Jonathan Kline, provides education to medical students and residents working within the practice. Students report that they enjoy the opportunity to be directly involved in patient care activities and getting to work directly with patients and providers in a multitude of settings.

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Check out our website
pharmacy.hsc.wvu.edu/explearning
WVU SoP Going International

The mission of West Virginia University School of Pharmacy is to improve the health and well-being of West Virginians and society at large by educating students and practitioners to provide optimal pharmaceutical care; conducting vital research that advances scientific knowledge, pharmacy practice, and economic development; and providing direct and supportive services to patients, the community, and the profession. While most APPE rotations at WVU are in West Virginia, there are several unique opportunities for our students to support patients and our profession globally. Currently, students may apply to complete international rotations in South Africa, Oman, and Brazil. Each rotation has a different educational focus, and all provide our students with the opportunity to learn about a culture and health care system very different from the United States.

The APPE rotation experience in South Africa is currently in its fourth year, and is a partnership with the Doctor of Pharmacy program at Rhodes University in Grahamstown, South Africa. As part of this rotation, three students travel to South Africa along with the PGY-2 Internal Medicine Pharmacy resident from West Virginia University Hospitals. The primary focus of this rotation is acute care, with AIDS and AIDS-related complications being a very prevalent part of the patient care experience. Students spend the majority of their time working in a public hospital, which serves South African citizens without private insurance. In addition to daily patient care activities, students complete cultural activities such as a Township tour and safari. “The South Africa rotation was not only a wonderful professional learning experience, but it offered me many lessons in humanity. I know that my time abroad will forever impact the way in which I practice pharmacy” said P4 student Sarah Mallow who participated in the 2013 rotation.

The APPE rotation exchange with Oman Medical College (OMC) is currently in its first year. This partnership is a rotation exchange with pharmacy students from OMC. Four pharmacy students in their last year of the BPharm program at OMC completed a four week rotation experience at the Morgantown campus of WVU School of Pharmacy in October. The focus of this rotation exchange is an overview of the healthcare system in each country, and pharmacists’ roles within each respective system. Students from OMC participated in acute care rounds, ambulatory clinic visits, and community pharmacy activities. In January 2014, three students from WVU will travel to Muscat, Oman. While there, our students will spend time in the acute care and community pharmacy settings, as well as spend time at the Oman Ministry of Health, which is the government agency that is responsible for the provision of government sponsored healthcare in Oman.

In April 2014, two pharmacy students will be traveling along with other health professions students from WVU Health Sciences Center to Santarem, Brazil for our first APPE rotation in Brazil. As part of the Brazil experience, pharmacy students will partner with health providers and health professions students from Brazil to learn about the provision of care to patients living in rural communities along the Amazon River. Students will also participate in cultural immersion activities, including daily Portuguese language lessons.
News from the Director of APPE

Lena Maynor, Pharm.D., BCPS


APPE syllabi: We are in the process of updating all rotation syllabi. If you have not provided an updated syllabus in the last year we may be contacting you soon to request one. We do have a new template available to assist you in developing a full syllabus for your students. If you would like to send your updated syllabus or you would like a copy of the new template, please contact Carol Shaub at cburo1@hsc.wvu.edu.

Honors grades: As a reminder, students receiving a score of 4 or 5 for each competency on their final evaluation are eligible for submission of a grade of Honors for the rotation. Preceptors interested in having an Honors grade assigned must provide a written description of why the grade is justified electronically or in writing to the Director of APPE within 2 working days of the student’s completion of the rotation. Specific examples of student performance must be included in the justification. Detailed information is available in the syllabus posted on the OEL website (pharmacy.hsc.wvu.edu/explearning). Please contact the OEL if you have any questions about Honors grades.

Preceptor Appreciation Event

The OEL was very excited to welcome many of you at this year’s Preceptor Appreciation Tailgate Party November 9th at the WVU vs. Texas game. It was a cold evening, but a heater, good food, and good company made it seem much warmer. What a wonderful opportunity to network and meet new folks. Preceptors were treated to a few gifts as well as a great tailgate dinner. If you weren’t able to join us this year, we hope you can make it next year!

2013-14 Rotation Schedule

Block 1: May 27-June 28, 2013
Block 2: July 1-August 2, 2013
Block 3: August 12-September 13, 2013
Block 4: September 16-October 18, 2013
Block 5: October 21-November 22, 2013
Block 6: January 6-February 7, 2014
Block 7: February 10-March 14, 2014
Block 8: March 24-April 25, 2014

2014-15 Rotation Schedule

Block 1: May 26– June 27, 2014
Block 2: June 30– August 1, 2014
Block 3: August 11– September 12, 2014
Block 4: September 15-October 17, 2014
Block 5: October 20– November 21, 2014
Block 6: January 5– February 6, 2015
Block 7: February 9– March 13, 2015
Block 8: March 23– April 24, 2015
News from the Director of IPPE

Gina Baugh, Pharm.D.

As the end of the 2013 Fall semester is quickly approaching, plans are currently underway for the 2014 Spring semester. We will be sending out availability forms in the coming days to our institutional preceptors to recruit sites for the 2014 institutional rotation. The dates of the three 2014 rotation blocks are:

May 5\textsuperscript{th} - 16\textsuperscript{th}      May 19\textsuperscript{th} - 30\textsuperscript{th}      June 2\textsuperscript{nd} - 13\textsuperscript{th}

Second professional year students will be assigned to one of the three rotation blocks to complete a 2 week (80 hour) rotation. An important update for this year is that E-Value will be utilized for scheduling student rotations and also for submission of all rotation requirements, including workbooks, hours logs, and evaluations.

My First Patient– Hands on experience for P1 and P3s

The My First Patient (MFP) program is one of the ambulatory care activities the students participate in during the IPPE class their third year. The MFP program allows P3 students to perform health screenings on first year dental, medical, and pharmacy students. As they serve as a care provider for incoming students the P3s gain skills in physical assessment, interviewing, and communication. The MFP program is intended to provide the students with an enhanced perspective as a health care provider because each P3 student was once the patient during their first year of school and the provider during their third year. Understanding what it is like to be a patient will hopefully create more empathetic health care professionals.

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