Downers Grove Campus Welcomes New Clinical Skills and Simulation Center

In January 2015, Midwestern University opened a new building on its Downers Grove Campus. The four-story 137,907-square foot Auditorium Building features the new Clinical Skills and Simulation Center, amphitheater-style classrooms, offices for deans and their staff members, conference rooms, and a large auditorium for graduation and White Coat ceremonies.

The Clinical Skills and Simulation Center (CSC), covers 4,068 square feet, includes 13 clinical exam rooms, four simulation suites, two operating suites, one labor & delivery room, and a 16-station scrub room. These spaces are designed to mimic outpatient and hospital-based environments including an intensive care unit, emergency/trauma room, hospital floor, and pediatric floor.

The simulation suites and operating room house eight high-fidelity simulator mannequins (four adults, two pediatric patients, and two birthing mother-and-child simulators), and the suites are equipped with software that enables simulation of a variety of physiological states, including arrhythmias and cardiac arrest. Students practice their skills in cardiopulmonary resuscitation, intravenous drug delivery, and defibrillation.

The use of the CSC provides students the opportunity to encounter human patient simulation activities in a safe educational environment prior to their fourth-year Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience courses, also known as APPEs.

Actors, also known as standardized patients, are trained to portray a patient case as students conduct interviews and physical exams, and practice their communication skills and physical assessment techniques. Scenarios can be staged so that students practice interviewing and relating with standardized patients in interchangeable mock exam and patient rooms, and to discuss medication adherence. During these patient interactions, students have the ability to phone the patient’s physician or pharmacy to provide medication recommendations.

As students work in teams, faculty at work stations may monitor student interactions and provide feedback about their clinical skills and techniques. The standardized

Continued on next page.
Residency Update
The Post-Match Scramble
Gets Less Scrambled

by Jacob P. Gettig, Pharm.D., M.P.H., BCPS
Assistant Dean for Postgraduate Education

Do you remember Friday, March 20, 2015? For those of you who precepted Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience (APPE) students seeking residencies, think of the stressful looks on your students’ faces in the morning, and the extreme joy they expressed when they learned that they had matched to a residency...or the extreme disappointment if they learned the opposite.

The days and sometimes weeks immediately following the release of pharmacy residency match results has always been stressful for candidates who did not match to a program and to programs who did not fill all of their resident positions. This period of time has been affectionately known as the "Post-Match Scramble" or simply, "The Scramble."

Most candidates who did not match a residency feverishly review the list of unmatched positions provided by the National Matching Services, Inc. (NMS) and conduct numerous web searches to identify remaining residency positions. Likewise, residency program directors review NMS lists of unmatched candidates and often ask trusted peers if they know any good candidates who did not match.

While the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP), the accrediting organization for pharmacy residencies, asks residency programs to hold off on making immediate offers to unmatched candidates during the scramble, there is no way to effectively and consistently enforce this request. So often times, residency program directors make hurried offers to stressed candidates, sometimes without a complete interview process, and candidates accept these offers under the perception that they may not have any other more fitting residency opportunities arise.

To help address this problem, ASHP and NMS have announced the 2016 Residency Match will occur in two phases. Both phases will use the same process that has been used in the single phase Match in previous years. Residency candidates and residency programs will submit rank lists of their preferred programs or candidates, respectively, and NMS will use its algorithm to assign candidates to programs. The Phase I match results will be released on March 18, 2016.

Continued on page 4.
Dear Dr. Sincak,
I truly enjoyed my rotation experiences during my last year of pharmacy school. I had a number of preceptors who served as mentors to help guide me to my current career path. I would like the opportunity to give back to the profession and become a preceptor. Can you please provide me with information on how to become a preceptor for Midwestern University?

Dear Future Preceptor,
Thank you so much for your willingness to precept and provide a high-quality rotation experience for our students! We continually strive to provide our students with excellent preceptors who will serve as a teacher, mentor, and role model in various practice environments. The Chicago College of Pharmacy (CCP) values its partnerships with our pharmacist preceptors and recognizes your efforts by providing the following benefits:

- **Practice site benefits**: Our students are motivated and enthusiastic to assist in the daily activities that engage them in the professional experience. They can also assist in implementing new services at your site.
- **Access to MWU library resources**: As a preceptor, you will have access to numerous databases, e-journals, e-books, and other library services.
- **Faculty appointment**: Preceptors who meet certain qualifications may qualify for an adjunct faculty appointment.
- **Preceptor Recognition**: Each year we recognize three outstanding preceptors - Preceptor of the Year, which is an honor bestowed upon an exceptional College of Pharmacy faculty or adjunct preceptor; and the New Preceptor Excellence Award for Faculty, and the New Preceptor Excellence Award for Adjunct Faculty, which are awarded to excellent preceptors who have served as preceptors for five years or less.
- **Complimentary and reduced-rate CE programs**: Preceptors enjoy access to the Collaborative Education Institute (www.gotoCEI.org) that provides preceptor training and continuing pharmacy education at no cost. In addition, preceptors are offered reduced registration fees for live CE programs offered by the College.

- **Invitations to MWU receptions at local and national meetings**: We appreciate your time and devotion to our students, and these receptions are a small token of appreciation to say thank you for all that you do.

The pharmacy practice experiences make up approximately one-third of the College’s Pharm.D. curriculum. Our preceptors are able to serve as invaluable resources in a variety of ways. Opportunities for being a CCP preceptor include:

- Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experiences (IPPEs)
  - **IPPE I** – Community: Weekly 9-hour site visits to an assigned community pharmacy to introduce students to the essentials of community practice for 10 weeks
  - **IPPE II** – Health Systems: Five 4-hour site visits to a health system to introduce students to the essentials of hospital practice
  - **IPPE III** – Clinical: Six 8-hour site visits to various hospitals and clinical sites to apply lessons learned in didactic courses to real practice environments

- Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experiences
  - Students complete six 6-week rotations on a full-time basis

Criteria for being a preceptor include:

- Ability to provide a high-quality learning experience that meets the learning goals and objectives of the College
- At least one year of professional experience
- Pharmacy licensure in good standing with a state board of pharmacy
- Completion and submission of an application form*
- Completion of College of Pharmacy preceptor training

In addition, an affiliation agreement between Midwestern University Chicago College of Pharmacy and the clinical site will be secured prior to student placement.

In addition to your application, you may also submit your availability for the 2016-2017 year.* Shortly after receiving your preceptor application and availability forms, you will be contacted by the Office of Experiential Education.

Again, I thank you in advance for your commitment and expertise and look forward to working with you. Becoming a preceptor and mentor is one of the most valued contributions you can make to the profession!

* Application form and availability forms are available at www.midwestern.edu/ccppreceptors
PS-I Students Starting Out Strong

Beginning pharmacy school can be overwhelming, with many adjustments to make and a higher level of coursework to tackle. To help incoming PS-I students overcome their anxieties, they are given a book to read and discuss in a series of learning workshops.

_The New Science of Learning (NSL)_ written by Dr. Terry Doyle and Dr. Todd Zakrjashek, emphasizes how to "learn in harmony with your brain." Instead of focusing solely on studying or study strategies, this book highlights the physiology of learning; how to adequately prepare for learning; the importance of using multiple senses, patterns, and a growth mindset to learn; and the complexities of memory and attention.

All faculty who teach CCP students on campus received a copy of this book in July 2015, and all PS-I students received a copy during orientation. During the first two weeks of the fall quarter, CCP faculty facilitated five 50-minute sessions with incoming PS-I students about the topics presented in _NSL_. Most sessions involved a brief overview of topics in the book, followed by interactive small group or large group activities to highlight the concepts.

"Evaluations from students reported that they were very engaged in the sessions, and students verbally expressed that they enjoyed the book and the educational activities," said Jacob Gettig, Pharm.D., M.P.H., BCPS, Assistant Dean and Associate Professor in Pharmacy Practice. "The faculty will continue to discuss _NSL_ concepts at college faculty meetings to ensure that CCP courses are structured and taught in a way that remains mindful of exemplary learning principles."

Copies of this book can be purchased through most common book vendors.

The Post-Match Scramble cont’d

All unmatched candidates and residency programs with unfilled positions may then participate in Phase II of the Match. The Phase II match results will be released on April 8, 2016. Any remaining unmatched candidates and residency programs with unfilled positions may then participate in "The Scramble."

ASHP and NMS hope that adding an additional phase will match good unmatched candidates to good residency programs and will help make "The Scramble" a little less scrambled.

References:

Calendar

**Alumni and Friends Reception at the ASHP Annual Meeting & Exhibition**

**Sunday, December 6, 2015; 5:30 - 7:00PM**

At the Hilton New Orleans Riverside
2 Poydras Street
New Orleans, LA

**RSVP:** Call 800-962-3053, or online at https://online.midwestern.edu/public/eventreg.cgi?event_no=2952

Keep in Touch

Let us know what’s new with you, or update your contact information. You may contact Damienne Souter, Assistant to the Dean, at 630-515-7373 or dsoute@midwestern.edu or the Office of Development and Alumni Relations at 800-962-3053 or alumni@midwestern.edu.

You may also go to www.midwestern.edu and click on MWUNET to access the Alumni Directory, check the Job Finder, or update your contact information. Simply login the same way you did when you were a student. Still need some assistance? Then feel free to call the IT Help Desk at 630-515-7361 from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM CST.

Contact Us

With any questions, concerns or future submissions, please contact Damienne Souter, Assistant to the Dean, at 630-515-7373 or dsoute@midwestern.edu.