Dear Preceptor,

You are correct. The corporation that purchased the rights to PEMS decided not to offer or support this product after December 31, 2010.

We have been working for several months with MWU Information Technology Services to build an in-house web-based system to support rotations. We expect the new Rotation Management System (RMS) to be available to students and preceptors in the spring of 2011. RMS is being designed to replicate many of the functionalities that existed in the PEMS system in managing student rotations: tracking of rotation schedules, online evaluations, rotation preference selection, preceptor/site search capabilities, etc. Because this is an in-house developed system, our IT Service will continue to enhance RMS so that functionality will continue to expand over time.

Until the new RMS system is fully operational, we are asking students and preceptors to submit paper copies of their evaluations to the OEE office. The evaluations may be faxed or emailed to our office at the end of the educational experience.

We are looking forward to rolling out this new system and encourage your feedback as we do so. In the near future we will release all the details of the new system including login information, directions for use, and onsite training.

If you have any additional questions or concerns please call me at 630-515-6477.

Avery Spunt, RPh, MEd, FASHP
The Debut of Student Portfolios

by Ana C. Quiñones-Boex, Ph.D.

During the current academic year, a new curricular component has been introduced at the Chicago College of Pharmacy (CCP): the student portfolio. The portfolio is important to preceptors as they will be required to participate in the assessment of student portfolio entries when the current PS-I class starts advanced pharmacy practice experiences (APPEs) in the fall of 2013. The student portfolio is a requirement of all graduating classes starting with the Class of 2014.

Following are some frequently asked questions regarding the new portfolios:

What are we going to evaluate? Longitudinal progression in student achievement of the College’s ten Curricular Global Outcomes:
I. Practice patient-centered care II. Practice evidence-based clinical decision-making III. Promote public health and disease prevention IV. Participate effectively in interdisciplinary healthcare teams V. Communicate effectively VI. Demonstrate critical thinking and problem solving skills VII. Act in a professionally responsible manner and promote such action in others VIII. Develop and manage a pharmacy practice IX. Evaluate outcomes data associated with the practice of pharmacy X. Demonstrate self-assessment and self-directed learning

Who will contribute to student portfolios? Students, faculty, and preceptors will be involved in the process. Students will create and submit entries where they reflect upon their progress towards achievement of the curricular outcomes. Faculty and preceptors will assess the students’ entries.

How often will the portfolios be assessed? The portfolio submissions will be assessed once a year during the first three (didactic) years of the pharmacy curriculum (PS-I, PS-II and PS-III). Faculty advisors will assess the annual submissions each didactic year. During the PS-IV year, the portfolio entries will be assessed after every rotation and at the end of the year. Preceptors will assess 1-2 entries after each rotation with the student.

How are we going to evaluate portfolios? The students complete specific online forms for each of their entries. Faculty and preceptors will use standardized rubrics to evaluate the student entries. Grading of the course to develop their portfolio entries is pass/fail.

More details regarding the portfolio evaluation process will be forthcoming. Stay tuned!

Preceptor Pearl: Students Leading Topic Discussions

By Brooke Griffin, Pharm.D. and Kathleen Vest, Pharm.D., CDE

“...it is about identifying other approaches where faculty take leadership for creating climates and conditions conducive to learning. With these approaches, they work to build spaces in which students can begin to move, grow, mature, and act responsibly about their own learning and toward the learning of others.”


We liked the idea of rotation students leading topic discussions, and by collaborating with each other’s students, we maximized the number of topics discussed in our rotation. We had PS-IV students on their ambulatory care/chronic care rotations with us. Dr. Griffin is at Mercy Family Health, and Dr. Vest is at DuPage Medical group.

We asked the students to read the current guidelines for each topic before our weekly meeting in order to prepare for the discussion. The first student presenter created a Jeopardy™ game with categories such as That Sounds Complicated (referring to complications of diabetes), and “—Ide” Rather Be Sleeping (answers ended with —ide). One student commented, “Topic discussions using games/activities make it more enjoyable to answer questions, which gives me more motivation to read about the topic [ahead of time].”

At the end of each student-led game session, we worked through cases to discuss and apply certain concepts. Plus, it allowed the students to work together to formulate recommendations and treatment plans.

When asked how these topic discussions add value to the rotation experience, a student said that they “improve our presentation/teaching skills and give us a chance to get feedback on our presentation skills in a safe and constructive environment.”

This activity exposed them to valuable teaching methods (such as writing appropriate questions for their topic). These skills could be helpful when educating patients on disease states, in-servicing nursing staff, and leading discussions as a pharmacy resident.

Learning can be fun. And that’s our final answer.
College Connection

Be Involved

Interested in precepting in either Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experience (IPPE) or the Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience (APPE)? Contact Associate Dean Avery Spunt at 630-515-6100 or aspunt@midwestern.edu

Interested in teaching and facilitating workshops or laboratories? Contact Dr. Susan Winkler, Department Chair of Pharmacy Practice, at 630-515-6115 or swinkl@midwestern.edu, or Dr. Shridhar Andurkar, Department Chair of Pharmaceutical Sciences, at 630-515-6399 or sandur@midwestern.edu

Interested in getting more involved in the CCP Alumni Association? Contact CCP Dean Nancy Fjortoft at 630-971-6417 or nfjort@midwestern.edu

Interested in interviewing prospective pharmacy students? Contact CCP Assistant Dean Paula Giometti at 630-971-6417 or pgiome@midwestern.edu

Interested in participating in outreach events at local high schools or colleges or in diversity recruitment activities? Contact Damienne Souter, Assistant to the Dean, at 630-515-7373 or dsoute@midwestern.edu

Calendar

APhA Annual Meeting
March 25 - 28, 2011
Seattle, WA
Alumni Reception on Sunday, March 27
Westin Seattle, 1900 Fifth Avenue, Seattle; 5:30 to 7:00 PM
An RSVP would be appreciated to alumni@midwestern.edu.

CE Program: An Evidence-Based Approach to Stroke Prevention and Managing Thromboembolic Disease
Wednesday, April 6, 2011, 6:00 PM
Midwestern University Campus

16th Annual CCP Student Award Gala
Friday, April 15, 2011 at 6:00 PM
Littlejohn Hall

Chippin’ In For Students Golf Classic
Friday, June 10, 2011
7:30 AM Shotgun Start
Seven Bridges Golf Course, Woodridge, IL

CCP Alumni Council’s
June CE & Family Picnic
Saturday, June 11, 2011
Midwestern University Campus

In 2011, the Chicago College of Pharmacy will be celebrating its 20-year anniversary. Watch your mail and email for details and opportunities to help us celebrate!

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.

Campus Update

Construction of the new Science Hall, which is being built where the Athletic Hall once stood, is scheduled to be completed on May 1, 2011.