Mentoring, Advising and Student Success

Student Mentoring

The predisposition of the School of Pharmacy is positive in nature and aimed at finding ways of advancing students wherever possible. Ultimately, however, it is the duty of the school to determine whether or not the student meets the academic and professional standards necessary to be a Pharmacist. Based on this caveat, the School of Pharmacy has instituted the **M.E.N.T.O.R Program.** This program is a comprehensive approach offering a variety of services intended to support the personal and academic success of the School of Pharmacy's students:

M – Monitor – Throughout the academic year, the Office of the Dean will monitor student grades on a weekly basis. Students experiencing academic struggles will be directed to contact their academic advisor and establish a course of action to address their academic difficulties.

E – Educate – Academic advisors will supplement didactic and scheduled professional development workshops focusing on issues of time and stress management, study techniques, career opportunities, etc.

N – Navigate – Each student will be assigned a faculty advisor throughout their academic program, serving as a source of information (school and college policies, procedures, and academic standards), communication and advisement (didactic and experiential electives).

T – Teamwork – Students will become inculcated into the importance of teamwork by the bi-annual creation of teams within each class. These teams will be used throughout the academic year in most courses. Additionally, to facilitate the mentoring of students by both faculty and peers, students will be placed in advising groups comprised of students from each professional year. Students will remain with the same advisement team throughout their academic life within the School of Pharmacy.

O – Oversight – Academic advisors will be responsible for ensuring that students on academic probation adhere to all conditions set forth by the Academic Performance Committee.

R – Referral – A confidential system will provide an opportunity for concerned members of the School of Pharmacy community to contact the Office of the Dean regarding a student for whom they have a concern. The Office of the Dean will reach out to that student to assess if there is a reason for concern, and if so, offer guidance and assistance.

Student Advising

Student advising is intended to assist students in effectively progressing through the professional curriculum by providing students with the means to understand and meet academic and progression standards, requirements for graduation, the tenets of professionalism, and the diverse practices of pharmacy.

Upon enrollment students will be assigned a faculty advisor, and if possible, will remain with the same advisor throughout their academic career. To facilitate mentoring of students by both faculty and peers, students will be placed in advising groups comprised of students from each professional year.

In order for student advising to be effective there are certain expectations of both students and advisors.

Students are expected to:

- Be proactive in communicating with and responding to all inquiries from their academic advisor
- Schedule meetings with their academic advisor as stipulated in their academic probation letter
- Request assistance from their advisor if experiencing academic or personal issues
- Fully participate with their advising group during meetings

Faculty Advisors are expected to:

- Meet with their advising group at least twice each semester
- Meet more frequently with students who have been identified as having academic trouble or as stipulated in the terms of the student's academic probation.
- Disseminate program and school information on a regular basis
- Assist in the assessment of student reflections as required in IPPEs and APPEs. Guide students in the development of their e-portfolios to show evidence of meeting the school's educational and ability-based outcomes, as well as other programmatic requirements