



# UNIVERSITY of MARYLAND SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

## Branching Out: Can Satellite Campus Students Lead the Way?

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### Background

As the number of PharmD graduates continues to rise, employment and residency placement becomes increasingly competitive. This has sparked an interest for pharmacy schools to look for new ways to increase their students' abilities to distinguish themselves.

Participation in extracurricular activities and serving in leadership roles during pharmacy school have shown to have an impact on the candidate selection process for residency programs<sup>1</sup>. Factors determining which candidates receive interview offers by residency directors were explored by Butts et al, and included student's GPA, leadership involvement, rotations, and professional presentations<sup>2</sup>. This led to the question, is there a difference in opportunities for students that attend schools with main and branch campuses. Previously it was demonstrated that there was no significant difference in academic performance between the main and satellite campus students at the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy as found in a longitudinal review by Congdon et al<sup>3</sup>.

### Objectives

There are no current studies that compare the leadership opportunities available to students at main and branch campuses. The objective of this study is to compare the leadership opportunities that are accessible for PharmD students at the main and branch campuses at schools of pharmacy in the United States.

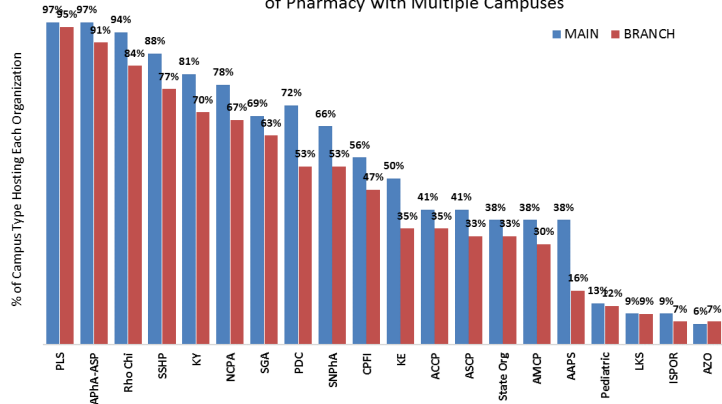
### Methods

The ACPE website was used to identify schools with branch campuses as of May 2015. School websites were used to determine the number of student organizations and phone calls were made to schools that did not have complete student organization information listed on their website. Descriptive statistics was used to analyze the results. This study was deemed not human subject research by the University of Maryland Baltimore Institutional Review Board.

### References

1. Phillips JA, McLaughlin MM, Rose C, Gallagher JC, Gettig JP, Rhodes NJ. Student Characteristics Associated with Successful Matching to a PGY1 Residency Program. *Am J Pharm Ed.* 2016;80(5):1-8
2. Butts AR, Smith KM. Application and Interview Features Used to Assess Applicant Qualifications for Residency Training. *Hosp Pharm.* 2015;50(2): 125-33
3. Congdon HB, Nutter DA, Charneski L, Butko P. Impact of Hybrid Delivery of Education on Student Academic Performance and the Student Experience. *Am J Pharm Ed.* 2009; 73 (7): 1- 5

Top 20 Student Organizations Available at Colleges and Schools of Pharmacy with Multiple Campuses



### Colleges and Schools of Pharmacy with branch campuses

Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences  
Auburn University Harrison School of Pharmacy  
Ferris State University College of Pharmacy  
Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences  
Idaho State University College of Pharmacy  
Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine School of Pharmacy  
MCPHS University School of Pharmacy  
NOVA Southeastern University College of Pharmacy  
Oregon State University College of Pharmacy  
Roseman University of Health Sciences College of Pharmacy  
Shenandoah University Bernard J Dunn School of Pharmacy  
South Carolina College of Pharmacy  
South Dakota State University College of Pharmacy\*  
South University of Pharmacy  
Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Pharmacy  
University of Arizona College of Pharmacy\*

University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences College of Pharmacy  
University of Florida College of Pharmacy  
University of Georgia College of Pharmacy  
University of Illinois at Chicago College of Pharmacy  
University of Kansas School of Pharmacy  
University of Maryland College of Pharmacy  
University of Minnesota College of Pharmacy  
University of Mississippi School of Pharmacy  
University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Pharmacy  
University of North Carolina Eshelman School of Pharmacy  
University of Oklahoma College of Pharmacy  
University of Tennessee Health Science Center College of Pharmacy  
University of Texas at Austin College of Pharmacy  
Virginia Commonwealth University at the Medical College of Virginia Campus School of Pharmacy  
Washington State University College of Pharmacy  
Wingate University School of Pharmacy

\* Classified as having a branch campus by ACPE, but students matriculate as a single cohort from Brookings (P1-P2) to Sioux Falls (P3)  
\* First branch campus (Phoenix) cohort graduates in 2020

### Results

There are 32 colleges and schools of pharmacy that have branch campuses, and a total of 43 branch campuses (24 schools have one branch campus, 5 have two branch campuses, 3 have three branch campuses).

This study detected two predominant types of branch campus structure: about 1/3 could be termed "sequential" meaning that all students start out at the main campus and are dispersed in the P3 and/or P4 years to complete their PharmD curriculum, while 2/3 are a "satellite" model meaning that the branch campus has a separate and usually smaller cohort of students assigned to complete their entire PharmD there.

Among the 32 schools with multiple campuses, the ten most common student organizations are PLS, APhA-ASP, Rho Chi, SSHP, KY, NCPA, SGA, PDC, SNPhA, and CPFI. Overall, there are slightly more opportunities for student involvement in pharmacy student organizations at main campuses: average of 11.6 student organizations (range 6-20) at main campuses, average of 9.8 student organizations (range 1-19) at branch campuses. In the "sequential" group, the average is 10.9 organizations at the main campus versus 8.7 at the branch campuses. In the "satellite" group, the average is 12.0 organizations at the main campus versus 10.5 organizations at the branch campuses.

*Despite having similar opportunities, anecdotal feedback was that branch campus students are less active in organizations than main campus students.*

### Conclusions

This study confirmed that, as mandated by ACPE, schools with branch campuses are providing comparable extracurricular opportunities and leadership experiences. Further studies will be conducted to see the effect of leadership experience between branch/main campuses impact residency match rates. Schools should encourage branch campus students to take advantage of leadership opportunities as part of career preparation.