

# Maryland Mentor

A Newsletter for the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy's Academy of Preceptors

Winter 2016

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## From the Assistant Dean for Experiential Learning

Dear Preceptors,

I am very pleased to present the winter edition of the Maryland Mentor newsletter. Our office is abuzz as we prepare for students to return from the winter break and for upcoming rotation selections for the 2016-2017 academic year. If you haven't done so already, please remember to submit your availability for your respective courses through RXpreceptor - we begin planning for the new academic year in May. The likelihood of student assignments increase based on 1) The number of availability slots submitted per site (multiple preceptor submissions encouraged per site), 2) Detailed descriptions of student expectations on your RXpreceptor site profile (students like to know what they are getting into) and 3) Prior positive student experiences (testimonies from former students influence current student choices).

The match process for our Clinical Track Program just concluded, and we received 119 applications! If your site would like to participate in our Clinical Track Program, please let me know, and we will be happy to discuss further. In the meantime, we urge you to participate in our first APPE Fair hosted at the School on Wednesday, Feb. 3, at 6 p.m.. The fair will allow preceptors to showcase their practice sites to more than 150 student pharmacists at the School. More information about the fair can be found at <https://www.pharmacy.umaryland.edu/about/offices/elp/appe-rotation-fair/>

Space is limited and registration is required so we can reserve a display spot for you.

Thank you again for all you do for the School and our students. Please let us know if we can address any questions you may have. You can always email us at [elp@rx.umaryland.edu](mailto:elp@rx.umaryland.edu). Wishing you a productive, warm, and Happy New Year!

Sincerely,

*Toyin Tofade*

Toyin Tofade, MS, PharmD, BCPS, CPCC  
Assistant Dean for Experiential Learning  
Associate Professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science



Produced by:



## What the ELP Office Needs from Preceptors

Please help us be 100 percent compliant by doing the following:

- Submit all required midterm and final evaluations by the due date.
- Signed FERPA form.
- Provide us your SSN if you are able to accept honorarium payments.
- Enter site requirements in RXpreceptor.
- Complete two hours of preceptor development each academic year.

## Library Access

One of the benefits of being a School of Pharmacy preceptor is having offsite access to Facts and Comparisons Online and Micromedex from the University's Health Sciences and Human Services Library (HS/HSL). Offsite access changed in May 2014. Though these resources will continue to be available, access is limited to School of Pharmacy preceptors who are scheduled to take a student for at least one block in the 2015-2016 term. This change is due to the HS/HSL's licensing agreements with publishers. If you have questions, please contact Alexa Mayo at [amayo@hshsl.umaryland.edu](mailto:amayo@hshsl.umaryland.edu) or 410-706-1316.

## Newly Appointed Preceptors

### *Clinical Assistant Professors*

- Victoria Adams, PharmD, BCPS
- Sara Alizai, BS, PharmD
- Jason M. Ausili, PharmD
- Merid G. Belayneh, PharmD
- Stephanie M. Callinan, PharmD
- Frank Samuel Cintineo, PharmD
- Cassandra L. Clevenger, PharmD
- Vicky Dwumaah, PharmD, BCPS
- Jacki S. Fox, BSP
- TingTing Gao, PharmD, BCPS
- Robert W. Green, PharmD
- John D. Hoke, PharmD
- Deidre P. Jones, PharmD
- Bianca T. Konja, PharmD
- Dominick J. Memoli, III, PharmD, MBA
- Kyle J. McGrath, PharmD
- Keri E. Morgan, BS, PharmD
- Ravi Nehra, PharmD, BCPS
- Breanne L. Nestor, PharmD
- Shannon Y. Newsome, PharmD
- Alexandria Oaks, PharmD
- Nicholas A. Peters, PharmD, BCPS
- Sarah A. Pierce, PharmD
- Julie A. Shupp, BSP
- Kimberly L. Still, PharmD
- Chhayal D. Thomas, PharmD

## Rotation Calendar

Below are upcoming rotation dates for 2016-2017. Please take note of the new rotation calendar dates when submitting preceptor availability.

Class of 2017 APPE, APEX and APPX	
Start	End
5/23/16	6/24/16
6/27/16	7/29/16
8/01/16	9/02/16
9/05/16	10/07/16
10/10/16	11/11/16
11/14/16	12/16/16
1/09/17	2/10/17
2/13/17	3/17/17
3/20/17	4/21/17

Class of 2018 IPPE 305 and 307	
Start	End
5/23/16	6/10/16
6/13/16	7/01/16
7/04/16	7/22/16
7/25/16	8/12/16
12/12/16	1/06/17 *1 extra week included for the winter holidays

Class of 2019 IPPE 100	
Start	End
5/16/16	5/20/16

## The Importance of Completing Evaluations in a Timely Manner

Didactic education is the preferred method to provide students with the clinical knowledge of medications and their use, and student pharmacists have three years of courses designed to provide such a knowledge base. However, it is only through experiential learning that students understand how the use of those medications affects each individual. Experiential learning is also the best method to teach our students how to practice the profession of pharmacy in the multiple sites and roles in which pharmacists work. Students look to preceptors to impart their knowledge and experience during these rotations.

A critical part of the experiential learning experience is feedback to the student. Both formative and summative feedback should be provided. Formative feedback is usually verbal and provided at the time of the learning activity, for example, providing comments on a student's presentation upon its completion. With such feedback, the student learns immediately what went well and those areas in which he or she needs to improve.

Summative feedback is more formalized and is usually in the form of an evaluation. Both the mid-point and final evaluations are summative in nature and are essential to both student and preceptor as tools to judge how well the student is learning during the rotation. Preceptors should complete these evaluations in a timely manner. Students require feedback to learn, and the mid-point evaluation is one way to provide summative feedback on how he or she has progressed at the mid-point of the rotation. It can also be used to highlight areas in which the student needs to improve and to acknowledge those areas in which the student is proficient or excels. The mid-point evaluation is especially critical if the student is underperforming and may be in danger of failing the rotation. In such cases, the course manager, preceptor, and student use the mid-point evaluation to develop an action plan that will assist the student by focusing on those areas necessary to pass the rotation. The final evaluation is equally, if not more important. First, a student's grade for the rotation is based on the final evaluation.

If a final evaluation is not completed, the School is unable to post the student's grades for the course/rotation. Second, many students applying for residency and fellowship programs need to submit their grades from rotations along with their application. Students may miss out on residency and fellowship opportunities if evaluations are not completed on time. Thus, the student may not be considered for the residency or fellowship position as incomplete applications are not reviewed by residency and fellowship programs. Third, students depend on these evaluations to take the lessons learned from one rotation to the next. The purpose of experiential learning is to build upon the experiences and knowledge gained with each rotation, and the final evaluation is one method to provide such a foundation.

We ask that all preceptors complete both mid-point and final evaluations in a timely manner. Ideally, both should be completed face-to-face with the student. We understand that it is not always possible to complete the evaluations in such a fashion. If you are not able to complete the final evaluation on the student's last day, we ask that you complete it within seven days of the completion of the rotation. When evaluations are completed on time, students are happy, they receive the feedback they require, and it brings closure to the rotation experience.

We thank you for everything that you do for our students. Without the guidance from preceptors, we would not be able to provide the high quality pharmacy education that our students desire and deserve.

## Preceptor Availability Submission

Preceptor availability submission for 2016-2017 rising P3 and P4 students is now open. Availability submission will remain open until Friday, Jan. 22. You can make changes to your availability until that date.

Should you have any questions regarding entering your availability, please do not hesitate to contact Nate Thomas at 410-706-0773 or at [nthomas@rx.umaryland.edu](mailto:nthomas@rx.umaryland.edu)

## Keep Your Information Current

The ELP Office reminds preceptors to keep their contact information updated in RXpreceptor. The ELP staff use this information as the primary method of contact for you as preceptors. If we are unable to contact you, you may lose opportunities to precept students or miss important information about the Experiential Learning Program.

Should you change positions within your organization, or take a new position with a different organization and are temporarily unable to precept students, please let us know. Should you once again be in a position to precept students, you can then contact us and have your status reinstated as active.

Also, make sure to update your site information. This is especially important if you change locations. However, in order to attract more students to your site, market your site using the site description feature in RXpreceptor. Highlight the special services that your site offers. Emphasize relationships with medical practices, hospitals, assisted living facilities, etc.

Remember, the more appealing a site is to students, the greater the chance that students will choose your site for a rotation. You can easily log into RXpreceptor and enter the updated information. If you have questions about access to RXpreceptor or need assistance in updating your information, contact the ELP Office at [elp@rx.umaryland.edu](mailto:elp@rx.umaryland.edu).

## Pharmacist's Letter National Preceptor Network

The University of Maryland School of Pharmacy has joined the Preceptor Training & Resource Network from the Pharmacist's Letter. The preceptor network provides a wide array of resources for preceptor training and building effective rotations, such as:

- Preceptor CE (home-study courses and live webinars)
- Sample student syllabi, activities, assignments, and schedules
- Targeted professionalism, patient safety, and practice-based teaching resources
- PL Journal Club - teaching tools for Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experiences
- Pharmacy 101 - teaching tools for Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experiences
- Preceptors Interact - preceptor discussion board

All of these tools are provided at no cost to our preceptors. We urge all of our preceptors to take advantage of this tool. To set up your University of Maryland School of Pharmacy Preceptor CE ID number, click on the following link: [www.pharmacistsletter.com/?referer=uomdsop%2Fptrn](http://www.pharmacistsletter.com/?referer=uomdsop%2Fptrn).

If you already have access to the Pharmacist's Letter, it is important that you follow the link above to log in. This will ensure that Preceptor Training CE and other tools included in Preceptor Training & Resource Network will be added to your subscription.

- Click on the above URL. Login with your user name and password.

If you do not already have access to the Pharmacist's Letter, you need to set up a University of Maryland School of Pharmacy Preceptor CE ID number. Your CE ID number will be automatically created, and you'll be able to use it from any internet-connected computer to access the Preceptor Training & Resource Network.

- Click "I'm new to Pharmacist's Letter - sign me up for Preceptor CE and Resources!" on the left and complete the form to obtain your CE ID number instantly.
- Once you have set up your access, return to [www.pharmacistsletter.com/?referer=uomdsop%2Fptrn](http://www.pharmacistsletter.com/?referer=uomdsop%2Fptrn), enter your login information on the right side, and click Login.

We are pleased to be able to provide these additional tools to assist our preceptors as you provide the excellent educational opportunities that our students need to become pharmacists.