

Pharmacy Preceptor Newsletter

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

February

Tuesday 02/16/10

*HUSOP Academy of Student
Pharmacists Spaghetti Feed
and Auction*

*East Orrington
Congregational Church*



March

Friday 03/26/10

HUSOP Career Fair

Husson School of Pharmacy



May

05/14/10-05/16/10

*MPA Spring Convention and
Trade Show*

Freeport, ME

“There’s more than I ever imagined to this”

Being a pharmacy student is hard. Being a pharmacy student with 6 years of pharmacy technician experience makes pharmacy school easier. That thought process has been true for me thus far. *However*, after spending 120 hours in (my opinion) one of the best pharmacies in the Bangor area I came to understand that “Yes, I know how to be a great technician” and more importantly “I had no idea what being a pharmacist would consist of”.

This was a startling realization for me. I always assumed that going from a technician to a pharmacist would be an easy transition. I never truly understood everything that my pharmacists did. Having the opportunity to work alongside

a pharmacist without having to worry about what pills needed to be counted gave me the time to come to understand their responsibilities.

Most people would probably be terrified by this realization. That everything they held true about their future was only the metaphoric tip of the iceberg. I feel fortunate to know that even after coming to this realization I only felt a sense of elation.

“There’s more than I ever imagined to this. God I love this field”.

While this may be a geekish thought I embraced it. One thing I’ve always known about



myself is that I want to better myself. Learn something new. I can only hope that up to the day I die I learn something new. After spending some time with the Shaw’s pharmacy crew in Bangor I know that in the field of pharmacy, I’ll always meet my goal to myself.

***Steve Carr, PharmD
candidate ‘13***

“An investment in knowledge pays the best interest” *Benjamin Franklin*

After my recent experience as a preceptor for a Husson University Pharmacy student, I would have to agree with Benjamin Franklin!

I had the pleasure of working with an Introductory Pharmacy Education student from Husson University who arrived eager to learn. For 40 hours a week, she was able to watch and participate in everything from pouring and counting out her first prescription to assisting in counseling a patient with my supervision, and much more.



Vision Statement

Husson University's School of Pharmacy will be a regional leader in integrative pharmacy education, committed to influencing the practice of pharmacy and rural health care delivery in the State of Maine.

Husson University School of Pharmacy

1 College Circle
Bangor, ME 04401

She came prepared with a workbook which included a wide range of topics from pharmacy law, ethics, calculations, to general business practices. It was the student's responsibility to discover the answers, and my responsibility to direct her to the proper resources to find the answers. I would then review the workbook with her, and provide additional assignments, as needed.

When I first signed up to be a preceptor, I was worried whether I would have enough time for this additional assignment with all my regular duties as a pharmacist. I was also concerned about meeting the school's expectations for what the student needed to learn while in my pharmacy. However, the student's thirst for knowledge and desire to participate made her time here truly enjoyable. I quickly learned that with a small amount of preparation and time management, I could create a schedule and assign tasks to keep the student busy learning something new every day. There was still plenty of time to meet her educational needs along with fulfilling my administrative obligations as well as being a bench pharmacist.

They say that every person should give back to his profession, and through working with a Husson University pharmacy student, I'm doing just that. I feel that I am helping plant a seed that will grow our profession. It was truly a pleasure working with this student, and the experience brought back fond memories of my time on a number of rotations as a student. Without preceptors to thank for helping students move forward, none of us would be where we are today.



Kent Bridges, BS, RPh

Kent Bridges graduated from UCONN in 1999 and has been the PIC at Riverside Pharmacy for the last 9 years. He is also the Director of Retail Pharmacy operations for Affiliated Pharmacy Services since 09/2009

My First Time as a Preceptor

A small amount of anxiety made its presence known to me that morning. I was teaching again. But a different class and subject this time around, totally different from anything I'd done before. I hoped I'd be good enough; I hoped they'd benefit; and I hoped they'd be good.

I was a preceptor for my first time as a pharmacist. I'd worked with interns and recent graduates, giving them advice and the like, but I'd not done it in any official sense before. The J-term was a great experience for me. While only being out of school myself for three and a half years, it was interesting to see things through the eyes of a first professional semester student. I was very impressed with the students we had with us for the three weeks. Husson University's School of Pharmacy prepared the students well. Our pharmacy manager and I were both impressed with how easily our two students got up to speed (for one of them it was her first time in a community pharmacy!).

HUSSON UNIVERSITY

*A regional leader in integrative
pharmacy education*

***I feel like I got a really
good feel for what a
retail pharmacist does
and I am much more
comfortable with the
environment as a result
of this site.***

Alexandra Silber '13

We're on the Web!

www.husson.edu/preceptor

The information provided and made available to preceptors was also well put together. It gave us pharmacists ample material to work with the students. Overall, my anxiety in December was replaced by a confidence in January that 1.) I could be a preceptor, 2.) the students would learn, and 3.) the students were prepared, professional, willing, and able.

I look forward to having more students in the semesters to come. I look forward to being a part of their education and my growth, for it is true that we really learn well what we have to teach!

Eric Johnson, PharmD

Eric earned his PharmD in 2006 from Creighton University's Distance Pathway after being a high school chemistry teacher for 10 years. He currently works as a staff pharmacist for Wal-Mart in Waterville.



**“I witnessed what a profound
impact a pharmacist can have while
working with a patient”**

The three weeks that I spent as an intern at Goodnow's Pharmacy were the best weeks that I had all semester. I was nervous going in my first day for a number of reasons; I have never worked in a pharmacy before so I was afraid that my preceptor and the rest of the employees would think I was not up to par. I wasn't sure how everyone would feel having someone looking over their shoulders, and I wasn't sure that I would like retail pharmacy. Within 15 minutes, all my fears were laid to rest.

The staff at Goodnow's made me feel comfortable and part of the family from the time I stepped through the door. All of the employees were very helpful and patient when teaching me the various aspects of the pharmacy. I was introduced to some things that I didn't expect to see such as mailing and deliveries, long term care pharmacy and facilities, and compounding. I was also surprised to see how close everyone is that works in a pharmacy. Working together all day every day it seems you become a big family and that provides such a healthy and happy environment to work in.

Chris is a brilliant pharmacist and an unbelievable teacher. He was able to explain things to me in a way that I could understand, he made me do my own research on many of the questions I had before he would go over them with me, and he involved me in all aspects of pharmacy including patient counseling. Participating in counseling was a fantastic experience for me because we have not done it in class yet. I was able to see it performed by a pharmacist who is very comfortable and effective when speaking with his patients.

Comments? Suggestions?*Please contact us*BragginsK@Husson.edu

“My experience at my rotation was nothing short of amazing”

Rafael Dikas ‘13

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I witnessed what a profound impact a pharmacist can have while working with a patient and. I walked in the first day without knowing very much about pharmacy practice and the environment. I left my last day with a clear understanding of how a pharmacy is run and the various roles that a pharmacist can play in the community. Chris was a fantastic preceptor and I cannot thank him or the rest of the Goodnow's staff enough for such a wonderful experience these past weeks.

Tiffany Taillon, PharmD candidate '13

Refreshing!

Greetings and congratulations to the Husson School of Pharmacy from Spruce Mountain Pharmacy in Jay, Maine. I am pleased to have had my first HUSOP student over the winter break in the pharmacy working on her Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experience and what a great success it was.

The student pharmacist fit right in with our pharmacy team and went right to work in the pharmacy and front store accomplishing a wide variety of jobs. We had an opportunity to sit and discuss topics in pharmacy outside of the busy environment of the pharmacy. It was refreshing to have the energy of an intern and to be able to share my philosophy of the world of pharmacy.



Steve Maki, RPh

Steve Maki is a graduate of the University of Rhode Island and is the owner and pharmacist of Spruce Mountain Pharmacy in Jay, Maine. Steve has been accused of playing golf, but he's only guilty of chasing and hitting a little white ball around an open field.

A word from our Founding Dean.....

The above testimonials are just a small sample of the wonderful stories we have heard from the preceptors and the students who participated in the first set of IPPE's that Husson offered last month. I wish to thank all of the preceptors who made these experiences a true highlight of the students' first few months in our profession.

Many exciting things are happening on campus lately. We have a new president on board - Dr. Robert Clark. His knowledge and experience should help him provide Husson with strong leadership for many years to come. Our previous president, Dr. William Beardsley, certainly didn't retire when he stepped down at the end of the year. You will hopefully be seeing his name again the next time you vote for governor.

The School of Pharmacy has been busy implementing the second semester of the program, recruiting faculty, and preparing for the arrival of our second class next fall.

We all look forward to your continued support as we proceed in building an exceptional program for the next generation of pharmacy practitioners.



Rodney A. Larson, Ph.D., RPh
Founding Dean