



Recognized
Student Society

South Dakota State
University College
of Pharmacy

APhA-ASP Health-Systems Committee SSHP Mentor-Mentee Program South Dakota State University College of Pharmacy

WHAT WE DID:

Objective:

To provide an opportunity for pharmacy students to develop a professional relationship with a health-systems pharmacist, obtain exposure to various fields of health-systems pharmacy, while gaining leadership experience.

Plan:

Third year pharmacy students at South Dakota State College of Pharmacy were matched with a mentor pharmacist working in a Health-System Pharmacy. Students were asked to fill out application forms regarding their future professional goals, areas of pharmacy they were interested in, prior leadership experience, and why they wanted to be a part of the program. Mentors had a variety of backgrounds, including residency directors, hospital managers, and clinical pharmacy specialists.

The program recommended that mentor-mentee pairs meet at least five times, develop and fill out a goal sheet, provide monthly feedback to the health systems committee liaisons, and attend the South Dakota Society of Health-System Pharmacists annual meeting.

Outcome:

Thirty student-pharmacist mentor pairs participated in the mentor program this year. We are able to foster leadership ideals in pharmacy students that participated in the mentor program. Results of the mentor-mentee program included students publishing continuing education papers, attending professional meetings, participating in shadowing opportunities, gaining assistance on selecting future APPE rotations, reviewing CV and resumes, numerous research and poster presentations, and working on patient safety projects. Overall, there was positive feedback from both the students and mentors through surveys of the program.

What You Can Do:

- Seek out interested clinical pharmacists in your surrounding area (ex: through State Affiliate)
- Establish program requirements
- Advertise to pharmacy students the benefits of having a mentor
- Have interested students fill out an application
- Match students and mentors according to their main interests
- Organize a kickoff event
 - Go over program requirements, set up an ice breaker for mentor pairs, develop goals
- Follow up periodically throughout the year with each mentor pair
- Set up an end of the year event to receive feedback from each mentor pair
 - Implement ideas and/or changes from feedback

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