Patient Safety Rockets Shands to 4 Stars!

Shands at the University of Florida recently received a 4-star rating, the second-highest ranking, from the 2011 University Health System Consortium (UHC) for Quality and Accountability Performance. For those who have been in the Shands family for even a brief period of time, the significance of this accomplishment is enormous. Just two years ago, Shands was awarded 2 stars.

Shands’ jump in ratings can largely be attributed to vast improvements in patient safety measures, a major component of the UHC score. One contributing factor to the ratings jump is an improvement in mortality index scores. In 12 months, Shands moved from 75th of 113 to 42nd of 115 hospitals with a composite score of 0.75. Any score below 1 means that patients died less frequently than would be expected for the case mix. In a patient safety composite, Shands ranked an impressive 13th of 115 hospitals, a huge win for the organization and testament to the increased awareness and action of our patient safety team.

Hospital-related infections also decreased significantly over the past year. Central line-associated infections decreased from an average of 14 per month from June 2009 to June 2010 to approximately 7 per month in recent months. Ventilator-associated pneumonias (VAP) have also drastically decreased recently. In fact, during the second quarter of 2011, no patient at Shands was diagnosed with VAP.

The new 4-star rating can be attributed to an underlying culture shift in hospital administration which has trickled down the organization. In fact, leadership has set an aggressive goal of achieving 5 stars, reserved for the top 10 programs affiliated with UHC. An enhanced focus on patient care and true outcomes is clearly evident and will be the catalyst that drives even more improvement as we continually strive for greatness at Shands.

Brian McCullough

Full SERC-Ie

A long time ago, in a pharmacy far, far away several pharmacy residency directors dreamt of a way to unite pharmacy practice residents and disseminate new ideas and practices in hospital pharmacy. Fred Eckel of the University of North Carolina, Chuck King of the University of Alabama, and Shands’ own Bob Lantos brought this idea to fruition at the first Southeastern Residency Conference (SERC) on January 24, 1970 in Athens, Georgia. It was the first regional conference for post-graduate pharmacy trainees, including residents, fellows, and graduate students.

The first SERC meeting had only 20 residents from Alabama, Georgia, Florida, and North Carolina and was held in Athens, Georgia due to its central geography. The program grew substantially throughout the years, eventually outgrowing the halls of the Georgia Center into the much larger Classic Center. In 2009, the 40th SERC meeting drew 335 residents and invited attendees from Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Puerto Rico.

Despite the success and growth of SERC, long drives, high expenses, and extended work absences became more of a norm as the conference expanded its reach and eventually marginalized residency programs in the far locations of its expanse. Recently, a similar group of directors found themselves discussing the same issue as their predecessors. With the quality and quantity of residency programs present in Florida alone, the logical progression to a Florida Residency Conference (FRC) became more apparent. Early this year, a steering committee for such a program was established, deciding that the inaugural FRC will be held in Gainesville, FL and will welcome all Florida pharmacy residents, including those previously limited by travel and geography.

Continued on page 2
Full SERC-Ic – Continued

The FRC event will be similar to SERC. Sessions will be held at the University of Florida College of Pharmacy in the Health Professions, Nursing, and Pharmacy building on May 17th and 18th of 2012. A social and dinner event is planned at Jolie restaurant in downtown Gainesville, and the host hotel will be the Hampton Inn and Suites, downtown Gainesville. Residents will have 15 minutes to present research, and continuing education credit will be offered for attendees. Those interested in attending may contact Amy Rosenberg or Lisa Thames for further information.

The SERC model has now been replicated across the nation and is an established annual tradition for many pharmacy residents. Bob Lantos would be proud indeed to know that the first annual FRC will considerably outnumber his own multi-state conception. Even more, he’d be happy to know that the residency conference tradition he spawned has come full circle and is returning to the site of its origination. ■

Ryan Rodriguez

Pharmacy Practice Model Initiative at Shands!

The Pharmacy Practice Model Initiative sponsored by the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) was implemented to advance the practice of pharmacy by establishing the role of pharmacists as direct-patient care providers. The objectives of the initiative include further development of pharmacy services and the appropriate utilization of available technology to support the change in practice model.

Over the last couple of years, the pharmacy leadership team has developed a foundation for this practice model change at Shands. The implementation of Epic, a computerized prescriber order entry system, further facilitated the change in practice model by allowing pharmacists to step away from the pharmacy and to have a more visible presence on the floors. This has allowed more interaction with nursing and medical staff to improve our care provided to our patients. Although dispensing medications will always be an essential aspect of hospital pharmacy, we are slowly creating more opportunities for our staff pharmacists to be involved in more direct patient care activities. For example, all of our pharmacists have gone through pharmacokinetic consult training and now we are able to provide more pharmacokinetic services, specifically for vancomycin. Areas for future expansion include creation of emergency department pharmacy services, pharmacy participation in medical emergencies, inpatient anticoagulation service, and antimicrobial stewardship program for pediatrics.

It is an exciting time to be in the pharmacy department at Shands! ■

Julie Cash

New Practitioner Welcome!

Carrie Cannella
We would like to welcome Carrie Cannella to the Shands family. Carrie joins the Shands crew in a dual role as a Medical/Surgical and Drug Utilization pharmacist. She is responsible for managing a new database developed by UHC, called Clinical Resource Manager (CRM), which is able to compare Shands’ drug utilization to other hospitals in UHC. Carrie originally hails from Omaha, Nebraska and is a graduate of Creighton University College of Pharmacy. She completed a PGY1 Residency at the University of Colorado in Denver and went on to complete a PGY2 in Critical Care/Infectious Diseases at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. After her PGY2, Carrie stayed in the Kansas City area working for the University of Kansas where she held many roles during her seven-year tenure, including Co-Director of their PGY1 Residency Program, Trauma/Surgical ICU Clinical Specialist, and Infectious Diseases Clinical Specialist. Her professional interests have expanded here at Shands from the judicious use of antimicrobials to include appropriate drug utilization across all disciplines.

Shimaa Ghonim
One of our more recent graduates, Shimaa Ghonim, member of the Shands 2011 residency class, has also stayed on with the Shands team, now working in the pediatric department. Shimaa is a graduate of the University of Florida College of Pharmacy (Class of 2010) and is originally from Alexandria, Egypt. Shimaa has been with Shands for more than three years now, starting out as a technician in 2008 before becoming a resident and eventually a satellite pharmacist. We are excited that she has continued her career here, and she brings an excellent skill set to the pediatrics team.

Matthew Jenkins
Matthew Jenkins joins our pharmacy team as the Coordinator responsible for Central Operations. Matt comes to us from the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center where he completed a PGY1 and PGY2 in Health System Pharmacy Administration. He is a graduate of Auburn University (PharmD), as well as the University of Pittsburgh (Master of Science in Health System Pharmacy Administration). He is a native of Alabama, growing up in Axis, AL where he developed a healthy competitive spirit which is showcased during football season as he cheers on the Auburn Tigers in a Gator-dominated city. His areas of interest include controlled substance diversion, detection, and prevention; automation; drug policy; and outcomes research.

Steve Lemon
Another new face in the crowd is Steve Lemon. Steve has taken on the new position of Nutrition Support and Critical Care Clinical Specialist. He joins us from the Cleveland Clinic in Cleveland, Ohio where he served as the Clinical Specialist in Cardiothoracic Surgery ICU. Prior to that, he was at the University of Kentucky where he completed his PGY1 and PGY2 Critical Care Residencies. Steve is a graduate of the St. Louis College of Pharmacy and is originally from St. Louis, Missouri. His professional interests are hemostasis, immunonutrition, and sepsis.

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New Practitioner Welcome!
– Continued

Karly O’Brien
Another one of our recent residency graduates has also continued their tenure at Shands. Karly O’Brien completed her PGY1 in Critical Care (Class of 2011) and has stayed on to be the Clinical Specialist in Trauma/Surgical Intensive Care. Prior to coming to Shands, Karly completed a PGY1 at the Medical College of Georgia in Augusta, Georgia. Karly graduated from Ferris State University in Big Rapids, Michigan and originally hails from New Baltimore, Michigan. Her areas of interest include traumatic brain injury and the prevention and treatment of ICU delirium.

Joseph Shultz
For many of you, this may be a familiar name. You may remember that Joseph Shultz is a recent graduate of the residency program (Class of 2011), but has been at Shands for over 3 years. Joe is a graduate of the University of Florida College of Pharmacy and spent six years pursuing a career in nuclear pharmacy before returning to Gainesville to practice hospital pharmacy. He worked as a satellite pharmacist at Shands for two years prior to completing the Pharmacy Practice Residency. In August 2011, Joe took on the role of Internal Medicine Clinical Specialist and currently serves as the primary preceptor for residents on the Internal Medicine rotation. His professional interests include cardiology, infectious diseases, and diabetes.

Congratulations to...
The PGY1 Co-Director and PGY2 Pediatrics Director Lisa (Taylor) Thames who is having a baby girl in January!

We are also excited to hear that Karly O’Brien (Class of 2011) was recently engaged and is currently enjoying planning her wedding!

And the Trees Rejoiced...
May 13, 2011 – the day paper orders died! In his hands, Joe Shultz (Class of 2011) holds Shands’ last paper order!

Ralphie’s Take...
Hello Everyone! Well, I am now underway in my PGY4 year and it’s been smooth sailing so far. It’s been about 6 months since I’ve updated you on the happenings in the resident office, and boy oh boy do I have A LOT to fill you all in on. First of all, we’ve got some new kids in town. Brianna Franklin, Elaine Speed, Jessica Cope, Julie Cash, and Elizabeth (Liz) DiMaggio are just about settled into the office. It was looking a little drab for the first few months. I must admit though, I’m not so sure about that Liz girl…either she must be keeping busy in the oncology world or she is doing a REALLY good job of avoiding me, sneaking in and out of the office for 5 minutes here and there, always on the go. I can’t complain about the newbies too much though, they keep my candy bucket looking good. If you’re ever in the area, feel free to stop by and get your chocolate fix for the day! You may even get lucky and snatch up some other delicious resident concoctions. Now I can’t forget to mention my buddies from last year Kathryn and Brian. Kathryn, she’s still got her same digs in the office, helping me hold down the fort. As for Brian, well he moved down the hall to the Drug Information Center to join Ryan, another new resident on the block. At first I was a little distraught, the guys left me stranded in an all-girls office but hey, it’s not so bad after all, my candy bucket is always full, the office stays clean, AND I get all of the juicy gossip. If you stop by, I might even let you in on the fun!

Ralphie G. Rilla

Kathryn Hernando
Recent Posters and Publications

Posters


Mathisen MS, Kantarjian H, Jabbour E, et al. The use of clofarabine does not impact negatively the outcomes of patients with acute myeloid leukemia (AML) undergoing allogeneic stem cell transplantation and is not associated with higher liver toxicity rates compared with standard chemotherapy. Presented at: The 53rd American Society of Hematology Annual Meeting and Exposition, San Diego, CA, 2011.


Publications


Bushwitz J. Clinically significant venous thromboembolic complications in burn patients receiving unfractionated heparin or enoxaparin as prophylaxis. J Burn Care Res. 2011;32:578-582.


Please send any recent publications or presentations you have completed to shandspharm@shands.ufl.edu Share your successes with others!
Jessica Cope is a PGY1 Pharmacy Practice Resident, originally from Virginia Beach, Virginia. She received her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from South Carolina College of Pharmacy in Charleston, South Carolina in 2011. Her current projects include a fall seminar entitled “To Feed or Not to Feed: Concepts and Controversies of Parenteral Nutrition in the Critically Ill” and a longitudinal research project entitled “Evaluation of Glycemic Control in Non-Critically Ill Adult Type 2 Diabetic Inpatients Pre- and Post- Pharmacist Intervention”. She also presently serves as the Residency Recruitment and Travel Co-Coordinator. When away from the hospital, Jessica enjoys anything and everything outdoors. Her favorite thing to do in Gainesville thus far is to cheer on the Florida Gators on the weekends.

Brianna Franklin is a PGY1 Pharmacy Practice Resident, originally from Tampa, Florida. She received her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the University of North Carolina, Eshelman School of Pharmacy in 2011. Her current projects include a fall seminar entitled “Clopidogrel Resistance, A Sticky Situation” and longitudinal research entitled “Chemoprophylaxis and Venous Thromboembolism in Adult Patients Following Orthotopic Liver Transplantation.” She presently serves as the Residency Recruitment and Travel Co-Coordinator. Her favorite thing to do in Gainesville is going out to dinner with her co-residents every month.
PGY1 Residents – Continued

Elaine Speed is a PGY1 Pharmacy Practice Resident, originally from Melbourne, Florida. She received her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the University of Florida College of Pharmacy in 2011. Her current projects include a fall seminar entitled “Scanning the Future: Applications of a Medication Use Process” and longitudinal research entitled “Hydromorphone Intravenous Intermittent Dosing Before and After Implementation of Computerized Prescriber Order Entry.” She presently serves as the Historian and Social Co-Chair and her favorite thing to do in Gainesville is kayaking at Lake Wauberg.

PGY2 Residents

Julie Cash is a PGY2 Critical Care Pharmacy Resident, originally from Aiken, South Carolina. She received her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the South Carolina College of Pharmacy at the University of South Carolina in 2010. She completed her PGY1 Pharmacy Practice Residency at Palmetto Health Richland in Columbia, South Carolina. Her current projects include a fall seminar entitled, “Advanced Cardiac Life Support: Review and Updates to the Guidelines” and longitudinal research entitled “Pharmacologic Options for Drug-Induced Hypertension in Acute Ischemic Stroke.” Her favorite thing to do in Gainesville is eating out at different local restaurants downtown. Something you may not know about Dr. Cash is that she is a huge Carolina Gamecocks fan!

Elizabeth DiMaggio is a PGY2 Oncology Resident, originally from Webster, New York. She received her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from Palm Beach Atlantic University, College of Pharmacy in 2010. Prior to her residency here at Shands at the University of Florida, she completed a PGY1 Pharmacy Practice Residency at the West Palm Beach Veterans Affairs Medical Center. Her current residency project encompasses identifying the incidence of Vancomycin-Resistant Enterococcus (VRE) on the bone marrow transplant unit and identifying the predisposing risk factors for VRE blood stream infection. While here at Shands, Liz is the Historian and Social Chair Co-Coordinator. In her spare time, her favorite things to do in Gainesville include running and tailgating before Gator games.

Kathryn Hernando is a PGY2 Infectious Diseases Resident, originally from Winter Park, Florida. She graduated from Palm Beach Atlantic University, College of Pharmacy in 2010 prior to completing her PGY1 Pharmacy Practice Residency at Shands at the University of Florida. She recently presented a fall seminar entitled “Using Diagnostic Tools to Optimize Antibiotic Therapy: A Focus on Procalcitonin”. Her residency project is studying the use of cefepime to treat extended-spectrum β-lactamase (ESBL) bacteremia. In addition to clinical responsibilities, Kathryn is the Co-Coordinator for the Pharmacokinetics Service as well as Education Co-Coordinator. She recently had a new addition to her family, in the form of an American Bulldog mix puppy named Hartley. Her favorite things to do in Gainesville are going tubing down the springs and tailgating before Gator games.

Brian McCullough is a PGY2 Infectious Diseases Resident, originally from Tallahassee, Florida. He received his Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the University of Florida, College of Pharmacy in 2010 prior to completing his PGY1 Pharmacy Practice Residency at Shands at the University of Florida. He recently delivered a seminar entitled “Under pressure: Moving forward with antimicrobial stewardship.” His current projects include a longitudinal research project; “Clinical response to vancomycin in patients with methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus bacteremia based on minimum inhibitory concentration” and a medication use evaluation evaluating treatment response and relapse to vancomycin and metronidazole in patients with Clostridium difficile infection. Brian presently serves as the Pharmacokinetics co-coordinator. His favorite things include tennis and playing with his dogs, Annie and Gunner. He has previously been involved in overseas mission work running a makeshift pharmacy and hopes to re-embark on this venture in the near future.

Ryan Rodriguez is a PGY2 Drug Information Resident. Ryan grew up in Youngstown, Ohio. He attended pharmacy school at the University of Florida College of Pharmacy in Gainesville, FL and subsequently completed a PGY1 residency at St. Joseph's Hospital in Tampa, FL. His seminar focused on biosimilars regulatory issues that affect pharmacy practice and was titled "Biodentical, biosimilar, or biobetter: A history and future of biologic drug therapy." His research project, "Hospital reimbursement for intravenous immunoglobulin treatment," focuses on the financial impact of high-cost drug therapy on payment. Ryan's fun fact is that he owns seven guitars and has been playing for fifteen years. His favorite thing to do in Gainesville is discovering the many locally owned restaurants in town.
Director’s Corner

**ASHP stops in for a Visit to Shands!**

In October, the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) visited Shands at the University of Florida (SUF) to survey our accredited pharmacy residency programs in consideration for reaccreditation. The fourth ASHP accreditation principle addresses the requirements for the design and conduct of the residency program. Standard 4.3 states, in part, “Residency Program Directors will provide preceptors with opportunities to enhance their teaching skills and devise and implement a plan for assessing and improving the quality of preceptor instruction.” Statistics recently made available by ASHP show that 72% and 64% of PGY1 and PGY2 programs, respectively, are partially compliant with this particular component of the principle.

At SUF, the Residency Program Directors have established a preceptor development program. All preceptors are required to obtain 8 hours of preceptor development continuing education per residency year and maintain a transcript reflecting their coursework. Preceptor development programming includes designated on-line courses offered by Pharmacist's Letter or ASHP as well as on-site opportunities through Human Resource Development or within the pharmacy department where experienced or skill proficient preceptors or faculty may lead roundtable discussions or provide seminars on subjects like providing qualitative feedback, advising a residency research project, or tackling tough resident teaching issues. Annually, at the end of each residency year, the residency preceptors complete a self-assessment of their precepting skills and also participate in a needs assessment for future preceptor development programming. Preceptor participation in ongoing development programming has been stellar and demonstrates the strong commitment each SUF residency preceptor has to residency training and personal growth. We anxiously await the results of our survey following the next meeting of the Commission on Credentialing in March!

Aimee LeClaire

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Guess the Residency Class Answer: 2002-2003 Kristen Greenwood, Todd Correll, Wendy Smith, Brian Kelly, Gina Soliman
Time for fun!

The 2010-2011 Residency Banquet...
Bowling... Good Times Had By All!
Are you a Shands at UF Pharmacy Residency Alum? We would like to hear from you!

In an effort to highlight the Shands at the University of Florida Pharmacy Residency Program's long history of producing successful pharmacists and leaders in the profession, we are compiling information about the current location and employment of our alumni. We invite you to contact us to let us know where you are now and what you are doing. This information will be featured in the “past residents” section of the residency website. Each edition of the newsletter will include updates on past residents, so please keep us informed of your personal and professional achievements, so we can proudly share the good news about recent accomplishments, awards and honors, publications, promotions, and the wide variety of careers that our alumni are currently pursuing. E-mail your current information and future updates to shandspharm@shands.ufl.edu with the subject heading “Shands Alumni Update.” Please include your name, PGY1 and/or PGY2 Shands UF graduation year(s), current position and location.