

In the Spotlight

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Entering Pharmacy Students Attend Week-long Boot Camp

The 144 entering students at the University of Georgia College of Pharmacy recently completed a five-day Rx Dawgs Boot Camp designed to prepare them for pharmacy school and their future as pharmacists.

“This boot camp was the first week-long program designed to help students develop a sense of professionalism early in their academic careers, ease the transition from undergraduate school to pharmacy school and allow them the opportunity to interact with faculty before school began,” said Ashley Hannings, public service assistant and boot camp coordinator.

The highlight of the week was the Rx video project in which teams of students demonstrated what they learned about the Rx Dawgs professionalism policy and what it means to be a student pharmacist in a creative way, added Hannings.

Other important principles addressed during boot camp were multitasking and learning strategies, stress and time management, financial planning and management, strength finder assessments, group dynamics and effective feedback, and ethics in healthcare and ethical information sharing. An introduction to substance abuse, case-based problem solving and generational differences were also presented by college faculty. A social component on professional etiquette and attire was included.

The program will continue annually and be revised as needed based on student and faculty feedback. Evaluations from first year students were positive overall and indicated that being able to work with classmates during the program helped foster camaraderie within the class, according to Hannings.

Photos of Rx boot camp can be seen on the college website at www.rx.uga.edu.