

In the Spotlight

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U.S. Rep. Carter visits Savannah campus

Students enrolled at the University of Georgia College of Pharmacy's Southeast Georgia campus recently welcomed U.S. Representative Earl L. "Buddy" Carter to their pharmacy law class to speak about pending legislation related to healthcare, recent events regarding drug pricing and the future of pharmacy and healthcare. Ken Duke, clinical assistant professor, invited Carter to speak to the class as an alumni, but also and most importantly from his perspective as a Congressman on the national level.

Carter spoke directly to students at the St. Joseph's/Candler medical facility and via live-streaming video to students in Albany, Athens and Augusta, just as pharmacy professors are able to do.

Carter, an alumnus of the College's Bachelor of Science Class of 1980, emphasized that pharmacy students in the UGA program are receiving the highest level of clinical training ever seen in the pharmacy field. He advised students that certain policy changes, such as Provider Status for Pharmacists, could soon be implemented that would assure that their skills and expertise will not be underutilized when they begin their careers.

Carter, the only pharmacist in Congress, joined the 114th U.S. Congress in January 2015, representing Georgia's 1st Congressional District. During his short time in the House, Carter has become co-chair of the Community Pharmacy Caucus as well as a member of the Republican Study Committee's Health Care Task Force.

He has owned and operated a community pharmacy for more than 30 years. Carter was mayor of Pooler before serving in the Georgia General Assembly as a representative and then as a senator, where he advocated for smarter laws to tackle Georgia's prescription drug problem through the creation of the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program.



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