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SWGA Clinical Campus

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Our History
The University of Georgia (UGA) College of Pharmacy (COP) is a 2+2 program wherein Doctor of Pharmacy students spend the first two years of the program in Athens. The remaining two years of the pharmacy curriculum are then completed in Athens or on one of three satellite campuses. The Southwest Georgia (SWGA) Clinical Campus in Albany opened its doors to the inaugural class of six third year (P3) students in the fall semester of 2012. Since this time, the class size has steadily increased to over 12 P3 students. Approximately 20 fourth year students are in the area completing their rotation experiences.

Past students have enjoyed the small class size and personalized attention from faculty and staff. Faculty are published and engage in research in multiple areas, offering students the ability to be involved in various scholarly activities, such as writing articles, developing and completing research, and presenting posters at regional and national meetings with mentorship from faculty. Past students have presented posters at the American Society of Health-Systems Pharmacists Annual Meetings and the Georgia Society of Health-Systems Pharmacists.

Our campus seeks to link our students to practicing pharmacists in the community. Pharmacists, including those at local independent pharmacies and the hospital will routinely visit to provide students with information on opportunities in the area.

Campus & Facilities
The campus is composed of faculty and staff offices, conference rooms, classrooms, a student lounge, and computer lab. Classroom and conference room space is equipped with advanced, state-of-the-art videoconferencing equipment and capabilities; all campus areas have access to high-speed Wi-Fi internet connection. Faculty generally will teach from their base campus with their classes videoconferenced to other campuses, though faculty from other campuses may also visit our campus! These capabilities also allow students organizations or other student-initiated meetings to connect with each other from multiple campuses.

The SWGA campus is currently home to five full-time faculty members, an administrative support staff person, and a campus dean. Further expansion of facility space, class size, and additional faculty is planned for the future. Plans are also underway to build affordable student housing in close proximity to the hospital which will be available to 3rd and 4th year residential students in the fall of 2017.

Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital
The campus space is within walking distance of Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital (PPMH), the largest regional hospital in SWGA. The partnership between the UGA COP and PPMH is important and valuable, given the area’s need for healthcare professionals, including pharmacists. This learning environment provides many opportunities for professional student development and interdisciplinary healthcare education and training. Students interact with other health professional trainees, including third and fourth year medical students in the SWGA Augusta University campus and nursing students at Albany State University.

PPMH is the site of many robust direct patient care experiences included in the core curriculum. In addition, PPMH provides a post-graduate year 1 pharmacy residency, including 2 residency positions, in association with the UGA COP.

Southwest Georgia Clinical Rotations
Students completing their fourth year experiences in SWGA will have access to practice sites in various communities in the region including Americus, Albany, Thomasville, Tifton, Valdosta, and others.

Student Life
Activities in the SWGA region include kayaking/boating down the Flint River, camping, and mountain biking. Albany is home to the Flint RiverQuarium, Chehaw Park and Zoo, Radium Springs Garden and Historic Site, and Albany Museum of Art. The Albany Symphony Orchestra and Theatre Albany regularly perform in concerts and productions. Albany also hosts the annual Snickers Marathon and the Riverfront Run 5K.