

AUBURN UNIVERSITY HARRISON SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

STUDENT ASSIGNMENT TO GROUPS

Reviewed Aug. 17, 2015

The courses and curriculum of the Auburn University Harrison School of Pharmacy's (AUHSOP) Doctor of Pharmacy Program require student pharmacists to be assigned to groups and teams and share small and large team rooms with colleagues. Student pharmacists assignments to groups, teams and team rooms are randomly assigned, and changes are made only as a result of conditions which cannot be resolved or situations that compromise the operation of the AUHSOP or severely jeopardize the education and/or welfare of student pharmacists.

Rationale:

To be effective health professionals, pharmacists must possess the ability to work with patients and colleagues whose selection is beyond their control. This ability is not innate, and a particularly important facet of the Doctor of Pharmacy program is for student pharmacists to develop the ability to work in teams. An important component of professional maturity is the development of the ability to resolve issues among members of groups and teams to facilitate functioning of the group and successful completion of necessary work and tasks.

Procedure:

1. Student pharmacist assignments to groups, teams and team rooms are made on a random basis. Students are not allowed to request a specific room.
2. P3 Student pharmacists who experience difficulty functioning in their groups should contact the Integrated Pharmacotherapy (IP) Course Coordinator through the Office of Teaching, Learning and Assessment (OTLA) to resolve the issue. P1 and P2 Student pharmacist groups or teams who experience difficulty in functioning are expected to contact the Office of Academic and Student Affairs (OASA) for assistance in resolving problems or issues. The OASA, in conjunction with the involved student pharmacists, faculty, and staff, will assess the situation and provide assistance with the resolution of problems and issues that might exist.
3. After a sincere effort by all parties to resolve identified issues, student pharmacist(s) may request in writing to the Associate Dean for Academic and Student Affairs a reassignment to a different group, team and/or team room. The request must include the following information:
 - a. A description of the problem or issue that exists;
 - b. Attempts that have been made to resolve the problem or issue including assistance that has been requested and received (including contacting OASA first);
 - c. An explanation of why the student pharmacist(s) believe(s) the problem cannot be resolved;
 - d. A plan to prevent this same problem in subsequent groups, teams or team rooms, should the reassignment request be approved.
4. The Associate Dean for Academic and Student Affairs will review the request and documentation in a timely manner, gather further information from all involved parties (i.e., student pharmacists, faculty, and staff), and make appropriate reassignments, if deemed necessary. Reassignments will only be made after thorough discussions with all parties that are or will be involved. As a condition of reassignment, student pharmacists may be required to engage in programs designed to improve their functioning in groups (e.g., team building, individual counseling, etc.).