



Touro Pharmacy Update

Educating Caring Professionals to Serve, to Lead, to Teach
July 2006

The Professions' Pipeline

Pharmacy is fortunate to have a very strong applicant pool with many more qualified students interested in becoming a pharmacist than there are seats available. Data from the American Association of College of Pharmacy (AACCP) show that in 2005 over 79,000 students applied to a pharmacy program (this number may reflect the fact that a student may apply to more than one program). That year 10,506 students were enrolled in the first professional year of a Pharm.D. program. The actual ratio of applicants to acceptances most likely is not 8 to 1 but these data show that there is a great interest in pharmacy as a profession. Yet data reported by AACCP suggest that there is much for pharmacy to do in this area. Of the 2005 applications to pharmacy schools, African-American and Hispanic applicants were 6.9% and 3.9% respectively. These figures are well below the U.S. census figures of 12.8 and 14.1 percent of the population for these groups. In New York State and the City demographic data show that African-Americans and Hispanics represent a higher percent of the population than the U.S. figures but these numbers are not reflected in program enrollments.

In 2004 the Institute of Medicine (IOM) published a report¹ on the need for a diverse health professions workforce. The report highlights the benefits of racial and ethnic diversity among health professionals which includes service to minority and medically underserved communities, patient satisfaction, reduction of cultural and linguistic barriers, and better educational outcomes among *all* students. The AACCP data and the IOM report sends a clear message of the work to be done on the pharmacy student "pipeline"- creating and sustaining an interest in pharmacy from grade school, to high school and college. This pipeline is of great importance to Touro and our goals. It is part of an effort to locally grow a diverse pharmacy applicant pool benefiting not only Touro but all stakeholders (colleges, industry, and patients) as well.

Touro College's School of Education and Psychology and Columbia University/New York Presbyterian Hospital joined forces to create *Health Corps*, a wellness promotion program for school-age children. In reaching out to children at risk, *Health Corps* becomes a good vehicle to introduce these students to information on medications, pharmacists, and pharmacy career options. Programs are ongoing in several upper Manhattan high schools and will be expanded. The High School for Health Careers and Sciences is located in Manhattan's George Washington High School building. Along with Principal Harris Marmor and Assistant Principal Altigracia Acosta plans are underway to develop a health professions career day to acquaint students in the high school with the many opportunities that exist for a career in the health professions in addition to medicine and nursing. The Career Fair will be an opportunity to highlight the many possibilities that a pharmacy degree can bring.

¹ In the Nation's Compelling Interest: Ensuring Diversity in the Health Professions, Institute of Medicine, 2004.

New Positions

This newsletter has become rather lengthy but I want to bring to your attention newly posted openings for Touro College of Pharmacy. Please feel free to forward to anyone who may have an interest in a position.

Leadership Team Positions Touro College of Pharmacy-New York

We seek highly qualified individuals to plan and lead the development of the Touro College of Pharmacy. To be located in renovated, state-of-the-art facilities in Manhattan in a building close to President Bill Clinton's office, the College of Pharmacy will share space with a new College of Osteopathic Medicine. The opportunity to develop and build inter-professional, collaborative programs with medicine and the Touro University-California College of Pharmacy can benefit both students and faculty.

We envision the Touro pharmacy graduate as a practitioner well-versed in the foundations of pharmacy, with the communication and critical thinking skills to practice and succeed in a variety of settings. The curriculum and experiential training will address the need for graduates to provide patient care in culturally diverse environments, minimize health disparities and play an active role in promoting the nation's public health. An innovative curriculum and diverse practical experience opportunities will prepare the Touro graduate to play a dynamic role in the health care system and in their communities.

Creative, innovative persons with administrative experience and a commitment to quality are encouraged to apply for the following positions:

Associate Dean for Academic Affairs: Primary responsibilities include development and supervision of the preclinical curriculum and faculty affairs. The Associate Dean should have experience in academic administration, a successful research program, experience with faculty development, budget management, excellent interpersonal skills, and the enthusiasm and motivation to support development of the College of Pharmacy.

Associate Dean for Practice Programs and Community Outreach: Responsibilities include development of the clinical curriculum, establishment and development of experiential education sites and linkages to the community. The Associate Dean must have a demonstrated record of clinical academic administration, budget management, and excellent interpersonal skills, scholarship related to pharmacy practice and the enthusiasm and motivation to support the development of the College of Pharmacy.

Assistant Dean for Student Affairs: Responsibilities as part of the administrative team include development of the admission process, student support infrastructure and program outcome measures. The Assistant Dean will have a record of accomplishment in areas relating to student services and have a commitment to develop and provide quality, student-centered programs.

Chair, Department of Pharmaceutical and Biomedical Sciences will have responsibilities to work as part of the administrative team to develop an innovative Doctor of Pharmacy program and facilitate scholarship among departmental faculty. The Chair serves as a leader for the pharmaceutical and biomedical sciences faculty with responsibilities to hire faculty, establish workloads, serve as a role model for faculty members in the department, play a mentoring role in

their professional development, carry out evaluations and guide the development of the basic science research program.

Chair, Department of Pharmacy and Health Outcomes will be responsible for working as part of the administrative team to develop an innovative Doctor of Pharmacy program, implement a department practice plan, and provide mentoring to foster growth and development of departmental faculty. The Chair serves as academic administrator for the department practice faculty with responsibilities to hire, establish workloads, serve as a role model to these faculty members, play a mentoring role in their professional and scholarly development and carry out evaluations.

Review of applications will begin immediately. Applications received by September 30, 2006 will receive full consideration. Candidates should submit a letter of application, including a statement of educational and administrative philosophy, a current curriculum vitae and a list of five references to **Stuart Feldman, Ph.D., Dean, Touro College of Pharmacy, Suite 603, 2090 Adam Clayton Powell Boulevard., New York, NY 10027** or electronically to **sfeldman@touro.edu**. *Touro College is an equal opportunity employer.*

As you can see from the contact information above Touro College of Pharmacy is moving to a new, temporary home in the Theresa Hotel Office Building on Adam Clayton Powell Boulevard. This space allows room to grow the program until renovations are complete at the 230 West 125th Street building.

I hope you have a good summer and I will be in touch.

Stuart