Fourth professional year (P4) students at the Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy are provided an opportunity to rank six Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience (APPE) regions. P4 students complete four core rotations (Community, Health System, General Medicine, and Ambulatory Care) and two or more elective rotations in their respective regions.

**HOUSTON REGION**

Ashmal Ali  
4th Year Professional Pharmacy Student, Class of 2021

During my APPE rotations, I was privileged to be accepted into the Houston Methodist West (HMW) LAPPE program. While at HMW, I have had the unique opportunity to work closely with not only the clinical pharmacists, but also with physicians, nurses, and other healthcare professionals. Being located within the Houston region has truly allowed me to understand how the various specialties of pharmacy provide an everlasting impact on patient care.

Thus far, I have completed my internal medicine, emergency medicine, and critical care rotations at HMW. Each of these rotations have been unique and allowed me to adapt to different learning styles and varying patient populations. Throughout my rotations, I have sharpened my patient presentation skills, been able to provide the pharmacy staff with in-service presentations, and have meaningful interactions with other professionals to positively impact the overall quality of patient care. Currently, I am on my infectious disease rotation where I have focused primarily on antibiotic stewardship and the de-escalation of antibiotic therapy. This rotation has been unique because I have been able to interact with physicians not only in an inpatient setting, but also within a private, wound care clinic. Finally, I hope to finish off strong with advanced hospital rotation, where I will be able to gain a better understanding of the pharmacy's workflow and how each team member contributes to the bigger picture.

Although I still have several rotations ahead of me, I look forward to the challenges they will bring and the invaluable experiences I will gain. I hope to take this time to continue working on my professional and clinical skills while applying the didactic curriculum to practice!

**TEMPLE REGION**

Peter Martin  
4th Year Professional Pharmacy Student, Class of 2021

The late Egyptian Nobel Laureate, Naguib Mahfouz once said, “If you want to move people, you look for a point of sensitivity...” Our health and how we deliver health care to people are our points of sensitivity. The main reason why I chose to pursue a second career as a pharmacist is to touch peoples’ lives beyond just being drug experts and to empathize with them by providing direct patient care services through medication assistance programs and medication therapy management.

The fourth year of APPEs is the culmination of three hard years of didactic learning and personal sacrifice. P4 is our yearlong capstone. There is no better place to feel the satisfaction of how far we have come since our infant years as P1 students than at Baylor, Scott & White Medical Center in Temple, Texas. The medical center is a 634-bed, trauma level-1 teaching hospital in rural Bell county with strong ties with Texas A&M. Any unique APPE experience ranging from transplant, pediatrics to specialty pharmacy can be forged here in the beautiful city of Temple without fighting the rush hour traffic of a major city like Dallas or Houston. There are many friendly faces when rotating through BSW medical center, such as Dr. Charlotte Farris, who completed her PGY1 at BSW and Dr. Sandy Diec. You will see your classmates and upper classmates during your time in Temple. The pride, support and joy you feel for your fellow classmates grows with every journal club presentation or when one of your own becomes a PGY1 resident at Baylor Scott and White. One of the recurring themes you will notice as you move from rotation to rotation is the loyalty of the staff who have commuted from Austin to Temple for over ten years, the camaraderie among all the staff members, and the genuine and earnest interest in each and every student that walks through the doors of Baylor, Scott & White Medical Center in search of delivering that point of sensitivity, which is compassionate health care to all.
Using SBAR to improve student’s confidence in making recommendations

As pharmacy preceptors we often focus on growing hard skills of the pharmacy interns on our rotations, such as clinical knowledge. But often, it’s the soft skills, like communication, that require the most mentoring. The ability to effectively communicate and deliver information is an important component for what we do as pharmacists. Whether you are a retail pharmacist or working in the acute care setting, the confidence and ability to communicate recommendations to other healthcare providers is the backbone of our profession. For pharmacy learners, this task of communicating with other healthcare providers can be daunting and time consuming.

So how can we help our learners improve their confidence in making recommendations?

SBAR.

SBAR was initially developed by the United States military for communication on nuclear submarines, when clear and concise communication was needed in high stress situations. The Joint Commission recommends SBAR as a tool to improve the effectiveness and standardization of communication between individuals.

For Pharmacy interns, this tool can help organize thoughts and give students structure to make recommendations.

Here are the key components:

**Situation**- Introduce yourself. Clearly and briefly, define the situation. What concern made you contact the provider at this time?

**Background**- Provide clear, relevant background information that relates to the situation. What is the clinical background or context of the call?

**Assessment**- What assessment findings led you to believe there was a problem? What is your professional conclusion?

**Recommendation**- What would you recommend? Or what exactly is needed from the individual that you are communicating to.

TIPS for student’s implementation:

- Give the student time to research and organize thoughts on paper.
- Students should first write down their thoughts using this chart:

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<th>B</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>R</th>
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- Remind students to keep out the “fluff” and only include relevant information.
- Recommendations, especially about changing drug therapy, should include a drug, dose, route and frequency.
- Students should practice verbalizing their recommendations with you.


The Texas A&M Rangel College of Pharmacy held its 4th Annual Residency Showcase on Thursday, October 22nd from 1:00pm to 4:00pm. With the COVID-19 Pandemic, the College adapted and transitioned our showcase to a fully online virtual showcase using Zoom® as a platform. To simulate an in-person showcase, each interested program was granted a “Breakout Room” and students were allowed to transition in-between rooms freely. This allowed students to speak with any and all programs they were interested without restricting their movement and without time limits.

The College invited a wide array of residency programs, Texas A&M P3 and P4 students, and pharmacy students from other Texas pharmacy programs. We had a successful showcase with 22 programs, 52 Texas A&M students, and 106 guest students.
Howdy and Greetings Class of 2024!

On behalf of Dean Reddy and the Texas A&M Rangel College of Pharmacy, the Office of Experiential Education is pleased to announce the White Coat Ceremony for the Class of 2024. This virtual event will be held at 10:00 AM on Saturday, March 27, 2021. Please save the date and invite family and friends to share this momentous occasion.

More details to come.

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**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**CLASS OF 2024 VIRTUAL WHITE COAT CEREMONY**

**DATE:** SATURDAY, MARCH 27, 2021  
**TIME:** 10 A.M.  
**JOIN VIA ZOOM:** HTTPS://TAMU.ZOOM.US/J/93869339253  
**MEETING ID:** 938 6933 9253

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**2020-2021 REMAINING ROTATION DATES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>APPE P4</th>
<th>Rotation</th>
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<td>1</td>
<td>05/24/21 - 07/02/21</td>
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<td>07/05/21 - 08/13/21</td>
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<td>03/28/22 - 05/06/22</td>
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AWARDS

FACULTY PRECEPTOR OF THE YEAR

The Faculty Preceptor of the Year Award is given to a faculty preceptor who has demonstrated high standards of professionalism, mentorship of students and clinical practice.

2020 Faculty Preceptor of the Year
Ladan Panahi, PharmD
Clinical Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice
Round Rock, Texas

PRECEPTOR OF THE YEAR

The Preceptor of the Year Award is selected by the students of the graduating class. It recognizes the preceptor who enthusiastically relates information to students, respects students, promotes their critical thinking, and inspires them in their abilities to achieve extraordinary accomplishments.

2020 Preceptor of the Year
Mike Brimberry, RPh, MBA
Director of Pharmacy at Encompass Health Rehabilitation Hospital
Round Rock, Texas

OUTSTANDING EARLY CAREER ALUMNI AWARD

The Outstanding Early Career Alumni Award is designed to honor graduates who are 15 years or less post-graduation. The awards seeks to recognize former students that have made significant contributions to their career, public service and/or volunteer activities, and possess the highest standard of integrity and character which bring honor to the Rangel College of Pharmacy.

2020 Outstanding Early Career Alumni Award
Ashley Fox, PharmD
Assistant Professor at the University of Oklahoma COP
Oklahoma City, OK