Objective

To describe a unique mentoring process designed to help students experiencing difficulties in academic performance and/or professional development who are provided a remediation plan by the Committee on Academic Requirements and Professionalism.

Methods

This poster describes the mentoring component of remediation plans for students assigned academic recovery or professionalism contracts due to suboptimal academic performance or unprofessional conduct.

Background

- At the Auburn University Harrison School of Pharmacy (HSOP), academic and professionalism standards are established by the Academic Standards and the Code of Professional Conduct set forth by the HSOP faculty and administration
- Academic performance and professionalism are monitored by the Office of Academic and Student Affairs (OASA)
- The Committee on Academic Requirements and Professionalism (CARP) upholds these standards
  - CARP is composed of OASA members and at least one faculty member from each HSOP department
- OASA monitors student grades throughout each semester and will notify CARP of students violating academic standards:
  - Cumulative and/or semester GPA less than 2.25
  - Receipt of a failing (F) or unsatisfactory grade (U) in any course
  - Receipt of ≥2 “D” letter grades in the curriculum
- Professionalism is monitored by both faculty and staff
  - Throughout the curriculum, faculty complete professional evaluations for the small-group courses taught at HSOP.
  - Faculty and staff may complete positive or negative “professionalism on the fly” evaluations throughout the year
- OASA notifies CARP of students violating the professionalism standards as documented by two or more negative professionalism evaluations
- CARP may decide to meet with students regarding their violation of HSOP standards or may assign a contract without meeting
  - Students failing below academic standards will be given an academic recovery contract (ARC) with a faculty mentor until the ARC is fulfilled
  - Students failing to uphold professionalism standards are given a professionalism contract and may be given a professionalism mentor

Results/Outcomes Continued

- Student remediation procedures are clearly delineated by individualized and specific contracts related to academic and/or professional standards
- Academic mentoring guidelines have been developed by CARP and are distributed to academic mentors at the time of assigning the mentee. The guidelines include:
  - Information describing the development of the mentoring relationship
  - Worksheets to identify barriers to success are included
  - An example of a contract between mentor and mentee
- During the 2014-2015 academic year, there were 28 mentor-mentee assignments in AUHSOP

Implications

- This unique program provides students with a formal and structured faculty mentorship to assist them in successfully fulfilling the requirements of their individualized remediation plan and overcome obstacles to academic success and/or professional development.
- This program enhances the education and professional development of future pharmacy professionals and demonstrates Auburn University Harrison School of Pharmacy’s dedication to the academic and professional success of its students, faculty, and the profession.
- This program also adheres to Standard 17 of the ACPE Standards 2016 to develop procedures related to student progression.

Future Directions

- A systematic qualitative evaluation of faculty and student satisfaction with the mentorship program is under development.
- The presence of a correlation between mentorship and academic progression is underway.
- Evaluation for the need of professionalism mentoring standards is being considered.

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