

SCHOOL OF

PHARMACY

Dean's Report 2023



SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
EDWARDSVILLE



Message from the Dean

I am pleased to share with you the remarkable achievements and exciting developments that have defined the SIUE School of Pharmacy over the past year. As we look back, three important milestones stand out: accreditation success, continued alumni excellence and the initial phase of construction of a new home for the School of Pharmacy.

First and foremost, I am delighted to announce that our School of Pharmacy has had its accreditation status continued by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) through the 2030-2031 academic year. This achievement is a testament to the collective dedication and hard work of our faculty, staff and students. This success also underscores our commitment to maintaining the highest standards in pharmacy education while ensuring that our programs continue to meet and exceed the expectations set forth by the profession.

I am also pleased to acknowledge and celebrate the ongoing success and contributions of our alumni. First, the Class of 2022 continued the excellent performance of our graduates on the North American Pharmacist Licensure Examination (NAPLEX) where this group far outperformed both state and national averages. Next, I want to say thank you to those alumni who choose to engage with the SIUE School of Pharmacy as a preceptor, mentor, interviewer, donor, board member, lecturer, etc. It is clear that you have an interest in both your future colleagues as well as the profession. The impact of your contributions is tangible.

Finally, I am thrilled to share an exciting update about the construction of the new Health Science Complex which will house the SIUE School of Pharmacy. Expected to be completed by the fall 2025 semester, this landmark project represents a significant investment in the future of pharmacy education and research at our institution. To allow for the construction of this new facility in University Park, the School of Pharmacy is being temporarily relocated to the renovated Science East Building next to Lovejoy Library on campus. We certainly can't wait until 2025!

Enjoy catching up with this edition of the Dean's Report.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark S. Luer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Mark S. Luer, PharmD, FCCP
School of Pharmacy Dean and Professor



School of Pharmacy Earns Reaccreditation

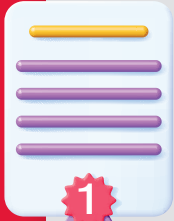
The School of Pharmacy's Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) program has been reaccredited by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), the only accrediting body for schools and colleges of pharmacy in the U.S. Having successfully met the 25 standards set forth by the ACPE, the School was granted an eight-year accreditation status.

School of Pharmacy By the Numbers



2022 NAPLEX pass rate First-time test-takers

- SIUE School of Pharmacy: **88.8%**
- National: 78.7%
- Illinois: 71.0%



We're #1!

Our graduates' NAPLEX exam pass rates continue to rank #1 in Illinois and have exceeded the state and national average for every year since 2014.



96%
Overall
graduation rate

Graduation Rate (2009-2023)

91% On time
96% Overall

Class of 2026

- ✓ Pre-pharmacy average GPA: 3.49
- ✓ Pre-pharmacy average math and science GPA: 3.40
- ✓ Matriculation average cumulative GPA: 3.50



30%
Curriculum dedicated to
experiential education



Total alumni:
1,163

8:1 Student-to-faculty ratio



85%
Graduates pursuing a residency
receive a match

Residence (Class of 2026)

79%
Illinois

Southern Illinois: 61%

Central Illinois: 25%

Northern Illinois: 14%

12 National pharmacy organization
student chapters

21%
Out of state

2 + 4 = PharmD

2-year pre-pharmacy undergraduate program
4-year Doctor of Pharmacy program



Pathways to Enrollment: From High School to PharmD

The School of Pharmacy PharmD program follows a 2+4 model. Applicants are admitted to the four-year professional degree program after they have completed at least two years of college. Students enter the program through two pathways:

Traditional Entry Program

Qualified applicants are admitted to the four-year professional degree program after they have completed at least two years of college at SIUE or another institution.

Conditional Entry Program

Incoming first-year students who enter SIUE directly from high school have the opportunity to apply to the SIUE School of Pharmacy's early assurance program which is called the Conditional Entry Program (CEP). Students must apply for consideration to the program as high school seniors. Accepted students are granted admission into the four-year PharmD program after completing two years of pre-professional study at SIUE, achieving pre-defined academic criteria, and meeting both CEP and professional standards.

Rxcellence: Developing the Student Pipeline

Jessica Kerr, PharmD, professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice, established the Rxcellence program in 2019 with a goal of increasing the pharmacy student pipeline while making a difference in the community, specially high schools.

The Rxcellence programs brings SIUE pharmacy students into local high school classrooms to share the possibilities of a career in pharmacy and help the high school students see how the STEM material they are learning can be applied to real-world pharmacy. Pharmacy students develop presentations focusing on chemistry, biology, anatomy and physiology, and overall health, and include hands-on activities that incorporate the scientific principles while demonstrating how pharmacists interact with patients.

This innovative approach not only enriches the learning experiences of the high school students, but also offers the PharmD students an opportunity to share their passion for pharmacy and mentor the next generation of healthcare professionals.

“The Rxcellence program bridges the gap for high school students, illustrating the vital connection between their STEM foundational learning and its crucial role in enhancing patient care within the field of pharmacy,” said Kerr. “The program’s beauty lies in the layered learning instruction method, seamlessly integrating the teachings from our SIUE School of Pharmacy students, creating a comprehensive educational experience – all while exploring career opportunities in pharmacy. Pharmacy students state being a part of this program as an instructor allowed them to share their passion for pharmacy while increasing their confidence in public speaking and increasing their competence in chemistry and disease-state related topics.”

Think you know a future pharmacist?
Scan the QR code for details on how to refer
them to the SIUE School of Pharmacy!



siue.edu/refer-a-pharmacist



Alumni Giving and Engagement



I recently joined the School of Pharmacy as the new director of development. I am proud to have the opportunity to help shape the School's future and am impressed by your extraordinary achievements!

Your engagement with your alma mater is crucial to our continued success. There are so many ways to stay connected and have an impact. Whether you choose to serve as a preceptor, offer career guidance, participate in our events, or support our fundraising initiatives, your involvement makes a tangible impact on our students' education and the advancement of pharmacy practice.

Dean Luer and I are excited to relaunch the SIUE Pharmacy Alumni Network, and we welcome your help and input on the Network Planning Committee. Scan this QR code to learn more and get involved in the process. More details will be shared after the committee is formed.



siue.edu/pharmacy-alumni-network

As we continue to grow and evolve, your active participation in the SIUE School of Pharmacy community remains pivotal. Together, we can shape the future of pharmacy education and practice. Thank you for being an integral part of our journey.

Nick Niemerg '15
Director of Development
SIUE School of Pharmacy
nniemer@siue.edu
618-650-5043

Support Your Alma Mater!

A few of your fellow alumni let us know why they think it's important to stay connected. We hope you'll join them!



Deja Finley, PharmD '20

Assistant Professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice

"I would encourage other alumni to get involved because it will allow them to expand and strengthen the connections and the community they have contributed to building. This can be very personally rewarding and also valuable for collaboration, professional development and future career opportunities."



Alysha Hale, PharmD '18

Market Health and Wellness Director, Walmart

"Future pharmacists are going to be the drivers for success in the profession. We are already seeing a change in the pharmacy healthcare field with initiatives like point of care testing and test to treat. It is so important that our future pharmacists feel supported so that they can take care of their communities."



Scott Sexton, PharmD '17

Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice, Ferris State University

"The culture of the School of Pharmacy is contagious. Continuing to be connected to that culture, in a variety of ways, can truly impact the work that we do as practicing pharmacists, in addition to supporting the next generation of pharmacists that will be graduating from SIUE. Sometimes a simple reminder of where we came from and why we chose the profession of pharmacy can be incredibly energizing."

Pay It Forward

Have you considered giving back to the School of Pharmacy but don't know where to start? Here are a few simple ways you can make a difference for our current and future students:

Advocate

- Like, follow and share the School's Facebook and Instagram
- Refer future pharmacy students
- Be a part of the SIUE Pharmacy Alumni Network Relaunch Committee

Participate

- Serve on the School of Pharmacy's Advisory Board
- Be a guest speaker for pharmacy classes
- Volunteer at the annual White Coat Ceremony, Pinning Ceremony, Scholarship Awards Day or Commencement

Give

- Make a contribution to School of Pharmacy scholarships
- Support the School's mission trips to Jamaica and study abroad opportunities
- Help to equip the new Health Sciences Complex's state-of-the-art learning spaces



connect.siu.edu/g/pharmacy/

For more information on how you can get involved, contact us at pharmacy@siue.edu.



Health Sciences Complex to Provide Leading-Edge Learning and Research Spaces

SIUE broke ground this fall on its highly anticipated Health Science Complex, a \$109 million, 176,000-square-foot building made possible by Governor J.B. Pritzker’s Rebuild Illinois Capital Plan. The three-story facility will provide state-of-the-art learning and research spaces for the School of Pharmacy and the School of Nursing through new construction and renovations to existing buildings on SIUE’s campus.

“The new structure will create collaborative spaces that will foster further innovation and excellence,” said School of Pharmacy Dean Mark Luer, PharmD, FCCP. “It will finally provide a permanent home for the School of Pharmacy and is a tangible expression of our commitment to creating an environment that nurtures learning, research and professional growth.”

State funding will support the renovation and connection of two existing buildings on University Park Drive. The scope of work also includes constructing a new 110,000-square-foot LEED Silver-certified building to house classrooms, research laboratories, study areas, skills and simulation laboratories and administrative offices.

The complex is expected to be completed by the fall of 2025.

Come visit the School of Pharmacy in its temporary relocation on the third floor of Science East.

Your support is needed to fund the state-of-the-art furnishings, equipment and systems which will complete the Health Sciences Complex. Help us prepare the next generation of healthcare professionals serving our region!
Learn more and make your gift today!



connect.siu.edu/g/hsc-sop

School of Pharmacy Offers Dynamic, Multi-Faceted Education

The School of Pharmacy continues to add layers to the dynamic, multi-faceted education its students receive. Along with three PharmD specializations, the School now offers five concurrent programs. Concurrent programs give students the opportunity to earn a second degree while pursuing their PharmD and gain even broader career possibilities upon graduation.



Gable Honored for Commitment to Student Success



Kelly Gable, PharmD, BCPP, was awarded the Ohio Valley Conference's (OVC) inaugural Outstanding Faculty Commitment to Student Success Award. The award is given to a faculty member at each OVC member institution to recognize their impact on students; contributions to the department, University and curriculum development; professional development; and community involvement.

"I hope our students leave SIUE feeling more grounded in their sense of self and their commitment to providing the most equitable care to their patients."

Kelly Gable, PharmD, BCPP

Professor and Director of Well-Being and Resilience

Alumni Turned Preceptors

Serving as a preceptor to Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experience (IPPE) and Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience (APPE) students can be a highly rewarding experience. Incorporating students into your practice setting offers you a chance to give back to the profession, extend your patient care services, and expand your knowledge base.

What does it take to be a preceptor?

- Licensed pharmacist (in good standing) for at least 12 months
- Working in the same setting for at least six months
- Professional and ethical role model for students
- Provide students with positive and constructive feedback
- Good communication and organization skills

Preceptor Spotlights



Emil Borowiak '15

SIHF Healthcare in Olney, Ill.
I had countless exceptional preceptors who played a significant role in shaping my education and professional growth. Their guidance and mentorship provided invaluable skills and practical knowledge and also reinforced school curriculum. Being a preceptor is an opportunity for me to give back to the School of Pharmacy and provide the same level of support and direction that I received during my time as a student. It's a great way to stay connected to the School and contribute to the education of future pharmacists.



Kelsey Salmon '17

Walmart Neighborhood Market, Collinsville, Ill.
Being a preceptor helps me learn as well as the students. We are both teaching each other from our own experiences and background, and since no student is the same, I learn something from each of them. I approach each rotation with a symbiotic mindset - neither of us knows everything, we're each here to learn and we can learn from each other.

New Faces, Faculty Promotions, Retirements

New Faces



Sydnie Day, PharmD
Clinical Assistant Professor
Department of Pharmacy Practice



Trina Kiel
Office Support Specialist
Department of Academic Affairs



Danie Dobrinich Johns '03, '16
Coordinator, Student Services
Office of Professional and Student Affairs

Retirement



Ron Worthington, PhD
Professor
Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences
17 years of service



Donna Boyer
Office Support
Department of Experiential Education
14 years of service

Promotions: Department of Pharmacy Practice



Jennifer Arnoldi, PharmD, BCPS
Clinical Professor



Elizabeth Cady, PharmD, BCPS
Clinical Associate Professor



Stephanie Hunziker, PharmD, BCMTMS
Clinical Associate Professor



Carrie Vogler, PharmD, BCPS
Clinical Professor

School of Pharmacy
Box 2000
Edwardsville, IL 62026-2000
618.650.5150
siue.edu/pharmacy

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Refer a Future Pharmacist

Do you know someone who wants to pursue pharmacy and would be a great candidate for the SIUE School of Pharmacy?

We want to know! Referrals from our alumni and friends help to ensure our School's enrollment remains strong.



Scan the QR code to refer a future pharmacist.



siue.edu/refer-a-pharmacist



SIUE is proud to support responsible use of forest resources.

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