

The Academy for Excellence provides the resources which allow the college to initiate new processes and programs while strengthening the educational and outreach efforts. Without the flexibility of Academy funding, the ability to grow and expand to meet the needs of pharmacy is severely curtailed. State funding is not only reducing but the utilization of those dollars is more restrictive.

Here are some of the projects the Academy for Excellence has supported over the years:

- **Faculty and student travel** to pharmacy and scientific conferences and competitions to increase professional and leadership skills.
- **Distance campus expansion** with facilities in St. Petersburg, Jacksonville and Orlando where qualified students complete all UF Pharm.D. requirements without relocation.
- **Ceremonial events** that mark the passages of pharmacy school – orientation, white coat ceremony, parent & family day and graduation.

- **Pharmacy Museum** which helps to preserve the history of pharmacy while educating future pharmacist about the origins of the profession.
- **Institute for Pharmacy Entrepreneurs** that exposes students to community pharmacy ownership.

*“The Institute provided a wonderful opportunity to speak to pharmacy owners. I was able to learn from experts in investment banking, small business lending and finance.”* Lance 3PD

*“This weekend was truly inspiring. Thank you for the opportunity to gain so much wisdom and guidance”* Bryn 3PD



More recently, it helped to send 50 pharmacy students to Tallahassee to speak to committee members in support of a House bill that would authorize pharmacists to administer flu shots. With access to funding, the college was able to charter a bus for pharmacy students from all four campuses to travel to the state capitol and advocate for their profession.

Our immediate goal is to create the “**Academy for Excellence Endowment**” which would generate stable, dependable income each year to fund initiatives throughout the college.

For instance, a \$1,000,000 endowment funded by gifts from alumni, friends and companies, would be eligible for a state match of 75 percent, bringing the endowment balance to \$1,750,000 and generating \$70,000 in annual income.

Increasing the college’s flexible funding enables us to raise the level of excellence and continue our tradition of education, leadership and service.