

The University of Florida is in Gainesville; the Gator Nation is everywhere. The Pharmacy Gator Nation has travelled to such places as the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Haiti, the Yucatan of Mexico, and Africa providing medication therapy and health care to the poorest citizens of these underserved countries. Through its participation in the Pharmobility Exchange Program and the UF Office of International Health, the college is committed to international experiences and global understanding.

Pharmobility Exchange Program consists of the UF College of Pharmacy, three U.S. universities, and six international universities. In this program, students have the opportunity to embark on a period of study abroad and apply their knowledge of pharmaceutical sciences to Pharmacy Practice in the host country. Not only do students benefit by the study abroad experience, but the college gains additional graduate students, research support for faculty, and national recognition as we welcome international students as part of the exchange program.

The UF Office of International Health assists students and faculty in the Health Science Center (HSC) Colleges in accomplishing goals of health outreach and research visits to other nations, thereby gaining hands-on, integrated, multidisciplinary, educational experiences. Their mission is to improve health and medical education globally by working with UF's partners located in developing countries to provide integrated grass-roots medical outreach to those most in need of health care. This method is founded on the drive of UF students, the expertise of UF faculty, and the integrated and interdisciplinary structure of the HSC.

“Nothing compares to the satisfaction of helping those in real need of health care – everyday needs – which we take for granted.” - Leidi Paez, Pharm.D. Class of 2007

“What makes me keep going back for more is what I actually get from each trip. It's the gratitude I feel from the mother with many children, as I talk to her and counsel her on how to use a medication that can potentially solve just one of her plethora of problems.” Mala Desai, 3PD student

In order to generate perpetual support for the ongoing efforts of the University of Florida College of Pharmacy's international and interdisciplinary endeavors, we are seeking support for *International Experience Education* to increase opportunities for students to experience international healthcare first-hand. The very worthwhile goal is for a greater number of students to benefit from the international outreach experience who otherwise could not afford the high cost of intercontinental travel. In addition to travel expenses, the cost of the medication and supplies for distribution by the student teams must also be covered.

Your contribution to this endeavor will help students gain an invaluable experience that will broaden their perspectives, enrich their lives, and prepare them for the challenges and opportunities of our increasingly global environment.

