

# THE LEARNING EXPERIENCE

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## THE CAMPUS

Facilities include the **Francis J. O'Brien Building**, the College's first building on the Albany Campus, which was constructed in 1927. The building houses classrooms, labs, administrative and faculty offices, the Office of Admissions, and the Office of Institutional Advancement.

The **Library Building**, with its classic Georgian architecture, is home to the Office of the Dean of Students, the Registrar's Office, the Office of Innovative Learning and Academic Support Services, the Fitness Center, and of course, the Library.

Adjacent to the Library Building is the **Albert M. White Gymnasium**, featuring a full-length basketball court that is open to students except on days of events.

Across from the Library Building is the College's newest facility, the **ACPHS Student Center**, which opened in 2006. The Dining Hall, the Bookstore, the Rite Aid Student Lounge, the Office of Campus Life, and the Barbara M. DiLascia '55 Lecture Hall are located here.

The **Bioscience Research Building** is home to the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and the Animal Research Facility.

**Princeton Classrooms**, located at 84 Holland Avenue, are home to the classrooms used for active learning, teaching and case studies.

The college's cutting-edge **Pharmaceutical Research Institute** is located in Rensselaer, NY.

In addition, the College's newest addition is a **satellite campus in Colchester, Vermont**, just outside of Burlington, which opened in August 2009.

## RESIDENCE LIFE

The College provides housing opportunities for all students. Living on campus is required in years one and two and optional in years three and above. Approximately 1,000 students – two thirds of the student body – live on campus. The three campus residence facilities, South Hall, Notre Dame Hall, and Holland/Princeton Suites, offer a variety of amenities, such as wireless and hardwired Internet service, cable television, local phone service, and free laundry facilities. All residence facilities are secured with electronic access doors and 24-hour monitored security. They are also equipped with closed circuit television cameras on all entries, exits and parking lots around the facility. Emergency telephone systems are located throughout the campus to help ensure security. (*See Student Handbook for more information.*)

## DINING SERVICES

Through Chartwells Dining Services, ACPHS offers three meal plans that provide students with a variety of dining options. The Vermont Campus offers a single meal plan through its Brain Food Café. (*See Student Handbook for more information.*)

## CLUBS, ORGANIZATIONS & ATHLETICS

ACPHS offers a broad range of extracurricular activities, including clubs, fraternities, professional organizations, athletic teams, and intramural and club sports, to contribute to a full and rewarding college experience at both campuses. (*See Student Handbook for more information.*)

## **THE MOBILE COMPUTING TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM**

ACPHS utilizes information technology to the fullest extent possible to enhance the learning environment. Our Mobile Computing Technology Program recommends all students entering the College for the first time to purchase a tablet PC with Microsoft Windows 7. ACPHS has a Tablet Program that offers a complete package that includes a state-of-the-art HP 2730p loaded with the software needed for your ACPHS coursework and specially configured for easy connection to the ACPHS network. Networked printers are available in common areas, as are Internet ports and wireless access. Hardware and software support are provided by ACPHS-IT staff for students who participate in the ACPHS Tablet Program. Support is provided at the Support Center or through help desk.

## **ACCOMMODATIONS UNDER THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OR SECTION 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT**

Students at Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences who seek “reasonable accommodation” under the Americans with Disabilities Act or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act are responsible for notifying the Director of Counseling and Wellness of their disability. There is an established procedure and form to complete. This information can be found on the Center for Health and Wellness website on Blackboard under the “Accommodations” tab. Students requesting accommodations are encouraged to read this before meeting with or submitting materials to the Director of Counseling and Wellness. In brief, the student seeking accommodation must make a formal request for a reasonable accommodation. This request should be made in writing to the Director of Health and Wellness and should specify the nature of the accommodation being requested. While a student can request a particular type of accommodation, it is the College that determines how to meet a particular need. Therefore, alternative accommodations may be provided that are more cost-effective or efficient than those requested by the student seeking accommodation. Together with the request for accommodation, the student seeking accommodation must submit documentation of disability, which will be kept on file with the Director of Counseling and Wellness. Such documentation is subject to the provisions of the HIPAA Privacy and Security Rules (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act). The documentation must support the accommodation request by demonstrating by competent qualified opinion that the student requesting accommodation has a physical, mental or learning impairment that substantially limits a major life activity and sets forth the nature, manner and duration of that limitation. The College reserves the right to require further evaluation.

### **COUNSELING AND WELLNESS:** **ALBANY CAMPUS**

The Office of Counseling and Wellness at ACPHS is located on the second floor of the Student Center and offers wellness and mental health services to students and their families, as well as faculty and staff. Services include individual, group and family therapy for a variety of issues, including mood and anxiety disorders; adjustment and interpersonal problems; stress related difficulties; eating and substance abuse disorders; and many other concerns. These services are free, and all counseling, consultations and referrals are kept strictly confidential, in accordance with legal and professional guidelines. Full-time licensed clinicians staff the Center, and when clinically warranted, can coordinate admission to a local, or a student’s hometown, psychiatric center. They may be contacted directly by phone or e-mail, or appointments can be made through the confidential secretary/receptionist at 518.694.7107 or emailing [healthandwellness@acphs.edu](mailto:healthandwellness@acphs.edu). Contact information can be obtained by visiting the Counseling and Wellness site on Blackboard.

### **VERMONT CAMPUS**

Free and confidential counseling services are available for all eligible ACPHS students and are provided by the Fletcher Allen Health Care (FAHC) Employee Assistance Program (EAP). Services provided include initial assessment, counseling and referral. Crisis counseling is available when necessary, and unlimited telephone consultation is available. Students will be given timely appointments within 48 hours of the request. Should the need for services extend beyond the short term model of treatment, EAP can provide additional services using the student’s insurance or with the student paying out-of-pocket, or a referral can be made to an agency in the area. Counseling services will be provided on-site when hours are available or at offsite locations near the campus to include: Fanny Allen Hospital campus, 790 College Parkway, Rte. 15, Colchester and the University Health Center campus (UHC), 1 So. Prospect St., Burlington; 802-847-2827 or email [efap@vtmednet.org](mailto:efap@vtmednet.org).

# ACADEMIC SUPPORT SERVICES

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## **Services provided:**

Academic Advising  
Career Services  
Instructional Technology  
Library Services  
Peer Tutoring Program  
Science Assistance Center  
Teaching and Learning Effectiveness  
The Writing Center

## **ACADEMIC ADVISING**

Upon matriculation each ACPHS student is assigned an academic advisor, a faculty member who can help guide students through their academic career, including but not limited to appropriate course selection, research, and career and leadership opportunities. Students in years one through five are required to meet with their academic advisor at least once a semester to discuss these matters as well as academic progress, career interests, opportunities and referral to support services where appropriate. Students that enter the College as a first year student are also assigned to a professional advisor. As members of the Office of Student Affairs (OSA), these advising professionals can assist students specifically with first year student needs, such as: academic and personal goals and planning their educational career accordingly. These OSA advising professionals work closely with first year faculty and monitor student progress through the distribution of midterm grades. OSA professional advisors are also available to provide an additional layer of advising expertise and support to second year students. The Advising Program at Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences supports the Mission, Vision and Core Values of the College. The Advising Program is located in the Library Building.

## **CAREER SERVICES:**

Career Services supports the mission of Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences by providing instruction in career education, planning and development process. The Career Services staff maintains the philosophy and goals of the Office of Student Affairs, while working in tandem with stakeholders, including academic departments, alumni and employers, to offer students the best possible customer service. Career Services teaches the students of Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences the methods of career research that will empower them to develop life-long career planning and job search skills. Career Services are located in the Library Building.

## **INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY**

Instructional technology resources and staff, under the leadership of the Director of Instructional Technology, are located on the second floor in the Library Building on campus. The Instructional Technology team works with faculty to develop and implement creative ways of utilizing technology to support effective instruction. Based on sound educational theory, the goal of the Instructional Technology team is to optimize each faculty member as a subject matter expert and to promote and support technology integration into curriculum. Technological and pedagogical training and workshops are coordinated and conducted by the Instructional Technology team to provide opportunities in exploring the use of emerging instructional technologies and to facilitate their effective implementation. This includes courses of various delivery modes, such as face-to-face, hybrid, and distance courses. In addition to supporting faculty and courses, the team works to serve the educational needs of the entire College community through tutoring, workshops, trainings, and seminars. For more information please visit the Instructional Technology website on Blackboard.

## **LIBRARY SERVICES**

The Libraries on both campuses provide high quality resources, services and educational experiences to support the present and future information needs of the Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences community.

ACPHS Libraries support College educational and research activities by providing quality resources in a variety of formats. The physical collection consists of books, journals, microforms, compact discs, and DVDs. The library website is the portal to an extensive online collection of research databases, electronic books, electronic journals, and mobile applications. To support their research needs students may print, photocopy, fax, and scan in the libraries.

Pharmacy and pharmaceutical sciences represent a particular strength in the collection, with extensive resources dating from the 1800s to the present. Our archives and museum house documents and artifacts that preserve the rich history of the profession of pharmacy and the College.

Students and faculty have direct access to additional resources through our partnerships with other local academic institutions. We also provide access to materials from libraries worldwide through interlibrary loan services which are freely available to students and faculty. When off-campus, students and faculty can access online library resources through a proxy server. Print resources are provided through a document delivery service.

Professional librarians provide research assistance to students and faculty in person and via phone, email and instant messaging. Librarians plan and deliver formal instruction that develops skills needed to find, retrieve, analyze and ethically use information. These educational activities span the curricula, engage multiple learning styles, and occur in individual, group and online settings.

Both newly renovated libraries are wireless saturated and provide comfortable and engaging spaces with ample seating for both individual study and collaborative learning.

## **PEER TUTORING PROGRAM**

The Peer Tutoring Program provides academic assistance that encourages, promotes, and fosters students' independent learning skills. The program aims to provide quality assistance to all ACPHS undergraduate students at no direct cost to the student. Peer tutoring can be a highly effective adjunct in the learning process at ACPHS and is generally available for all of the core science and math courses offered at the College for most academic programs. Tutoring occurs in both individual and small group settings to emphasize the rich value of cooperative learning and reinforce time management skills. Tutors are current ACPHS students who have already taken the course, have been approved by a faculty member, and have received training. During the fall and spring semesters, Peer Tutoring is available beginning the second week of classes through the last day of class. Peer tutoring resources may be limited during ACPHS Summer Sessions. Individual peer tutor availability may vary based on demand. Peer tutoring opportunities are available on both the Albany and Vermont campuses. Distance education technology will be used to facilitate both the training and the delivery of tutoring services as needed. The Peer Tutoring Program's comprehensive training is certified as a Level 1 Training Program by the College Reading and Learning Association (CRLA), an international leader in learning assistance. For more program information, applications and a detailed Peer Tutoring Program schedule, please contact the Director of Academic Learning Services, e-mail [peertutoring@ACPHS.edu](mailto:peertutoring@ACPHS.edu) or visit the Blackboard Peer Tutoring Program website.

## **SCIENCE ASSISTANCE CENTER**

The Science Assistance Center provides students on the Albany campus with professional level academic services designed to support math and science courses offered by the Department of Arts and Sciences. These services, coordinated with course coordinators, include recitation sessions (group tutoring) and office hours (one-on-one tutoring). The complementary hours of the Science Assistance Center (primarily day) and peer tutoring (primarily evenings) provide students with unprecedented levels of science support beyond that which is provided by course instructors. The Science Assistance Center is located on the third floor of the Library Building.

## **TEACHING & LEARNING EFFECTIVENESS**

The Teaching and Learning Effectiveness (TLE) supports and fosters a culture of excellence and innovation in teaching and learning through collaboration and partnerships among and between all members of the ACPHS community (administration, faculty, staff, alumni and students). As part of its commitment to meeting the diverse needs of student learners and preparing them for the continuum of lifelong education, the TLE offers comprehensive services which help students grow academically, personally and professionally. In addition, the TLE provides practical instructional development opportunities for faculty, encourages a commitment to active learning pedagogies, supports innovative tools, technologies and learning models, and promotes the scholarship of teaching and learning. The TLE is located on the second floor of the Library Building on the Albany Campus.

## **WRITING CENTER**

The ACPHS Writing Center, located on the Albany Campus on the third floor of the Library Building, supports oral, written, and visual communication initiatives across the curriculum. Expert staff and student writing consultants are available for individual or small-group sessions on a wide variety of academic assignments or professional tasks, such as essays, literature reviews, lab reports, letters of application, resumes, seminar presentations, or speeches. The Center is open to all members of the College community, including students, faculty and staff.