Development of New Pharmacy Degrees from the Korea University’s Perspective

Sang-Eun Choi
(Assistant professor, Department of pharmacy)
Recent Changes in Korean Pharmacy Education

• Transition from 4-year to 6-year degree program
  – 2yr pre-pharmacy plus 4yr pharmacy program
  – New program includes 1-yr pharmacy practice experience based on internship or residency training

• 15 new pharmacy schools opened in 2011
  – Ratio of community pharmacy to population is higher than other OECD countries
  – Demand for industrial and clinical pharmacists is increasing
  – 1,351 pharmacists are producing from 35 pharmacy schools in 2015
Pharmacy Education

PAST

- Pharmacist License Examination
  - pharmacy(4th)
  - pharmacy(3rd)
  - pharmacy(2nd)
  - pharmacy(1st)

PRESENT

- Pharmacist License Examination
  - pharmacy(4th)
  - pharmacy(3rd)
  - pharmacy(2nd)
  - pharmacy(1st)

- Externship or Clerkship
- Undergraduate Admission
- Pharmacy Education Eligibility Test (PEET)

- Pre-pharmacy(2nd)
- Pre-pharmacy(1st)
Reasons for transformation

• Despite fast social changes, pharmacy education system has remained for around 60 years

• Large gap exists between social needs and the core competencies of pharmacists
  – Lack of the professional skills and training
  – Product knowledge rather than patient-centered practices and knowledge
  – Low patients’ satisfaction for pharmaceutical services
Goals of New Pharmacy Education

• Improve competencies of pharmacists to meet the global standards
• Produce qualified pharmacists having professional knowledge and practice skills
• Improve communication skill with health care professionals and patients

*Korea Association of Pharmacy Education
Guidelines for New Curriculum

- Meet social need for providing quality pharmacy service to public
- Combine scientific and professional courses with clinical orientation
- Include pharmacy practice experience in variety of settings: community pharmacies, hospitals, pharmaceutical companies, and government organizations
- Combine the common core components and college specific education

*Korea Association of Pharmacy Education*
Facts regarding College of Pharmacy in Korea University

• Location: Sejong Campus in Chungnam-Province
  – Sejong campus has another 4 colleges and 2 divisions
• Opened in 2011
• 29 students admitted in March 2011
• 9 professors and 5 affiliated professors
Location of Sejong Campus
## Facilities

| Research building | New building  
|-------------------|-------------------
|                   | (space 4,070m²)   |
| Lecture & Office building | Re-modeled building 1ˢᵗ FL.  
|                   | (space 1,293 m²)   |
Professors

Dean
Young-In Park
Molecular biology

Soon Hong Yuk
Physical pharmacy

Song-kyu Park
Pharmacology

Young Ho Jeon
Biochemistry

Kiho Lee
Pharmaceutical analysis

Sang-Eun Choi
Pharmaceutical economics and policy

YongwooJung
Pathophysiology

Youngju Byun
Medicinal chemistry

Eunhee Lee
Pharmaceutics
## Affiliated professors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Euiju Choi</th>
<th>Wonki Kim</th>
<th>Jungho Hong</th>
<th>Yongseok Choi</th>
<th>Dongho Lee</th>
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## Future plan for employing professors

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<th>2014</th>
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Pharmacy students

• 29 1st graders
College of Pharmacy in KU

• Educational goal
  – Nurture qualified pharmacists having professional knowledge and practice skill
  – Provide 4th grade students with pathway courses: clinical, industrial, administrative pharmacy, and pharmaceutical science
  – Develop students to be global leaders in all practice settings
Pharmacy Practice Education in KU

Exploratory practice experiences (3rd grade)

- Basic core practice experiences
- All pharmacy students take this course, and this helps students to choose their career directions.
- Experiences in several practice setting, including community pharmacy, hospital pharmacy, and industrial and administrative institutions, are provided.

Pathway courses based on internship or Externship (4th grade)

- Advanced practice experiences
- Various pathway courses are provided
  - Clinical pharmacists track
  - Pharmaceutical science research track
  - Industrial pharmacists track
  - Administrative pharmacists track
# KU undergraduate curriculum

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<th>1st Semester</th>
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<th>Credit</th>
<th>2nd</th>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>3rd</th>
<th>Credit</th>
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<td><strong>31 (63)</strong></td>
<td><strong>35 (98)</strong></td>
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Challenges

• Develop undergraduate-connected graduate program
  – Bachelor-master/bachelor-Ph.D program
• Build infrastructure for pharmacy practice experiences
  – Networking with training sites and instructors, and developing in-house facilities
  – Mobilizing resources: funds, manpower, and knowledge
• Induce to cooperate with other colleges in KU
• Increase number of pharmacy students
• Meet the local needs: continuous education and opportunities of research collaboration
Thank you
(http://pharm.korea.ac.kr/)