# Preparing for Midyear: Tips and Tricks

#### Residency Club October 28, 2015





uwhealth.org

- At this point, what can 3<sup>rd</sup> years do at Midyear? Are there benefits to going?
  - Who here is considering attending midyear as DPH-3s?
  - What are your thoughts on the pros and cons?



### **Interview Timeline**

- May September: Research and CV Preparation
- October: PPS\*, Midyear, PhorCAS, and Match registration\*
- November December: Midyear and PPS
- January February: Application and On-site Interviews



What are the best ways to prepare as a 3<sup>rd</sup> year/4<sup>th</sup> year? (business cards, resume?)



### Research

- Helpful Links
  - ASHP Online Residency Directory (<u>www.ashp.org</u>)
  - ACCP Directory of Residencies and Fellowships (<u>www.accp.com</u>)
  - APhA Directory of Pharmacy Practice Residencies with Emphasis in Community Care Pharmacy (www.pharmacist.com)
  - PSW Wisconsin Residencies (<u>http://www.pswi.org/professional/residencies/</u>)



# **CV** Update

- Helpful Tips
  - Proofread!
    - Peers, mentors, professors, pharmacists, nonpharmacists
  - ASHP: http://www.ashp.org/CVReview
  - UW Writing Center: <u>http://www.writing.wisc.edu/Handbook/index.html</u>
  - Purdue OWL: <u>https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/641/01/</u>



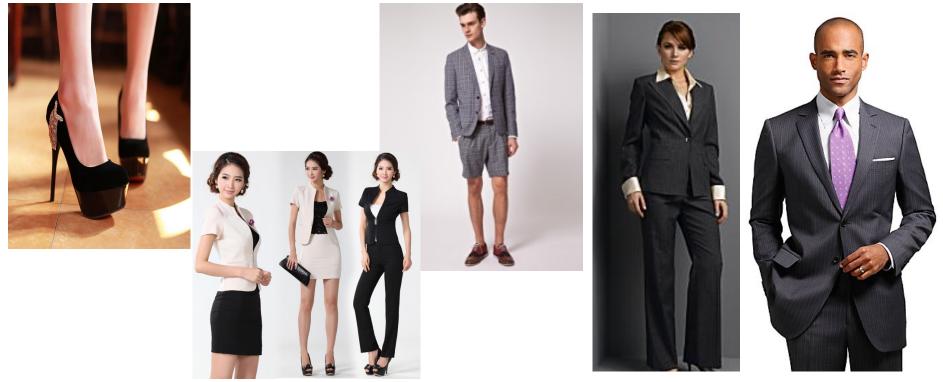
# **CV** Update

- Helpful Tips
  - Place contents in table for best alignment
  - Avoid section hangover
  - Use page numbers and headers
  - Appropriate use of **BOLD** *Italics* and <u>Underline</u>
  - Font choice and size: Easy to read
  - Quality paper with classic colors



### **Purchase Attire**

- Classic Colors: black, gray, navy
- Dress conservatively, business professional
- Women: slacks or skirts (with pantyhose)
- Men: no white socks



# Midyear

#### Helpful Tips

- Portfolio to include: CV, business cards, notebook paper
- Quick fact guide for all programs of interest
- Standard and specific questions for program directors and residents
- Personalized itinerary
- List of resident names/directors/preceptors for programs
- Midyear is a continuous interview\*\*\*



### **Be Prepared**

- Be ready to discuss "your story"
  - Reason for pursuing residency
  - Reason for becoming a pharmacist
  - Reason for pursing a specialty program (if applicable)
  - Reason for interest in site (be specific!)
- List of questions in portfolio
  - DO NOT ASK QUESTIONS FOUND ON WEBSITE
- Copies of CV (Hard and Electronic)
- Business Cards



Who should we talk to and what questions should we ask?



# **Portfolio Questions**

- Director/Preceptor Specific
  - What do you expect from a PGY1 resident?
  - What do you feel are the strengths of this program?
  - Review director/preceptor past publications/articles
  - Understand your interest area thoroughly
    - Ex. Infectious Disease Interest: Recent guideline updates
    - Ex. Hospital Administration Interest: Future of the profession



# **Portfolio Questions**

- Resident Specific
  - What is your current PGY1 project?
  - If you went through the residency application process all over again, would you select this program?
  - What do you feel are the strengths of this program?
  - What are your top 3 goals for residency?
  - Has this program prepared you to take BCPS?



### **Typical Candidate Evaluation Criteria**

- Prior pharmacy/other work experience
- Academic background/GPA
- Relevant rotations inpatient, ambulatory, etc.
- Motivation/Initiative/Adaptability/Enthusiasm
- Personal style maturity, appearance, confidence, teamwork potential, self-reliance, fit with department



### **Typical Candidate Evaluation Criteria**

- Communication skills verbal and written
- Leadership/Extracurricular activities
- Residency & career goals/residency program fit
- Presentations/Research
- Letters of recommendation
- Letter of interest
- Questions asked by candidate number, insight, relevance



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- What is the culture like at Midyear? Is there a lot of interaction with other students?
  - Networking
  - Professional
  - Big
  - Party



When is the best time to go to the residency showcase as 3<sup>rd</sup> years without stepping on 4<sup>th</sup> years toes?



Are there any differences between showcases from day-to-day? When is the best time to go?



Is there any benefit to talking to in-state residency (i.e. Wisconsin) or should you focus on out-ofstate?



What activities are best to participate in?



 Is there anything special we should know about NO (2015) or Las Vegas (2016)?



What are some ways to minimize costs for travel, hotel, food?



 If you do go as a 3<sup>rd</sup> year is there a point in going 4<sup>th</sup> year?



# Summary

- Do your research prior to interviewing
- Be prepared, timely, and courteous
- Ask questions
- Follow-up with a thank you note
- Have fun!

