

POP topics

Newsletter from the University of Florida Online
Pharmaceutical Outcomes & Policy Program

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Employer Partnerships

If you're an employer seeking ways to improve employee skills, partner with us! The Online POP Graduate Program Employee Partnership Program offers tuition discounts to employers sending multiple individuals for distance education. Contact [Heather Steingraber](#).

Current Partners

We currently offer the following member benefits*:



Members receive **50% off** their first and last course.



New for Fall 2019! Members receive **50% off** their first and last course.



Earn **six credit** hours toward the program upon completion of ASHP Foundation's Pharmacy Leadership Academy.

*M.S. program only



David E. Wamble, Ph.D., M.S.
Director, Health Economics
RTI Health Solutions

Alumni Interview: David E. Wamble, Ph.D., M.S.

In this issue of POP Topics, we interview Dr. David Wamble, a health economist who shares how he overcame the challenge of taking the first step of committing to an online graduate program, and then he didn't stop until he had his Ph.D. Dr. Wamble received his M.S. degree from the UF POP program with a specialty focus in Applied Pharmacoeconomics in 2011.

Alumni Interview with David Wamble, Ph.D., M.S.

Current job title:

Director, Health Economics - Value Insight and Access Strategy; Previous position: Director of Business Development RTI Health Systems
Research Triangle Park, NC

Jobs held during graduate school:

Brand Manager, mid-size pharma (M.S. Program)
Research Analyst, pharma pricing consulting company (Ph.D. program)

3 words you would use to describe the UF Online POP Graduate Program:

Robust, practical, high-quality

Why did you choose this program?

I chose the UF program based on the curriculum design and faculty specifically focused on managed markets and pharmacoconomics. What really stood out to me was the caliber of faculty in this program. It is really rare to have this level of instruction from a number of truly recognized experts in the field. I was able to take classes from all-star faculty members like Drs. Karen Rascati, Dan Malone, Kem Krueger, Bill Fassett, Jay Weaver, Almut Winterstein, and others. This is simply not feasible with other programs. This was a key differentiator for me.

Favorite class:

It's hard to choose! There were two classes that I thoroughly enjoyed: Pharmaco-economic Modeling and Pharmacy Benefit Design & Management. In addition, the [on-campus Seminars](#) were outstanding and very unique for an online program. The program had such excellent content and speakers that I always walked away from the seminars wanting to learn more.

Most challenging project or class?

As a non-traditional student with a young family, it was challenging to set aside time to attend classes and do the work on top of your normal job and responsibilities. Looking back though, the program is designed with these challenges in mind. The faculty are very aware that most students are non-traditional students and working professionals. Many master's programs are not designed for non-traditional students and certainly not an easy fit for working professionals. That's not the case at Florida.

“Hands down some of the best professors possible!”

— David Wamble, Ph.D., M.S.



Alumni Interview with David Wamble, Ph.D., M.S. (cont.)

Can students really balance work, life, graduate school?

Not only can they, but it will likely enhance your current role. The applied real-world knowledge, professional networks, and higher-level thinking you gain from the UF POP program is well-worth the extra hours you put into the two-year program.

Final words of advice?

The first step is hardest of all, particularly for working professionals. But I can tell you that the two-year program goes by very quickly and the knowledge gained is more than worth the work. It is a special program and your experience can open so many new opportunities for your career. I highly encourage prospective students to take the challenge.

Read David’s publications, including these recently-published articles on PubMed:

- [“What’s Been The Bang For The Buck? Cost-Effectiveness of Health Care Spending Across Selected Conditions in the US”](#)
- [“Barriers and Solutions to the Inclusion of Broader Benefits in Biopharmaceutical Value Assessments”](#)



David spending time with his sons, Dout (11) and JD (10)

Join our next webinar: Feb. 19

Join Pharmaceutical Outcomes & Policy faculty and staff for an [informational webinar](#).

The Feb. 19 event features an alumni panel and includes Dr. David Wamble. [Sign up now](#).



“The applied pharmacoeconomics track was uniquely aligned with my interest in managed markets, pricing and value.”

— David Wamble, Ph.D., M.S.

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Specialty tracks:

Applied Pharmacoeconomics

Managed Care Pharmacy Systems

Patient Safety in Medication Use

Pharmaceutical Regulation



“Academic rigor with
real-world application.”



Join our new LinkedIn Group:
University of Florida Online POP Alumni
<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/12151395/>



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