

Employer Partnerships

Is your company looking for educational partners? Are you a member of a professional organization that encourages and subsidizes educational opportunities? Consider a formal partnership with the Online POP program. Contact Laura Happe at lhappe@cop.ufl.edu for more information.

Tuition Savings

We've partnered with these groups to offer you tuition savings and professional*:



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



New for Spring 2021! 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



Alan Polnariev, Pharm.D., M.S., Senior Medical Liaison, Astra Zeneca

Interview with Alan Polnariev, Pharm.D., M.S.

In this issue of POPtopics, we interview Alan Polnariev, who successfully transitioned from clinical pharmacy to industry upon completing the Online POP program.

Job title:

Senior Medical Liaison, Astra Zeneca

Graduation date and track:

2011, Patient Safety in Medication Use

Job held during graduate school:

Clinical Pharmacist, Veteran Affairs

Interview with Alan Polnariev, Pharm.D., M.S. (cont.)

3 words to describe the UF Online POP graduate program:

Flexible, enriching, engaging

Why did you choose this specific graduate program?

When I first read the list of requirements outlined in the program and all the courses that I would be able to take to get the degree sounded interesting, I knew that this was the program for me!

How did you choose your specialty track, patient safety?

As a clinical pharmacist, I was keenly aware of the importance of patient-centric considerations such as providing affordable access to care, safety, quality of care and patient-reported outcomes and complementing the aforementioned with policies that make quality healthcare available to the masses in a fair and balanced manner.

Can students really balance work, life and graduate school?

With efficient time prioritization and the flexibility of the program, I found that the coursework was very manageable, and I still found ample time to devote to other obligations in my life, like my family.

What was your most challenging project of class?

The comprehensive final exam at the end of the program was the most daunting aspect of the experience. However, with sufficient time devoted to reviewing the coursework I held on to throughout the program, the exam itself proved to be very reasonable and fair.

“I found that the coursework was very manageable and I still found ample time to devote to other obligations in my life”

—Alan Polnariev



Polnariev mountain climbing Fox Glacier in New Zealand



Polnariev donating food packages to families for Thanksgiving

“I became not only a more competitive prospect for the position I applied for, but also a more refined and developed professional.”

—Alan Polnariev



Interview with Alan Polnariev, Pharm.D., M.S. (cont.)

What stood out about Seminar Weekend?

It was fun to see and meet familiar names from my classes in person. It helped me build even greater rapport with colleagues, and I have maintained some of those relationships to this day and consider many to be close friends.

What career opportunities have occurred because of this degree?

My extensive background in Pharmaceutical Outcomes & Policy paved the way for new projects, professional connections and to help facilitate my transition from clinical pharmacy to a medical science liaison in the pharmaceutical industry.

How do you position your specialty track to be valuable to your employer?

I have a solid grasp of the mechanics of healthcare from a multitude of perspectives; this reflects my expertise in the impact of policies on pharmaceutical products/technologies and pharmacy services across many different types of healthcare systems.

Final words of advice?

I am enormously grateful for the opportunities that the program has afforded me. I became not only a more competitive prospect for the position I applied for, but also a more refined and developed professional.

POP topics

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

Specialty tracks:

Applied Pharmacoeconomics

Managed Care Pharmacy Systems

Medication Safety and Quality Systems

Pharmaceutical Regulation



**“Academic rigor with
real-world application.”**

The Patient Safety in Medication Use track was recently renamed to more accurately reflect the current scope of work in this field – Medication Safety and Quality Systems.

Are you an alumni who would like to be more involved in the online UF POP program to provide guidance, participate in events, or help recruit prospective students?

Fill out our form: <https://onlinepop.pharmacy.ufl.edu/alumni/#form>



Join 250+ of fellow alumni on LinkedIn:

University of Florida Online POP Alumni
<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/12151395/>



College of Pharmacy

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