

Undergraduate Health Professions Department

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Affirmation

The Undergraduate Health Professions (UHP) Department is a part of the College of Allied Health Sciences (CAHS) at Augusta University (AU). UHP is an interdisciplinary department housing 7 programs (clinical laboratory sciences, dental hygiene, health information administration, health services, nuclear medicine technology, radiation therapy, and respiratory therapy) that equally contribute to healthcare outcomes. UHP maintains the highest quality and standards for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI), which is evidenced in both the faculty and student culture.

The UHP department feels the key to inclusion success begins with our student recruitment efforts. Our faculty and staff regularly present at career events and participate in recruiting events, which are broad scope in practice and purposely include all schools in the region, as well as multiple schools statewide, to encourage a student body representative of a multicultural composition. Faculty recruitment efforts try to take advantage of the healthcare professional organizational career portals, the University System of Georgia position announcements, and word of mouth to seek qualified professionals who demonstrate a philosophy of multicultural inclusivity.

Faculty are encouraged and expected to deliver inclusive, unique, and equitable classroom experiences. To assist in personal development, Augusta University affords faculty opportunities, access, and encouragement to strengthen their career trajectory and enhance life experiences. Personal growth and development of the faculty broaden awareness, identity, and talent, which translates into stronger student-teacher relationships and well-developed instruction.

Through well-developed instructional teaching methods, scholarships, grants, and research opportunities, as well as extracurricular activities such as student government, clubs, and societies, our students are given the opportunity to acquire knowledge and skills in leadership and critical thinking that will allow them to become productive members of the global healthcare community.

This cycle of enhancing faculty to enhance student outcomes to improve our community provides the framework for a total quality environment. The UHP department DEI philosophy, as practiced, demonstrates and encourages diversity, equity, and inclusion throughout our faculty and student body with regard to race, ethnicity, gender, age, mental and physical health disparities, and abilities. We use this philosophy in recruiting, practicing, teaching, and applying our healthcare knowledge to improve our micro and macro communities.

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