

# IPAC Program Description

## Name of Program

Health Professions Advisory Committee (HPAC)

## Owner

Jim MacKenzie  
HPAC Chair

## Brief Description of the Program

The SUNY Oswego Health Professions Advisory Committee (HPAC) provides support for pre-health students as they progress through this phase of their education.

## Interdisciplinary Nature of the Program

As medicine is inherently an interdisciplinary profession which requires significant skills in human interaction and understanding, a proper pre-health undergraduate education requires both a strong foundation in liberal arts and a strong science preparation. Patients are best served by practitioners who are well grounded in the liberal arts, social sciences, physical sciences, and the natural sciences. SUNY Oswego offers a range of undergraduate majors that students can study in order to obtain the necessary prerequisites for admission into health science programs including Physician (MD/DO), Physician's Assistant, Dentistry, Physical Therapy, Veterinary Medicine, and many more. Because professional health-science training programs are looking for students who are intelligent and well-rounded, and not students with a particular major, students should choose a major in an area that they find the most interesting. If that major does not contain all of the requirements for a particular health-training program, students should make sure that they take those other courses as well. The majors could be from the Humanities (Sociology, Psychology, Philosophy, Literature, etc.), Natural Sciences (Biochemistry, Biology, Zoology, etc.), Physical Sciences (Chemistry, Math, Physics), the School of Education (Wellness Management), or the School of Business.

## Relationship to Interdisciplinarity at Oswego

Students from majors across campus are preparing for applying to and attending health-training programs. As such, HPAC offers a centralized resource to aid students as they work towards their goals. HPAC consists of faculty and staff from numerous academic departments in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the School of Education as well as Admissions and the COMPASS.

## **IPAC Support**

We use the IPAC conference room for HPAC committee meetings and student internship meetings.

HPAC also relies on IPAC secretarial support. This mainly includes coordinating student application materials for letters of recommendation and the Freund Award, scheduling HPAC meetings and events, and providing logistical support for the Health Care Careers Conference in the Spring.

## **Relevant Dates**

Each year ...

- Fall - Open House trip to SUNY Upstate
- Spring (Tuesday the week before Spring Break) - SUNY Oswego Health Care Careers Conference
- Spring - Open House trips to Cornell Veterinary College and New York Chiropractic College
- Spring - due date for students to submit materials for the committee letter of recommendation and/or Freund Award.