AACP REPORT

Report of the 2017-2018 Student Affairs Standing Committee

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY. The 2017-2018 American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) Student Affairs Standing Committee addressed charges related to student wellness and resilience and identified ways where AACP can assist member organizations to build positive wellbeing in students. The Committee report provides nine recommendations to AACP, three suggestions for colleges and schools of pharmacy, and one proposed policy statement related to student wellness and resilience. The report focuses on themes of consequences of burnout and declining resilience, culture shift around wellness, creating community around times of grief, partnerships with member organizations to create campus cultures that promote overall well-being and strategies to help students to manage stress in healthy ways. Committee members challenge AACP, and other professional organizations, to include the student voice when future programs and strategies are developed. Finally, this report provides future recommendations for the Student Affairs Standing Committee.

KEY TERMS: Student Affairs, Student Wellness, Resilience, Stress Management

INTRODUCTION AND COMMITTEE CHARGES

This standing committee, in accordance with the Association Bylaws, received charges from the Association President.1 President Scott, during his president-elect speech talked about the “WHY” of pharmacy education and challenged members to put the emphasis of discussions around the “WHY”/student which will drive the “WHAT” and “HOW” of education. As a result, President Scott changed the composition of the Student Affairs Standing Committee by adding a student pharmacist to contribute a student perspective to the discussions.2 Members of the committee considered the work of the previous year and reflected on President Scott’s vision to keep students as the focus of our education systems. Four charges related to student wellness emerged as a result:

1. Identify factors contributing to declining student resilience.
2. Identify best strategies and practices on campuses promoting a positive wellbeing.
3. Identify best strategies and practices on campuses for working with students experiencing negative wellbeing.
4. Identify best strategies and practices on campuses for managing stress in healthy ways.

Members of the 2017-2018 committee focused on the perceived decline in the overall wellness and resilience of students, and wrestled with best methods to support them.3 A growing body of pharmacy literature identifies student stress levels, stressors and therapeutic interventions. Overall, student stress levels, wellbeing and perceived quality of life have been identified as negative predictors of success and may impair a student’s ability to learn.5 6 7 Similar findings have been reported in medical, nursing and dentistry literature.8 9 10 Members of the committee considered the work of the previous year and reflected on President Scott’s vision to keep students as the focus of our education systems. Four charges related to student wellness emerged as a result:
4. Suggest initiatives AACP might take to assist its member institutions to increase awareness of key issues and enhance student wellbeing.

Committee members were convened at the October 2017 Business Meeting to discuss the charges and identify next steps to accomplish them. A background literature search was completed on the topics of resilience and wellness in advance. Extensive discussions about overall wellness, contributing factors, and the level of resilience among student pharmacists occurred over the day. Members recognized that the culture of pharmacy education may be at odds with the wellbeing of students. Wellbeing is a concern for employers and organizations worldwide, including universities and health-systems that are dedicated to researching and cultivating cultures of wellness. Discussions progressed to the “WHY” pharmacy educators should address the wellbeing of students. Questions, such as how faculty and staff could promote a culture shift within our education system, resulted. Members of the Student Affairs and Academic Affairs Committees met briefly during the day and learned that each had independently identified a similar need for a culture shift in academic pharmacy. The two committees agreed to collaborate on the development of a preamble addressing the needed culture shift within pharmacy education and academic affairs for both reports.

Discussions about resilience and its association with overall wellbeing of our students resulted in a brainstorming about factors that likely increase and decrease student resilience. Factors were subsequently grouped in two categories: intrinsic (internal) and extrinsic (external) factors. These factors will be described in more detail throughout the following pages.

This report, which addresses all committee charges, is divided into three sections. The first section addresses declining student resilience, the second addresses negative wellbeing and the third addresses positive wellbeing. Included within each section are recommendations to the Association and member organizations that align with charge four. Due to the overall inter-linkage between the charges, several recommendations apply to more than one charge.

**CHARGE 1: DECLINING STUDENT RESILIENCE**

Gray (2015) notes that we have “…raised needy college students who are unable to manage the everyday bumps in the road of life [and] faculty members…struggle to teach and assess them.” The committee postulates that different intrinsic and extrinsic factors have led to coping incapabilities within this generation. Students are extrinsically exposed to information and technology with little emphasis on intrinsic reflection or processing in their personal lives. Members theorized that this has led to underdeveloped coping capabilities during stressful situations like those routinely experienced in the rigorous academic settings of pharmacy school. There are many theories surrounding the topic of declining student resilience described in the literature. Stressful triggers identified for student pharmacists can be rigorous academic demands, family pressures, financial burdens, poor time management skills, exposure to death on rotations, personal matters outside of school, and ill-prepared faculty and preceptors. There are questions and possible further limitations on how or if resilience can be addressed successfully in an academic setting.

The Committee discussed the lack of a centralized resource repository that pharmacy administrators, faculty, staff, and students could access when promoting a culture of wellbeing in pharmacy. Although various techniques, programs, websites, and resources were mentioned and briefly discussed during meetings, a review of the literature and online resources confirmed that there is no individual, comprehensive tool or resource that supports wellbeing within pharmacy education. However, many other resources exist that can be applied to pharmacy (Appendices I and II).

The Committee discussed the need to determine and implement best practices to address declining student resilience. There is little evidence-based research or descriptions of best practices in the literature pertaining to health professional training and none outlining resilience or related topics in pharmacy training specifically. However, Dr. Barbara Fredrickson’s work around the “broaden-and-build” theory which supplements Martin Seligman’s work in positive psychology has had a major influence in understanding resiliency. Dr. Seligman’s work shows positive emotions have inherent value for human growth and broaden “people’s thought-action repertoires,” which then serves to build their life-long personal, physical, intellectual, social and psychological resources. Dr. Fredrickson’s work (and the work of many others) suggest that the capacity to experience positive emotions may be a fundamental human strength central to the study of coping and survival, optimizing health and wellbeing and human flourishing. The broaden-and-build theory suggests that positive emotions can effect cognitive and behavioral skills that build coping skills and positive mental health. The research and educational programs available at the University of Pennsylvania and University of North Carolina are good resources that provide coping skills to enhance positive mental health.

While we had one student voice on our committee, we recognized more background information from the
clearly outlined 22 and reference two recent publications...Dr. Abramowitz, ASHP's CEO, these activities are more...within the profession of pharmacy. In a recent statement by...Collaborative on Clinician Wellbeing and Resilience. Pharmacy is currently being represented by the American...similar concerns within its membership and has adopted...efforts to reduce mental health stigma that support the “inclusion and expansion of mental health education and training in the curriculum of all schools and colleges of pharmacy and post-graduate education).16 While partnering with APhA-ASP and other student organizations is important, a concern was raised as to how to identify the needs of less involved students. Potentially, these are some of the most at-risk students so there must be diligence placed on identifying their needs as well. As progress is made to identify student needs, a concerted effort needs to be made to hear voices of various types of students from a variety of schools/colleges of pharmacy and professional organizations. Activities such as focus groups, interviews, and panel discussions could be utilized to help give voice to students’ needs and identify approaches to supporting their wellbeing.

APhA-ASP is not the only professional organization to have policy statements related to resilience and mental health. Other examples include the Association of American Medical Colleges,17 American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine18 and the American Dental Education Association.19 In addition to these organizations, the National Academy of Medicine (NAM), formerly the Institute of Medicine, has created an Action Collaborative on Clinician Well-Being and Resilience that has over 50 core partner organizations and a network of 80 more that represent all sectors of healthcare and a wide variety of clinicians.20 They are working together to address the challenges currently facing healthcare related to clinician and trainee wellness and resilience.21 Pharmacy is currently being represented by the American Society for Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP).

ASHP, like APhA-ASP, could effectively collaborate with AACP to address this overarching theme of declining resilience. It has oversight of pharmacy residency training and also represents a large cohort of pharmacy practitioners, as well as its position on the NAM Action Collaborative on Clinician Wellbeing and Resilience. Over the last year, ASHP has launched multiple initiatives aimed at helping open discussion around resilience within the profession of pharmacy. In a recent statement by Dr. Abramowitz, ASHP’s CEO, these activities are more clearly outlined22 and reference two recent publications on the topic around burnout and stress among pharmacy residents.23 24 In addition to its activities, ASHP has included a goal within its strategic plan to “improve patient care by enhancing the well-being and resilience of pharmacists, student pharmacists and pharmacy technicians.”25 While the decline in resilience is a current challenge for schools and colleges of pharmacy, it is a challenge for post-graduate and residency training programs as well as the profession of pharmacy at large.

AACP should collaborate across organizations to aid faculty, preceptors, students and staff to address declining resilience and promote self-care.26

POLICY STATEMENT

AACP believes that all administrators, faculty, staff, preceptors, student pharmacists and alumni should contribute to a culture of wellness and resilience in pharmacy education.

RECOMMENDATION 1

AACP should write an Organizational Commitment Statement to be shared with the National Academy of Medicine regarding its plans to help reverse clinician burnout and promote clinician wellbeing.

RECOMMENDATION 2

AACP should open a formal discussion with APhA-ASP leadership and other interested parties to include the student voice and to promote a positive culture of well-being within pharmacy.

RECOMMENDATION 3

AACP should continue to feature the topic of wellness and resilience in the Academic Fellows program.

CHARGE 3: ADDRESSING NEGATIVE STUDENT WELLBEING

During our in person meeting, the committee spent time discussing overall student wellness with time dedicated to declining mental health, and negative wellbeing. Pharmacy specific statistics are lacking on the rates of depression, anxiety or other mental health illnesses however, national data highlights young adults are experiencing mental health illnesses at a rate of 22.1% (ages 18-25) and 21.1% (ages 26-49). These age groups encompass the majority of our student body.27 28 Additionally, the 2016 annual survey of the Association for University and College Counseling Centers Directors (AUCCD), an international organization comprised of over 800 members, found rates of anxiety (50.6%) followed closely by depression (41.2%) are predominant and increasing concerns among college students. Suicidal ideation (20.5%) with reports of overall suicide attempts and death by suicide were also reported. The AUCCD reported death by suicide numbers were higher in students who were not...
engaged in counseling services provided by AUCCD members. This same report identified that of the students who seek services, on average 26.5% take psychotropic medications.\(^4^5\) To further emphasize the growing concern, data reported for medical trainees (students and residents), identify rates for burnout and depression in this cohort to be are higher than peers pursuing other careers. In addition, mental health among this group may decline as training progresses.\(^8\) 29 30 31 32 33 34

As with medical students, student pharmacists are driven, competitive individuals who are able to pursue many years of intense education. Another connection among these learners is the internal drive for perfection. Henning and colleagues investigated perfectionism and imposter syndrome (IS) in health profession students (dental, medicine, nursing and pharmacy). Their study revealed all groups had high rates of self-prescribed perfectionism however, student pharmacists felt a more socially prescribed need for perfectionism than the other health professions studied (P<0.05), with 50% scoring in the high range in psychological stress. Henning et al also studied IS in this cohort and found it had a significant impact on psychological distress and 30% of the overall cohort of health profession students were in the clinical range for IS.\(^3^5\) It has been previously identified that IS or imposter phenomenon is associated with higher rates of depression and anxiety.\(^3^6\) A recent study by Villowck and colleagues within medical students identified a correlation between IS and various components of burnout (exhaustion, cynicism, emotional exhaustion and depersonalization) as well as a correlation between IS and female gender.\(^3^7\) A previous study by Oriel and colleagues confirms the finding of IS and gender connection IS is documented in student pharmacists and may contribute to their rates of burnout, given the similarities in personality traits between medical and pharmacy students.\(^3^8\)

Burnout is commonly defined as a syndrome characterized by emotional exhaustion, depersonalization and diminished feelings of personal accomplishment.\(^2^2\) Burnout can often mimic or be associated with depression as it can result in insomnia, irritability, struggles to concentrate and feelings of “going through the motions.”\(^3^9\) A link between burnout and wellbeing is documented within education and medicinal literature.\(^4^0 4^1\) There is also a large ongoing discussion and growing body of literature around burnout within healthcare professionals particularly physicians and nurses.\(^2^2\) There is a disturbing connection between burnout and death by suicide within medicine however; this could be extrapolated to others who experience burnout.\(^4^2\) Lastly, there is a documented connection between burnout and patient safety, which is why the topic is now a priority for NAM to identify ways of addressing physicians’/health professionals’ wellbeing.\(^2^1\) Along with the data for IS within student pharmacists, there is a small body of pharmacy literature that has identified rates of burnout among pharmacy practice faculty and has compared burnout between students at distance versus main campus locations.\(^4^3 4^4\)

While there might be a lack of data related to burnout, IS and declining mental health in student pharmacists, there is anecdotal data to suggest that pharmacy has the same challenges. A tragic consequence of declining resilience and negative wellbeing among students is the unnecessary loss of life that can result.\(^4^5\) In the six months that our committee has been actively working together, two member schools represented on this committee lost a student pharmacist to death by suicide. While there is currently no mechanism to track the number of student suicides across pharmacy institutions, subjective evidence suggests they are sadly not uncommon occurrences. The urgency of the recommendations posed within this report is underscored by the loss of life experienced by too many in the academic pharmacy community.

**RECOMMENDATION 4**

AACP, along with member institutions, should begin a conversation (including students) to explore the stigma around the mental health and suicide of students, staff, and faculty.

**SUGGESTION 1**

Colleges and schools of pharmacy should encourage faculty and staff to be transparent in sharing their personal stories relative to coping with stress, anxiety, external pressures, and mental illness.

**CHARGE 2: PROMOTING POSITIVE STUDENT WELLBEING**

Given the intrinsic and extrinsic factors that can influence wellbeing as reflected in NAMs concept model around factors influencing clinician resilience and well-being, there needs to be a multipronged approach to promoting positive wellbeing in students that includes individual and system initiatives.\(^2^2\) Additionally, Surgeon General Vivek Murthy has been an advocate for creating a culture around positive wellbeing for physicians given the detrimental effects that its absence has on patient care and the healthcare industry.\(^4^6\) He is quoted as saying: “We must also create a culture where discussing and prioritizing emotional well-being are not seen as signs of weakness.” Pharmacy accreditation standards also include guidance around providing wellness education to patients.\(^4^7\) Our committee discussed what some
methods are for creating a culture of wellness and teaching our students about positive wellbeing within the curricular constraints we all face.

Looking outside the profession of pharmacy, we find many other sectors such as education, medicine, and business that are working to create system-wide approaches to promoting and building positive wellbeing for their employees or users. As an example, corporate America has recognized the benefits of supporting/providing resiliency skills, particularly yoga, meditation, and mindfulness for its own employees. Google created an employee program called Search Inside Yourself, which uses researched and proven techniques to build or enhance mindfulness and emotional intelligence. This program proved so successful within the company that Google is now offering this program to companies and institutions globally. The University of Massachusetts School of Medicine has established a similar Center of Mindfulness in Medicine, Health Care, and Society to “explore, understand, articulate and further mindfulness in the lives of individuals, organizations and communities.”49 Mindfulness and meditation have been found to promote better retention of knowledge, change neuronal pathways in the brain, and decrease stress and anxiety.50 51 52 While this literature is not pharmacy-specific, it is applicable to pharmacy education and practice settings. The committee was pleased to learn that the fall 2018 AACP Institute would focus on the topic of wellbeing and mindfulness among students and faculty to facilitate a shift in the culture of pharmacy education.

Given the strong connection with positive wellbeing and positive mental health, there was also discussion around the mental health needs of our students. Research has shown that in order to successfully address students’ mental health needs on college campuses, administrators should provide outreach campaigns to educate faculty, staff and preceptors on mental health, make available mental health resources on campus known, and have adequate campus counseling services.53 54 In addition, national higher education stakeholders have identified the need to train professionals and students on recognizing the signs and symptoms of negative wellbeing, implement assessments and activities to identify individuals with negative wellbeing, and decrease the stigma related to mental health.55 56 57 58

Gatekeeper-trainings are intended to educate and train individuals on recognizing the signs and symptoms of stress, and respond to individuals that may be dealing with a mental health issue. Such trainings have been shown to have positive outcomes on participants’ self-evaluation and confidence.59 60 One such training is Mental Health First Aid, which was utilized with pharmacy students at the University of Sydney.61 It was discovered that students trained in this program demonstrated reduced stigmatizing attitudes associated with mental illness, recognized mental illness more readily, and felt more confident in interacting with patients with mental health issues in the clinical setting.30 This understanding is important as pharmacists are the most accessible healthcare providers and are assisting mental health patients with their medications and treatment regimens.

Similar programs assist in the recognition of individuals dealing with mental health issues and promote outreach to them. Data suggests that the majority of college students with mental health issues do not receive appropriate treatment.29 62 Colleges and schools of pharmacy should institute efforts that remove barriers and encourage students to participate in mental health wellness programs.

To this end, the committee discussed many ways of creating programming for students, faculty and preceptors that equip them with strategies for promoting positive wellbeing in their learners, as well as themselves.63 This committee has also created a set of appendices to help schools and/or colleges of pharmacy in their efforts to develop programming around positive wellbeing.

RECOMMENDATION 5

AACP should develop programming and resources to assist schools in developing activities and tools to help students and faculty successfully integrate self-awareness, self-care, wellbeing, and resilience as part of professional development.

RECOMMENDATION 6

The AACP Board of Directors should form a task force to create a white paper on the topic of wellness and resilience and to build related core competencies.

RECOMMENDATION 7

AACP should collaborate with other appropriate organizations to train faculty, staff, preceptors, and other practitioners to embrace and teach self-care practices.

SUGGESTION 2

Faculty, students, preceptors, and staff in colleges and schools of pharmacy should focus on learner self-reflection and self-discovery to promote a culture of wellbeing for themselves and their institution.

RECOMMENDATION 8

AACP should partner with other organizations to provide regional training sessions on the topic of wellness and resilience for colleges and schools of pharmacy.
RECOMMENDATION 9

The 2019 AACP Teachers Seminar should focus on the theme of wellness and resilience.

SUGGESTION 3

Colleges and schools of pharmacy should review their curricula to ensure the successful integration of self-awareness, self-care, wellbeing, and resilience into the CORE curriculum.

CONCLUSION (or CALL TO ACTION)

This committee has made headway in starting discussions and collaborations around the topic of student wellness and resilience. There has been a focus placed on the “WHY”/student, and more needs to be done to capture their voice in future discussions. A culture shift within our profession to promote overall wellness for students, faculty, preceptors, and staff is needed. This in turn can help with professional longevity and retention, and ensure that high quality patient care is delivered in all settings. AACP is well positioned to help lead and coordinate efforts across organizations. Development of programming targeted at administrators, faculty, staff and preceptors is needed to promote positive wellbeing, enhance resilience, and reduce stress among our students. This committee has compiled selected resources in Appendices 1 and 2 that member organizations can use to create their own programming around wellness. Finally, the Student Affairs Standing Committee recommends the following be addressed by a future Student Affairs Standing Committee or other AACP member group:

- Partner with APhA-ASP on student wellness and strategies to promote it.
- Create a call for evidence-based and emerging practices of stress management and promotion of positive wellbeing from member organizations.
- Begin a dialogue with student pharmacists across member organizations to learn their needs, perceptions, and recommendations to support and promote student wellbeing.

REFERENCES


## Appendix 1. Annotated Bibliography of Mental Health and Wellbeing Resources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Article</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th>Methods</th>
<th>Results</th>
<th>Limitations</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mental Health Issues in Students</td>
<td>Documents the rising demand from colleges to offer mental health services.</td>
<td>Summarizes trends and provides examples where universities have struggled to meet the expectations of students and their families.</td>
<td>Anxiety and depression rates have increased among college students. Colleges and universities are often ill prepared to provide the support that these students require.</td>
<td>Narrative format. Presents abbreviated results from survey and studies.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gray P.</td>
<td>Highlights the conflict between “needy college students” who are unable to “manage the everyday bumps in the road of life” and faculty members who struggle to teach and assess them.</td>
<td>Trends observed among struggling students at a major university are summarized.</td>
<td>The author concludes that “…we have raised a generation of young people who have not been given the opportunity to learn how to solve their own problems.”</td>
<td>Narrative format. Summarizes experiences from a single university.</td>
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<tr>
<td>English DE, Dikun</td>
<td>Examines the challenge of identifying, measuring and developing GRIT in pharmacy applicants. Explores components of Psychological Capital (PsyCap)</td>
<td>Provides abbreviated results about resilience from studies in medical and nursing students.</td>
<td>Resilience (grit) is one of the four elements of PsyCap that can be developed. Positive PsyCap is associated with increased job satisfaction and performance, leadership, Resilience is an important characteristics for pharmacy students and pharmacists.</td>
<td>Audio format with associated slides give broad overview of terminology but gives limited information about implementation.</td>
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<tr>
<td>McAllister M, McKinnon J.</td>
<td>Explores the definition and provides a theoretical framework of “resilience,” and how it has been studied in individuals and communities.</td>
<td>Authors summarized findings from more than 60 references to detail resilience research from the 1970’s to the late 2000’s. Although published in a nursing journal, details are applicable to pharmacy and other health profession students.</td>
<td>Authors argue, “resilience and similar qualities ought to be emphasised in clinical experience courses” for health profession students.</td>
<td>There are few limitations to this article. It is very comprehensive and provides practical information.</td>
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### Appendix 1. (Continued)

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<tr>
<td>Thomas SE, et al.</td>
<td>Researchers evaluated the effects of an extracurricular program to promote stress resilience among first year medical students.</td>
<td>Seven presentations were offered on a voluntary basis to first year medical students. Anonymous, post-presentation evaluations were submitted by those who attended. Topics included: “(1) understanding stress resilience and stress management, (2) substance abuse, (3) testimonies from former first year medical students about the challenges to mental health they faced, (4) fitting in exercise despite lack of time, (5) debt management and practical financial advice, (6) destigmatizing depression and anxiety, and (7) effective communication skills.”</td>
<td>Approximately 50% of the students attended each presentation. Eight-five percent stated that they agreed that the presentations could help them maintain balance during medical school. Agreement about the usefulness for future medical practice varied considerably (41 - 88%).</td>
<td>Concepts or results may not fully apply to pharmacy students.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Kitzrow MA | A review of the literature on the changing mental health needs of today’s college students. Some strategies for responding to the mental health needs on college campuses are discussed. | Recommendations include: College and university administrators to recognize and prioritize the importance of mental health needs. To have adequate counseling services on campus. Have active outreach campaigns to educate others on mental health and available campus resources. | }
Appendix 1. (Continued)

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<th>Limitations</th>
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<tr>
<td>Massey J, Brooks M, Burrow J.</td>
<td>Evaluate the effectiveness of the Mental Health First Aid training program.</td>
<td>A mixed methods approach including surveys and interviews was used to assess the effectiveness of the program.</td>
<td>The training increased knowledge of mental health, enhanced sensitivity, and raised confidence to intervene and assist individuals experiencing a mental health issue for those that participated in the training.</td>
<td>Data was self-reported.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hartman C, Evans K, Anderson D.</td>
<td>To address the need for student programming to practice adaptive coping skills and increase well-being.</td>
<td>A Leisure Skills program was delivered to approximately 6500 undergraduate students. Student responses from focus groups and individuals interviewers were qualitatively analyzed and mapped to previously determine psychological mechanisms promoting well-being.</td>
<td>The leisure education courses provide students autonomy</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>O'Reilly C, Bell S, Kelly P, et al</td>
<td>To assess the impact of the Mental Health First Aid training on pharmacy students’ mental health literacy and stigma.</td>
<td>Non-randomized control study involving 272 third-year pharmacy students. Outcomes were measured in a pre-post format and were assessed through a survey instrument measuring mental health literacy, the 7-item social distance scale, self-reported behavior items.</td>
<td>Those that participated in the mental health training showed a significant mean decrease in their social distance score, and showed improvements on recognition of mental disorders and confidence in providing service to those with mental illness.</td>
<td>This student did not show if the results were sustained over time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eisenberg D, Hunt J, Speer N.</td>
<td>Serves as a review article for help-seeking behavior for mental health and suggests next steps.</td>
<td>Discusses available Gatekeeper trainings for individuals on college campuses.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building Bridges: Mental Health on Campus: Student Mental Health Leaders and College Administrators, Counselors and Faculty in Dialogue.</td>
<td>Resource published by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. 2007</td>
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Appendix 2. Additional Mental Health and Wellbeing Resources

a. Student Stories: A seven minute “compelling video” from the Chronicle of Higher Education of students discussing anxiety/depression. Five students discuss what it is like to be a college student managing anxiety in this compelling video. “The students’ stories are personal, but the challenges they face are far from uncommon. Rates of anxiety and depression have risen among college students, straining campus counseling resources. One argument for faculty involvement: Students’ mental-health struggles can have real implications for their learning. One student in the video describes the connection between anxiety and missing class and anxiety and depression are associated with lower grades and higher rates of dropping out.” Students Share How They Cope and How Campuses Can Help by Julia Schmalz, December 11, 2017. https://www.chronicle.com/article/Facing-Anxiety/241968?cid=tn&elqTrackId=5113170ce7f0b4be68efa13c1523fe2da&elq=926c7d051ae46a39502e994489835ec&elqaid=17306&elqat=1&elqCampaignId=7536

b. University of Penn Positive Psychology Center http://ppc.sas.upenn.edu/. This is the world premier source for Martin Seligman’s Positive Psychology and the Penn Resiliency Program and workshops, which are evidence-based training programs that have been demonstrated to build resilience, well-being, and optimism. Also for faculty, see http://ppc.sas.upenn.edu/resources/course-syllabi-teachers.

c. University of California Berkeley’s Greater Good Science Center for the science/practices that relate to all audiences https://greatergood.berkeley.edu/. See their Greater Good Magazine: Science-based Insights for a Meaningful Life. Lively website includes user-friendly quizzes and short videos with University and guest faculty.

d. Stanford University’s Learning Connection is a resiliency based service for students “The Resilience Project combines personal storytelling, events, programs, and academic skills coaching to motivate and support you as you experience the setbacks that are a normal part of a rigorous education.” http://learningconnection.stanford.edu/resilience-project.

e. University of Massachusetts Medical School Center for Mindfulness in Medicine, Health Care and Society. https://www.umassmed.edu/cfm/. This is the global resource center created in the School of Medicine, Division of Mindfulness by Jon Kabat-Zinn for mindfulness based stress reduction (MBSR) and the Therapeutic Neuroscience Lab for realizing human potential.

f. National Academy of Medicine Action Collaborative on Clinician Well-Being and Resiliency. In response to alarming evidence of high rates of depression and suicide among U.S. health care workers, the National Academy of Medicine is launching a wide-ranging “action collaborative” of multiple organizations to promote clinician well-being and resilience. To date, more than 20 professional and educational organizations have committed to the NAM-led initiative to identify priorities and collective efforts to advance evidence-based solutions and promote multidisciplinary approaches that will reverse the trends in clinician stress and ultimately improve patient care and outcomes. The collaborative began work in January 2017; public workshops and meetings are scheduled throughout the year. See https://nam.edu/initiatives/clinician-resilience-and-well-being.

g. The Alliance for Student-Led Wellbeing comprises United Kingdom “organizations that aim to raise awareness about the importance of good mental health, reduce the stigma associated with anxiety and depression and provide practical help and emotional support to university and college students, working alongside campus and public services.” https://alliance-studentwellbeing.weebly.com/. Note: The UK has had a major push on mental health (see the YouTube video of the young royals discussing their own mental health https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=45RqUmxDXiY).