



The Teaching Excellence Award

Developing Teacher

One of the most remarkable traits of **Erin Weeda, Pharm.D.**, is her amazing ability to make complex topics understandable and relatable. Weeda is the instructor for the Outcomes Design and Assessment course in the College of Pharmacy. She works hard to relate how skills learned in her course will be utilized to enhance patient care. One student indicated that Weeda's course was her favorite because she left each lecture with a new skill. In fact, her course was the highest student-ranked course in the entire College of Pharmacy this past academic year.

Weeda's teaching success is rooted in her teaching philosophy. She finds it of utmost importance to explain the connection between the content and future success and create a learning environment where feedback is inspiring rather than disheartening. To say she has been successful would be an understatement as every nomination letter commented on the welcoming and safe climate she has created. She is highly respected among faculty and students alike for her engaging presentation style, her command of the material, and her approachability.

Recognizing the gap in research-related training among pharmacy residents, Weeda developed a research certificate course in 2018. The seven sessions of the course are aimed at improving residents' ability to conduct, disseminate, and interpret research. It is one of the few programs like it in the country, and she was able to publish an article on its development. In addition, she frequently involves students and residents in her scholarly efforts so they have opportunity to publish, present at meetings, and gain hands-on research experience.

Prior to joining the MUSC faculty in 2017, Weeda earned a doctorate from the University of New Mexico. She completed a residency at Texas Medical Center as well as a fellowship in health economics and outcomes research at the University of Connecticut.

Colleagues describe Weeda as a "treasured teacher," an "irreplaceable resource" to both students and colleagues, and a "dedicated mentor." She is exactly the kind of faculty member MUSC seeks to recognize. Therefore, the Medical University of South Carolina Foundation presents the Teaching Excellence Award in the Developing Teacher category to Erin R. Weeda, Pharm.D., on August 17, 2021.