
5-3-2023

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 3, 2023

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Pharmacy Leadership: Dr. Thad Franz Named Assistant Dean

CEDARVILLE, OHIO -- For years, Dr. [Thad Franz](#) has been the face of the Cedarville University [School of Pharmacy](#) when meeting with external stakeholders and hospitals across Ohio, while also teaching future pharmacists.

Now, Franz will seek to further invest in Cedarville's [pharmacy](#) students in his new role as assistant dean of student affairs within the [school of pharmacy](#). This is a position that was established to provide additional services to students while maximizing the skill set of Franz.

Franz came to [Cedarville](#) in 2012, the same year the [Doctor of Pharmacy](#) program began. Since then, he has spent over 10 years developing the experiential component of the pharmacy curriculum.

"I wanted students to be able to learn, not only in the classroom but in clinical and field experiences," said Franz. "Now, pharmacy students at Cedarville will graduate having spent over 1,700 hours practicing pharmacy in a diverse set of practice environments, such as a clinic, hospital, or community pharmacy."

Many students have also benefited from Franz's connections with external stakeholders and hospitals. Students have completed research collaborations and found job placements with Cleveland Clinic, Kettering Health, Walgreens, CVS, Rite Aid, and more thanks to Franz's efforts.

Further, Franz served as the interim director of [CedarCare Village Pharmacy](#), the teaching pharmacy for Cedarville's [Doctor of Pharmacy](#) students.

"Dr. Franz has been instrumental in caring well for the Cedarville community, both in the classroom and experiential learning, but also at CedarCare," said Dr. [Jeff Bates](#), dean of the [school of pharmacy](#).

As assistant dean of student affairs, Franz will oversee the recruitment of undergraduate [pre-pharmacy](#) students, as well as monitor their progression until graduation — at the undergraduate and graduate levels. He will also manage student scholarships, ensuring the students' academic and financial needs are met.

"I want to help students take the next step toward their future," said Franz. "I want to listen to them well, disciple them every day, care for their mental health, and consider how to best advise them on how to accomplish what the Lord has in store for them. Leading in this effort is what gets me excited about this role."

Perhaps most significant to Franz's service is his commitment to making pharmacy look more like Christ.

"We're not just training pharmacists who happen to be a Christian, but we are educating Christian students who happen to be pharmacists," said Franz. "I love these students because they are committed to following Jesus, have a passion for serving the Lord in health care and embody integrity and hard work. I want to help them get the best education and job placement possible so they can have a global impact for God."

Franz will be working closely with Bates to ensure the best possible education for pharmacy students.

Located in southwest Ohio, Cedarville University is an accredited, Christ-centered, Baptist institution with an enrollment of 5,082 [undergraduate](#), [graduate](#), and [dual-enrolled](#) high school students in more than 175 areas of study. Founded in 1887, Cedarville is one of the largest private universities in Ohio, recognized nationally for its authentic Christian community, rigorous academic programs, including the [Doctor of Pharmacy](#) program, high graduation, and retention rates, accredited professional and health science offerings, and the #4 national ranking by the Wall Street Journal for student engagement. For more information about the University, visit cedarville.edu.

Written by Alex Boesch

Photo caption:

Dr. Thad Franz served as interm director at CedarCare Village Pharmacy during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Photos by Scott Huck, Cedarville University