



UAMS MHA

Student Association Newsletter

UAMS MHA STUDENT ASSOCIATION

FALL 2016 - ISSUE 5

Hello friends, families, and supporters of the UAMS MHA program! The Master’s of Health Administration Student Association is pleased to present the Fall issue of the MHA Student Association Newsletter. This issue highlights some of our early activities for the 2016-2017 academic year. We also welcome our new students to the program. With strong faculty support, MHA students are able to utilize this newsletter in order to further develop our network of healthcare advocates. Thank you ~ *Cole Pace, MHA Student Association, Vice President.*

MHA Alumni Promoted to Assistant Vice President

The UAMS Master of Hospital Administration Program is thrilled to congratulate John Bowen, MHSA, who graduated in 2010, for his promotion to Assistant Vice President of Patient Services at Baptist Health Medical Center in Little Rock. Mr. Bowen was previously the Assistant Vice President and Administrator of Baptist Health Medical Center-Arkadelphia.

STUDENT NEWS

Lunch with Dr. Roxane Townsend/Escape Rooms

The MHA department held a farewell luncheon with Dr. Roxane Townsend. Dr. Townsend held an informative discussion with first and second year MHA students about the challenges facing today’s healthcare leaders. She was honored for her outstanding leadership by Program Director Richard Ault. In addition, the MHA Program sponsored a trip to Central Arkansas Escape Rooms for a team-building activity. Students worked together to solve puzzles and find a way out of each room. Two teams



competed in two different rooms. One room had a Missile Silo theme while the other depicted an Alchemist’s Lab. Both teams solved their puzzles and made it out of their rooms with just a bit of time to spare. Turnout for the team-building activity was excellent, with a healthy mix of first and second year students participating.



MHA Association Updates

The MHA Student Association is proud to welcome four new officers to its leadership. Daniel Mcfarland will serve as the Associations Representative. His job will be to liaise with representatives from organizations like the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE) and the Medical Group Management Association (MGMA) in order to foster greater professional development for MHA students. Nancy-Gail Purnell will serve as Treasurer. Her function will be to assist the Student Association in managing its finances in relation to our philanthropy and fundraising efforts. Rebecca Gray will serve as the Communications Officer, playing a key role in marketing the MHA program’s activities via our quarterly newsletter and the development of an MHA Student Association website. Nicole Breaux has been elected as the Secretary of the Student Association. She will keep minutes at all official meetings and ensure meeting agendas are closely adhered to as discussions unfold. Each of our new officers will also provide a great deal of assistance in developing ideas for how the Student Association can be of more service to our community and increase the profile of UAMS’ MHA program so as to attract more students and continue to have a positive impact in Arkansas.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT:

Jacob Robinson is a May 2015 graduate of the MHA program at UAMS. Following graduation, he worked as the Administrative Fellow at Baptist Health Medical Center in Little Rock and was recently promoted to Assistant Administrator. Jacob graciously agreed to answer a few questions for the MHA Student Association.



In what ways did the MHA program prepare you for this fellowship?

I think the MHA program did three key things that set me up for success during my fellowship: 1) the traditional classroom work that built my understanding of core concepts in healthcare and healthcare administration 2) the experiential learning opportunities that the program made possible to us through summer residencies or administrative assistantships and 3) the networking opportunities the program provided to begin building relationships with current healthcare professionals.

Tell us a little about what your fellowship experience was like at Baptist.

My fellowship experience at Baptist was phenomenal. The fellowship opportunity with Baptist gave me system wide exposure through clinical, departmental, and hospital rotations paired with senior leadership shadowing, one on one mentoring, a wide range of intensive project work, and a number of professional development activities. Projects were driven by my interests developed through my rotations and ranged from operations, strategic planning, and financial analysis.

What is the single best piece of advice you can offer students as they consider and apply for fellowships?

First and foremost, I think all students should apply for fellowships. The best advice I can give to students as they are applying is to reach out to the faculty or the network of alumni who have had fellowships for assistance, guidance, mock interviews, review of the application, etc. A fellowship is a career changing experience and there is no reason not to be confidently prepared for the application and interview process.

Welcome to our new class of 2018!



Students:

Nicole Breaux
Mackenzie Clyburn
Cara Cox
Rebecca Gray
Stephen Hogg
Daniel Mcfarland
Harpreet Kaur Notey
Greg Pryor
Nancy-Gail Purnell
Memory Waddle

Professional Picture Day

The MHA program provided an opportunity for students to have professional pictures taken for use on their LinkedIn profiles. In addition, first and second year students came together for a group picture.



Highlighting the UAMS Graduating MHA Class of 2016

Elizabeth Cohen - CHI St. Vincent
Jeanne Rabalais - UAMS*
Sarah Spinks - Baptist Health
Rizan Mohsin - ACHE*
Kevin Keen - UAMS*
Margaret Downs - Houston Methodist*
Chris Meyer - AR Children's Hospital*
Carlos Sepulveda - St. Jude Children's
Jenny Rable - Medical School Preparation

Susan Parham - AR Children's Hospital
CJ Uzick - Jefferson Reg. Medical Center*
Hamza Qadir - AR Blue Cross
Christa Campo - Baptist Health
Amberlie Jones - Baptist Health
Keaton Ramaker - Walmart Corp.
Jordan Coleman - AR Children's Hospital
Jonathan Koonce - Northwest Hospital

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