

UAMS MHA

STUDENT ASSOCIATION
NEWSLETTER

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The MHA Student Association is excited to continue providing the MHA Newsletter with the Fall 2019 edition! On behalf of the MHA program, we want to share with you the events and opportunities students have been a part of this semester. In this issue, we introduce our new faculty member, Dr. Jure Baloh, highlight some of this semester's professional development activities, and put a spotlight on Jon Timmis, the Senior VP of Corporate Strategy and Transformation for CommonSpirit Health. As we round out the semester, we want to thank all our friends, families, and especially the MHA faculty for supporting us as we prepare to become future leaders in healthcare! ~Dia Barber, VP MHA Student Association

Interested in the MHA Program?

There are many ways to get involved with the MHA Program. Information on the program can be found on our [website](#). Also, [Like](#) us on Facebook for frequent updates on our activities.



STUDENT NEWS

WELCOME BACK TO NEW AND RETURNING MHA STUDENTS!



First-year MHA Students

The MHA Student Association welcomes the new incoming students, the Class of 2021! Seventeen new first-year MHA students have joined the program from various

undergraduate backgrounds. Second year MHA Students have also returned back to classes from completing summer residencies and preparing for career and fellowship opportunities after graduation. This will be a busy semester for all students!



Second-year MHA Students

NEW MHA FACULTY SPOTLIGHT



Dr. Jure Baloh
Assistant Professor

The MHA Program welcomes Dr. Jure Baloh! Dr. Baloh has an undergraduate degree in Business and Economics and an MHA from the University of Missouri. Dr. Baloh completed a PhD in Health Services Research at the University of Iowa. He is interested in patient safety and quality improvement. From his diverse academic and work experience, he discovered implementation science, a relatively new interdisciplinary field focusing on implementation of innovations. This led him to UAMS where he worked with implementation experts on a NIDA postdoctoral fellowship. In his free time, he enjoys spending time with his family, hiking, and golfing. Welcome to the MHA Program!

MHA STUDENTS ATTEND THE ARKANSAS HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION 89TH MEETING AND TRADE SHOW



MHA Students at the AHA Meeting in Little Rock

The Arkansas Hospital Association 89th Annual Meeting and Trade Show was from October 2 to 4, 2019. MHA students attended this event and had an opportunity to meet and network with health care executives from across the state. The students participated in breakout sessions that focused on different areas in health care, including policy and leadership, quality and safety, and patient and family engagement.



MHA Students with Joe Theissmann

ARKANSAS HEALTHCARE LEADER SPOTLIGHT



Jon Timmis, Senior VP
CommonSpirit Health

In 2005, Jon Timmis began his tenure with the ministry through Catholic Health Initiatives when he joined CHI St. Vincent in Arkansas. While at St. Vincent, Mr. Timmis served in multiple operational and strategic leadership capacities, including the EVP/Chief Strategy Officer role. In addition to leadership within CHI, Mr. Timmis is an active community member having served on the Boards of Arkansas Hospice, the American Heart Association, Camp Aldersgate, and the City of Little Rock's Midtown Redevelopment Committee. From 2017—2019, Mr. Timmis was a member of the National Strategy Team within CHI where he provided transaction integration leadership, including the integration of CommonSpirit Health. Since 2019, Mr. Timmis has served as the Senior VP of Corporate Strategy and Transformation for CommonSpirit Health.

If you had to go back through your career and do something over, what would it be, and why?

"As a Strategy Executive, we pursue a lot of initiatives that we think are in the best interest of the organization we are leading. There a number of initiatives that made a lot of sense at the time, and they didn't materialize to the same extent they were projected to. You make the best decisions with the information you have, and you think through the various scenarios of what could impact that outcome. They won't all work out, but the point is to note what you learn along the way. This makes you smarter as an organization and as a leader. One of the things personally, for me, if I had to go back the last 20 years or so, I would have probably had more fun along the way. Healthcare Management is a difficult career, and it often feels like trench warfare. The importance of bringing humility, humor and levity to work, I think, is really important."

What advice do you have for MHA Students who are just beginning their careers?

"Find what makes you passionate. There are a lot of different aspects of healthcare. Try to get as broad of a set of experiences as you can. We have a Fellowship program here at St. Vincent, and there are many in the state and across the country. These are a great way to experience responsibilities, functions, and different aspects of the care experience, whether it is an interest in finance, strategy, quality, etc., it is a wonderful opportunity. Participating in a structured fellowship program with the right balance of exposure and expectation for making a contribution, fellows are afforded the opportunity to view things at a senior-level within the health system."

What does a day-in-the-life look for you as the Strategy Officer?

"I was the EVP/Chief Strategy Officer of St. Vincent's for about 8 years. I am now the SVP of Corporate Strategy for CommonSpirit. When I was at St. Vincent, a day-in-the-life of a CSO was about building relationships and partnerships to grow the ministry, whether it be physician relationships, relationships with other community partners, or through identifying other healthcare assets or partners that we think should align with St. Vincent. My role today is about 75% on the road. Given that CommonSpirit is approximately 7 months old, it is really about building the foundational elements of the system. Developing mission and vision statements; values; the initial strategic plan that incorporates those values; and developing system-wide metrics to align ourselves and hold ourselves accountable as one new company. We want to build a new culture as one company. Creating an aligned, positive culture is critical to achieving other organizational objectives that define success."

MHA STUDENT UPDATES

MHA Students are provided with opportunities to network with healthcare leaders and hospital executives. The MHA Program organizes monthly "Lunch with the Administrators" to expose students to the healthcare operating environment and the current climate and challenges of providing patient care.

In September 2019, MHA students and



David Argueta, CAO

faculty attended a luncheon with health executives from Mercy. The discussion focused on the future of healthcare leadership and values.

In October 2019, MHA students and faculty



Dr. Steppe Mette, CEO

attended a luncheon with senior leaders from UAMS. The discussion focused on primary care models and the use of technology to increase patient access.

In November 2019, MHA Students and faculty attended a luncheon with healthcare leaders from Baptist Health.



Baptist Health Luncheon

The discussion focused on the importance of mission and values in healthcare delivery.

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