
MHA NEWS

January 2017

A note from the Program Director . . .

This September was important for the program: the [CAHME](#) Site Team conducted a site visit for accreditation purposes. I have delayed a newsletter until I received the official report. Please know that the program received its best accreditation report in history. The program has **met 32/35 criteria**, and it has **partially met 3/35 criteria**. The site team members also gave a good handful of consultative recommendations to promote further development and growth. In total, this was an amazing result! Congratulations!

The question now is where do we go from here. To answer that, I want to take a moment to highlight some recent changes. Since becoming director, I, along with other faculty members, have worked diligently since the previous site visit to strengthen the program and grow its size, reputation, and quality. Just in the past year, the applicants have become more competitive than ever, the program has adopted a new [Mission and Vision statement](#), students have completed internships with new host sites, and graduates have been hired by employers across the country. Additionally, we have shifted the curricular sequence so that students complete Health Economics in their first semester to better prepare them for the finance-based courses. Finally, we've incorporated the Ohio State University's case competition as a requirement within the Professional Communication Skills courses.

Using the accreditation team's guidance, I have several goals for this year. First, I would like to build the Fall 2017 cohort to consist of the most competitive 15-20 students within an applicant pool that better reflects our state's diversity. Second, I would like to return to a 100% graduation placement rate and place at least 2 graduates in administrative fellowships. Third, I would like to see students complete internships at rural hospitals and at large metropolitan hospitals across the country so that we can play our part to address access to care issues. And finally, I seek to build stronger relationships between the MHA program and the JD and MBA programs. Please join with me as we move towards this future.

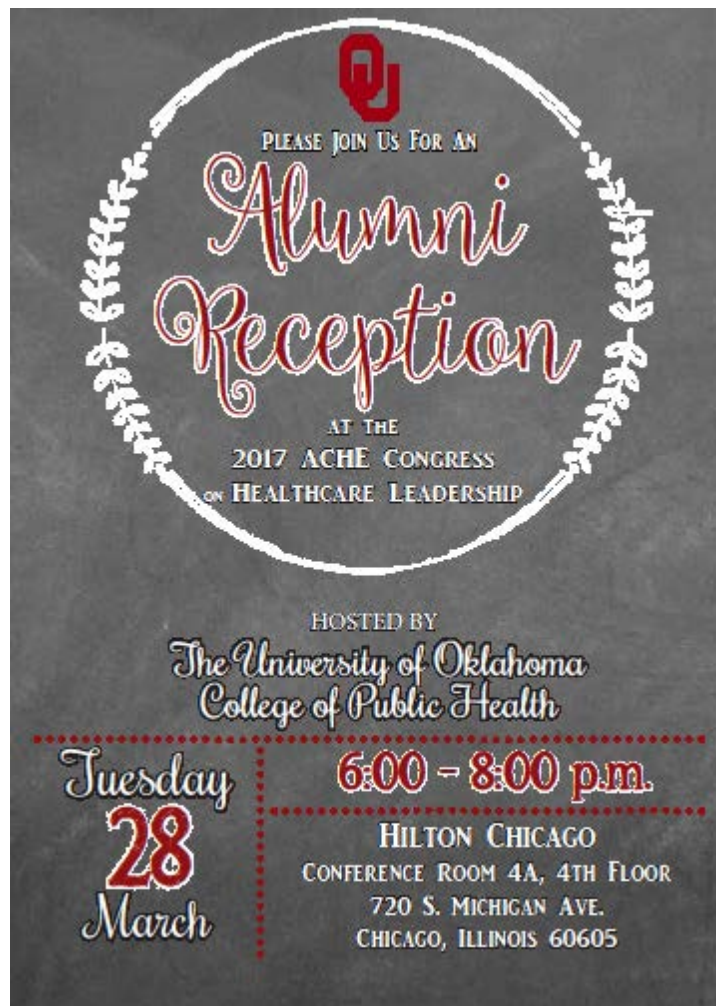
All the best,

Christina Juris Bennett



Program updates:

- The Program will be hosting an alumni reception at the annual ACHE Congress in Chicago, IL. The reception will be located at the Hilton Hotel on March 28, 2017, from 6 pm to 8 pm. Please RSVP to Kyndall-Wahkinney@ouhsc.edu.



- The Program's Annual Report and Response to the Site Team Report were submitted Fall 2016.
- The College of Public Health launched a new website. Information about the program can be found on the Department Website at <http://publichealth.ouhsc.edu/AboutUs/Departments/HealthAdministrationPolicy.aspx>
- During Spring 2016, program stakeholders worked to adopt a new Mission and Vision statement that met CAHME criteria. Thank you to all of those who participated in that process.

Our New Mission Statement:

The University of Oklahoma Master of Health Administration program's mission is to prepare aspiring healthcare executives, primarily from the South Central region of the United States, to achieve leadership and management positions within the healthcare industry. Graduates will be recognized by their peers and superiors as competent and able to demonstrate excellent knowledge, skills, and abilities that drive transformation through rigorous academic study and real-world application. Our competency model is the successful understanding and evaluation of the US healthcare system, communication, executive leadership and ethical decision-making, critical thinking, quantitative analysis, patient outcome improvement, and professionalism.

Our new Vision Statement:

We will be evaluated and recognized by healthcare leaders as a premier masters-level health administration program in the South Central region of the United States. Seeking the most competitive students, we will prepare them for successful careers in administrative leadership, quantitative analysis, and quality outcomes within the national healthcare industry.

- During Spring 2016, the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education approved the creation of the JD-MHA Dual Degree. The students who have completed and are completing this degree are highly marketable, and they have been placed in highly reputable internships and received numerous post-graduation offers of employment.
- The Fall 2017 cohort consists of 10 students. One student is completing the JD-MHA degree, and one student is completing the MBA-MHA.

Faculty updates:

Edwin (Gerry) Ibay, JD-MHA, joined the faculty as adjunct professor. He was previously the Manager of Clinical Information Systems at New York Presbyterian Hospital in New York City, NY. He will teach Strategic Management in the spring.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Our program has many successes to celebrate. Please join me in lauding the following accomplishments:

➤ Graduates

Carissa Angel
Tiffany Boos
Robert Early
Rachael Gotcher
Alia Ramirez
Ben Schlegel
Margaret Travis

Larissa Shutler
Colby Dye
Prasanna Fernando
Brandt Higley
John Schallhorn
Rachel Sibila
Chandler Welch

Post-Graduation Employment

- Administrative Fellow, Integris, OKC
- Attorney, Crowe & Dunlevy, OKC
- Attorney, Solo Practice, OKC
- Chief of Medical Logistics, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickman, Hawaii
- Director of Finance, OU Dentistry, OKC
- Donation System Specialist, LifeGift, Fort Worth, TX
- Manager of Biocontainment Care Unit & Infection Prevention, OU Medicine, OKC
- Manager of Business Operations, Mercy, OKC
- Physician, Stillwater Medical, Stillwater, OK
- Physicians Relations Specialist, St. John Medical Center, Tulsa, OK
- Quality Coordinator, Community Hospital, OKC
- Staff Attorney, St. Anthony's Hospital, OKC

➤ Current Students

- Two teams are participating in the Ohio State Case Competition as a part of the Professional Communications Skills course. This competition was added to the curriculum in direct response to alumni feedback. The competition will be held in Columbus, Ohio, on March 30-31.

- Three teams participated in the University of Kansas Health Policy & Management Regional Case Competition in November 2016, and one team advanced to the final round.
 - Team 1: Braxton Billings, Hunter Wilson, and Ashiq Zaman
 - Team 2: Allison Jones, Jesse Heller and Brenna Wallach
 - Team 3: Gina Versace, Bennett Pickar, and Whitney Dockrey
- Three JD-MHA students are participating in the L. Edward Bryant, Jr., National Health Law Transactional Moot Court Competition:
 - Alex Albert, Whitney Dockrey, and Joey Geresi
 - Good luck!!!
- Several MHA students are serving as leaders for the College of Public Health Student Association.
 - President: Alex Albert
 - Vice President: Ashley Roswell
 - Treasurer: Joseph Geresi (Joey also serves as the ACHE Student Affiliate President)
 - Hospitality Chair: Alaina Martin
 - Senators: Matt Selander and Braxton Billings
 - Senator Proxy: Ryan Theissen.
- Matt Selander, Joseph Geresi, and Alex Albert represented the OU MHA program at the UAB Case Competition in March 2016.
- Morgan Roberts, Ashley Roswell, and Ryan Theissen represented the OU MHA program with a submission to the Cleveland Clinic's Case Competition in February 2016.
- Alia Ramirez (JD-MHA) won Best Brief, Best Speaker, and 1st Place Overall at the National Hispanic Moot Court Competition in Las Vegas in April 2016.

Fall 2015 – Summer 2016 Internship Locations

- Integris Lakeside Women's Hospital, OKC
- Mercy Hospital, OKC
- Northstar Anesthesia, Fort Worth, TX*
- Oklahoma Heart Hospital, OKC*
- OU Dentistry, OKC
- OU Medical, OKC
- St. Anthony's Hospital, OKC
- The Joint Commission, Chicago, IL*

* New internship location

➤ Scholarship Winners

The College recently awarded scholarships which provide necessary aid. Available scholarships are posted at <http://coph.ouhsc.edu/current/scholarships.aspx>.

David J. Falcone Memorial Scholarship: *Matthew Selander*

Rosetta Fisher Scholarship: *James Butler*

Henley Family Scholarship: *Allison Shelton Jones*

Brent Hurd Scholarship: *Tyler Davis*

Dan J. Macer Scholarship: *Joseph Geresi*

Dan J. Macer Scholarship: *Ashley Roswell*

Foster McGaw (ACHE) Scholarship: *Tyler Davis*

➤ Faculty

- Dr. Shari Kinney was given the COPH Faculty Award for Outstanding Teaching award in May 2016.
- Mr. Dan Pryor was awarded the COPH Student Association Faculty Teaching Award in May 2016.
- Dr. Dale Bratzler was given the Edith Kinney Gaylord Presidential Professor award, one of the Presidential Professors awards.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Pending approval from the OU Regents and the Oklahoma State Regents of Higher Education, Masters of Business Administration students with the Price College of Business will be eligible to complete a set of courses within the MHA curriculum to receive a Certificate in Healthcare Administration from the College of Public Health. Students are expected to enroll for Fall 2017.

Want to help?

To support student activities and ensure success of future OU MHA students, please consider donating to the Health Administration and Policy Department. Thank you.

