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# MHA NEWS

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November 2017

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## *A note from the Program Director . . .*

*I will begin with the very best news – in May 2017, CAHME reaccredited the program for seven years. This is outstanding, and it reflects a tremendous amount of hard work on behalf of many people. Thank you to everyone who participated.*

*So the next question is where do we go from here? We will continue to strengthen the program so that each cohort consists of the most competitive students within an applicant pool that better reflects our state's diversity. Our Fall 2017 recruitment efforts yielded a more diverse applicant pool, and our cohort, while small, has the highest GRE scores of any cohort so far. As part of our effort to keep the program competitive, we are seeking well qualified applicants with the help of numerous stakeholders among our graduates, preceptors and local hospital and health system leaders.*

*Second, the program will continue to encourage our students to complete internships at rural hospitals, large metropolitan hospitals, health systems, and in other settings in the healthcare industry across the country so that they have opportunity to experience and address access to care issues.*

*Third, we want to continue our 100% graduation placement rate. This has been outstanding, and it reflects the strength of our graduates. This fall, faculty members helped numerous students complete fellowship applications for programs across the country, and we hope that our students experience success in their endeavors. Additionally, we are pleased to announce an expanded relationship with the Oklahoma City Veterans Administration Hospital, and several of our students plan to work post-graduation with that organization serving our veterans.*

*I hope this provides some insight into the program and our direction for the future. Please be sure to read the rest of the newsletter for the other exciting events that have happened since January.*

All the best,

*Christina Juris Bennett*

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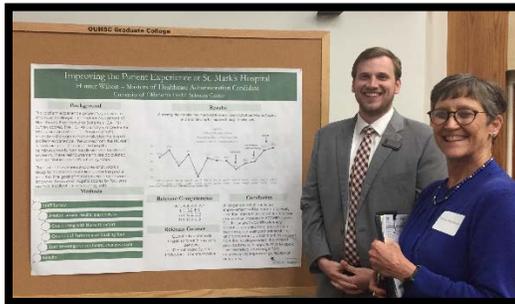
## Program updates

- CAHME reaccredited the program for seven years. Since the site visit, the program has been working to cure the three partially met criteria and address the six consultative recommendations provided. The three partially met criteria focus on goals and objectives, measuring competency mastery, and faculty research.

CAHME

Commission on Accreditation  
of Healthcare Management Education

- The Program hosted its first annual Poster Presentation and Networking Session for students who just completed their internships. Alumni, HSC administrators, preceptors, students, and faculty attended the event on October 5. Eight MHA candidates presented posters for evaluation and review.



- The OU Regents and the Oklahoma State Regents of Higher Education approved the Certificate in Healthcare Administration. 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 from the College of Public Health. Students are expected to enroll for Spring 2018.
- Joe Sanchez ('12) is chairing the newly formed Alumni Advisory Board. Currently, there are eight members from various organizations, locations, and graduation years. The group is beginning to draft their charter, and we should hear more from them soon. Thank you to Joe for leading this effort!



## Faculty

- Professor Bennett was awarded the College of Public Health Faculty Board Teaching Award for May 2017.
- Brooke Cink has joined the faculty as an adjunct for spring 2018. She will teach Human Resource Management. Brooke has been with Integris for several years and before that was in OU Medical's HR department.
- Edwin (Gerry) Ibay has joined the full time faculty after having served in an adjunct teaching position. He brings experience with hospitals and health systems on the East Coast and will be teaching Strategic Management, Health Information Systems and Organizational Theory and Behavior.

## Congratulations Spring 2017 Graduates!

- James Butler
- Kendall Swint
- Ryan Theissen
- Morgan Roberts
- Alaina Martin
- Ashley Roswell

### *Post-Graduation Employment*

- Manager, Regulatory Compliance, OU Medical, OKC
- Practice Manager, Mercy, OKC
- Consultant for caRevolution, Mercy, OKC
- Perioperative Services Process Improvement Analyst, OU Medical, OKC
- HIM Director, Quality Coordinator, Parallon, Las Vegas
- LEAN Transformation Specialist, Mercy, OKC

Current placement and graduation statistics may be found at [MHA Graduation and Placement Rates](#).



- The fall 2017 cohort consists of five students with one seeking a dual MHA/JD degree.
- Several students have taken positions in the healthcare field while finishing their degrees. These positions are with the following organizations:  
Veterans Administration, OKC  
Mercy Health Center, OKC  
IMMY biotech company, (Norman, OK)  
Tinker Air Force Base Health Services  
Crowe & Dunlevy's Health Law Section

## Scholarship Winners

The College recently awarded scholarships which provides helpful financial assistance to our students. Available scholarships are posted at <http://coph.ouhsc.edu/current/scholarships.aspx>. Here is a list of MHA students who have recently received a scholarship:

- David J. Falcone Memorial Scholarship: *Allison Jech*
- Henley Family Scholarship: *Taylor Hayes*
- Brent Hurd Scholarship: *Brenna Wallach*
- Dan J. Macer Scholarship: *Whitney Dockrey Miller*
- Dale W. Bratzler Scholarship: *Ashiq Zaman*
- COPH Advisory Board Scholarship: *Tyler Davis*
- ACHE Scholarship: *Ashiq Zaman*

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*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.

