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JHAWK forecast

The Jayhawk Healthcare Administrators Working for Kansas student organization promotes leadership, marketability, relationships, and knowledge for students pursuing a career in health services administration through personal and professional development activities.

Graduation Plans Announced by HP&M Program

by Michael Bleich, Ph.D., RN, CNAA, FAAN

"Make it special" was the comment offered by one of the 2007 Health Policy and Management students and that is being taken to heart by program administration and staff.

"All applications for degree should be completed and efforts should be underway to not let Spring fever set in too soon," notes Adam Keener, Operations and Student Affairs Manager. For those making graduation plans, the following information is important:

- A private, catered wine and hors d'oeuvres reception for HP&M and MPH graduates will be held late on the afternoon of Thursday, May 17th in the School of Nursing building atrium. Students from both programs will have the opportunity to help plan the event. This is the first time that such a reception has been held.
- The Health Policy and Management graduates and their families will be invited to a pre-graduation brunch as part of the Medical Center learning community's acknowledgement and recognition of all KUMC graduates on Saturday, May 19th. The Office of Alumni and Community Relations handles all details for the event.
- The hooding ceremony will be held on Saturday, May 19th at 1 p.m. in Battenfeld Auditorium. (Graduates will be asked to report at 12:30 to prepare for the ceremony.) The Kansas City Brass Quintet will provide live music before and after the ceremony. The format will differ somewhat from years past, as student and faculty awards will be incorporated into our celebration. In addition, Executive Dean Barbara Atkinson and Wichita campus Dean Edwards Dismuke, Dr. Ed Ellerbeck (Preventive Medicine Chair) and Dr. Bleich will reflect on the importance of well-educated health services administrators and public health professionals.

Michael Bleich, PhD, RN, CNAA, FAAN

We also will celebrate the 25th anniversary of the HP&M program and the 10th anniversary of the MPH program in Wichita. The first MS graduate in Clinical Research will also be recognized in this ceremony.

- A reception for graduates, their families and friends will occur in Francisco Lounge immediately after the hooding ceremony.

Commencement activities will culminate with the walk down the hill on the Lawrence campus on Sunday afternoon...refer to the Commencement 2007 website (www.commencement.ku.edu) for more details.

"Other details are being worked through and we want to save some surprises for the events themselves," stated Dr. Bleich. "We truly want to honor our graduates, our being part of the Medical Center's learning community, and to create a hospitable place where all family and friends can celebrate the success of each journey that marks this time of passage." More information will be shared in the coming months!

Elluminate Illuminating the HP&M Classroom

Technology has taken center stage in the discussion on health care reform in the United States. Not to be outdone, the HP&M program has also placed technology at the center of its own curriculum. This technology, Elluminate, is a product which offers the capability of live Web conferencing and eLearning solutions in a real-time environment.

Traditional distance learning (or on-line classes) provide the student with both physical and temporal freedom, allowing them to participate in a class, yet not be tied to a particular place or time. A disadvantage to this traditional distance learning model is that students often feel disconnected with others in the class as well as the professor teaching the course.

Elluminate is a partial solution to this problem. Students, from any remote location where there is connectivity, sign-in to the Elluminate web-site. The instructor can share power-point or any other type of files he or she may have on their desk-top. The instructor can also turn control of the desk-top over to one of the students. The presentation can even be archived for later viewing.

Kevin Choe '08, concurred, stating, "I've taken some online classes before but it is different than having a live interactive session online. It gives you the opportunity to interact without using discussion boards and gives you the opportunity to ask questions and get them answered immediately."

Yet another student, Shelly Weibert '07, has taken advantage of Elluminate while working in Zurich, Switzerland. "Elluminate has enabled me to take a class I would have otherwise been unable to enroll in. As I spend time working internationally, I am able to join class virtually where I get a similar experience to attending in person because I can hear the class, they can hear me, and I am also able to view the lecture material."

Nicholas Tejeda '07 believes that understanding such technology is essential for tomorrow's health care professionals. "Every day in class we hear how important it is for the health care industry to transform itself using technology. Using products such as Elluminate is an opportunity for us to learn more about the implementation, benefits, and challenges inherent to new technology."

Student Update:

-**Mark Van Blaricum '08** was recently promoted to Director of Risk Management at HCA Overland Park Regional Medical Center

-**Nicole Ladesich '08** has accepted a position as Clinical Research Associate Level II with UnitedBiosource Corporation, a national clinical research organization

-**Troy DeDecker, '08** has joined HCA Independence Regional Health Center as their Director of Quality & Risk Management

Would you like to share any news on recent student developments? Contact us at info@jayhawkhealth.com

Negotiation Seminar a Learning Experience for Attendees

Four HP&M students were recently honored to receive a scholarship to attend a negotiation seminar by the highly acclaimed Dr. Phyllis Kritek. This seminar, ***Beyond Conflict – The Art and Science of Negotiating***, focused on conflict resolution and healing within a health care delivery system.

Attendee Chase Finnell '07, stated, 'The negotiation seminar provided me with a number of tools that will be helpful in my professional career. Dr. Kritek's lecture taught the audience to embrace conflict as a challenge with the potential to enhance productivity and professional relations. Additionally, she taught the group the importance of understanding why we behave the way we do when conflicts arises.

Dr. Kritek has produced two books associated with her professional foci: conflict resolution and healing. *Negotiating at an Uneven Table: Developing Moral Courage in Resolving Our Conflicts* and *Reflections on Healing: A Central Nursing Construct.*

Announcing the 2007-2008 JHAWK Board!!

The Health Policy and Management program's student body has nominated and selected the officers for the JHAWK student organization which will be in place for the 2007-2008 school year. These individuals will be integral to the continuing efforts of the organization to improve the graduate experience for its members and all HP&M students.

Please congratulate these incoming officers and let them know of any ideas or advice on improving our student organization.

Position	Name
President	Jennifer Winsky
Vice-President	Paul Rohrer
Treasurer	Ryan Schauer
Information Officer	Dorothy Hughes
Outreach Officer	Susan Henry
Liaison	Jim Bloom
Planning Officer	Claire Lockwood

Quick Facts: AHA Hospital Trivia

1) What percent of U.S. ED's report being at or over capacity? A. 75%, B. 30%, C. 48%

2) T or F: 35% of U.S. consumers expect their direct health care costs to increase 25% in the next few years

3) T or F:: Only 6% of Americans favor a health care system that is mostly tax-funded.

4) T or F: Currently, 46% of U.S. health care spending is tax-funded.

Answers: 1. C. 48%, 2. True, 3. True, 4. True

Source: 2006 AHA Environment Assessment

News and Events

4th Annual JayDoc Run

Do you like to sweat for a good cause?

If so, sign up for the the 4th Annual JayDoc 5K Run to be held Saturday, April 14, 2007 at 8:00a.m. This event benefits the JayDoc Free Clinic. The entry fee for the race is $20 and $25 on the day of the race. A complimentary T-shirt and race packet is included in the entry fee. In addition, complimentary food and water will be provided at the finish line. There will be prizes for overall mal and female runners.

To register: www.active.com/event_detail.cfm?event_id=1400063 or pick up a registration form at Kirmeyer Fitness Center. Email dharmon@kumc with questions.

Women's History Month Guest Speaker

CEO and President, Myra Christopher, Center For Pratical Bioethics, will be the guest speaker for Women`s History Month. All men and women are encouraged to attend as Myra recounts her saga of a journey from being a Johnson County housewife to CEO of the Center.

An important part of the presentation will be about various leadership models, in particular how the "servant leader" model developed by Robert Greenleaf empowered her to assume leadership.

So come and get motivated to become a LEADER. March 1, 2007 in the School of Nursing Auditorium from NOON until 1:00 p.m. Lunch will be provided with an RSVP. Contact Charles Romero at 588-8011 or cromero@kumc.edu. Sponsored by the KUMC Diversity Initiative.