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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 Sends Off the Class of 2007

With excitement and anticipation in the air, the HP&M Class of 2007 received their MHSA degrees during a joint hooding ceremony with MPH graduates on May 19 in Battenfeld Auditorium at the University of Kansas Medical Center. These sixteen graduates are now members of a distinguished alumni base that collectively plays a critical role improving health service delivery in organizations across the country.

Dr. Barbara Atkinson, Vice Chancellor of the medical center and Dean of the School of Medicine in KC welcomed graduates and guests. In addition to representatives from the Department of Preventive Medicine, Dr. Atkinson was assisted by HP&M Chair Dr. Michael Bleich as degrees were conferred.

As part of the graduation ceremonies, the following awards were presented to HP&M graduates:

Bret Hammig Outstanding Graduate Student Award(s)  
Margaret Smith and Nicholas Tejada

Health Care Executive of the Future Award  
Stephanie Tijerina

Professional Development Award  
Megan Twait

In addition, a scholarship in the name of Ray Davis, the founding HP&M Chair, was provided for the first time to two promising first-year students, Paul Rohrer and Amy Hochman. This scholarship was made possible through the generous financial contributions from many HP&M alumni who wished to honor and recognize the efforts of Ray Davis in developing health care professionals in their efforts to improve health service delivery.

The future is bright for the Class of the 2007. From Seattle to San Francisco to Kansas City to Chicago to New York, endless opportunities await the graduates in organizations that span the entire spectrum of health care. Thus it is with great pride that the JHAWK Student Organization congratulates the Class of 2007 on their accomplishment!

### *The Class of 2007!!*



# A Closing Message from the HP&M Chair

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

It was a year ago at this time when I was approached about taking the Chair position for Health Policy and Management on an interim basis. How could I have known what was in store for me in the coming year?

Challenges included an accreditation visit, developing a more dominant vision for the department in light of growing campus-wide interest in Public Health, and the creation of opportunities for stronger relationships internal and external to the Medical Center. Yet as I reflect on the year, what I remember most is not the challenges, but the contributions made by so many to the department.

First, thanks to our students who care so deeply for the department. You are the foundation of excellence in and out of the classroom. You challenge us, represent the program in case competitions and other venues, and create meaningful activities for professional growth through JHAWK and help the program in tangible ways, such as this newsletter! JHAWK rocks!

Second, I have gratitude for department faculty who collectively possess attributes such as loyalty, intelligence, adaptability, and a future vision of healthcare. Their willingness to work with and teach a new Chair the ropes influenced my decision to move from an interim to a permanent role. Special thanks to Michael Fox and Bob Lee, who gave me the benefit of the doubt on days when I stumbled through the 'first time' at many things.

Alumni, you are passionate and caring. Your words and

work and continued mentoring of students and graduates create a culture and energy for the program that grows our mission and purpose.

We just finished graduation. It was beautiful event filled with the energy of brass music, the ritual 'hooding' of each practice-scholar now bestowed with the 'rights and privileges' to redefine the health care system, and the pride of family and friends beaming at the journey of accomplishment for each graduate. I was most touched by

*"I am here for a purpose  
And that purpose is to grow into a mountain,  
Not to shrink into a grain of sand.  
Henceforth, I will apply all my efforts to become  
The highest mountain of all  
And I will strain my potential  
Until it cries for mercy."  
African Tribal Prayer*

the awarding of the Ray Davis Scholarships on the program's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. To all who funded this scholarship, Dr. Davis was present to bestow these awards to the first two recipients.

Have a safe and wonderful summer. A robust new class is looming at our doors, selected from a rich cohort of applicants. To close, I offer this reflection for our new graduates, alumni, and faculty:

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And that purpose is to grow into a mountain,  
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Henceforth, I will apply all my efforts to become  
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And I will strain my potential  
Until it cries for mercy.  
(African Tribal Prayer)*



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

## Students Name Bob Bonney as Faculty of the Year!!

Each year, HP&M students recognize a faculty member for their outstanding efforts and contributions to the personal and professional development of the student body, as well as the program itself. It is with great pleasure that the JHAWK Student Organization announces the 2006-2007 Faculty of the Year as Robert S. Bonney.

In addition to serving as adjunct faculty, Bob is senior vice president for business development for the Saint Luke's Health System in Kansas City, Missouri. Students were eager to provide additional comments with their vote for Bob. A sampling of these include:

*'Bob brings a wealth of experience to the classroom that*

*allows students to apply concepts to real world situations.'*

*'I have left his classes feeling that not only was the course valuable and relevant to my learning, but that I was well equipped to apply those areas of study upon completing the course.'*

*'Bob has found the perfect balance between pushing students to work hard and think critically and creating an environment where they are excited and eager to participate.'*



Robert S. Bonney

## For What It Is Worth

Random Memories and Advice from the Class of 2007...

### Memorable Experiences

Perhaps the memories that I find most valuable would be from the class lectures were we would have very colorful discussions that really helping bring into prospective everything that was thrown at us through Powerpoints.

\*\*\*\*

Lake trip to Branson, being able to 'consult' with St. Joseph on a 'real-life' assignment, Dr. Grasso's annual BBQ, trying to explain to family/those outside the medical profession what a MHA translates to...

\*\*\*\*

Relationships and friendships built with HPM faculty, staff and fellow students

\*\*\*\*

Jennifer D. and I arrived about 10 minutes late to class one night. Before we entered the classroom we talked about how we would sneak in so as not to cause a scene and make it obvious that we were late. Upon entering the classroom, we quietly climbed the steps, then Jennifer tripped and landed on her face. It was very loud and although I felt bad later, I could not stop laughing at the time. The entire class stopped and stared. Good times.

\*\*\*\*

Houlihan's last year, the Royals game, Tablerock, and walking down the hill at graduation.

### Words of Wisdom

Students should work to get the most out of the program as possible. The period from enrollment to graduation goes very fast and they have to be prepared to roll up their sleeves and dive into the industry.

\*\*\*\*

Keep up with the readings, learn as much as you can from your classes and instructors, do not be afraid to ask questions, DO all of this because your time in the program goes by fast!

\*\*\*\*

Don't be afraid of diving in and taking every chance for learning/application that is possible. Although it may seem that you can not catch up to those individuals with years of experience, you should take every opportunity to learn from their achievements, mistakes, and challenges.

\*\*\*\*

Start the internship/fellowship/job searches early!

\*\*\*\*

Stay organized and have fun.

\*\*\*\*

Volunteer in the community, on campus, or anywhere else. You are in a unique position to make a difference to a lot of people

## One Last Thing...

by Nicholas Tejada, Outgoing JHAWK President

In its first year as the HP&M Student Organization, JHAWK has achieved many successes. Just to name a few...we helped improve the lives of members of the surrounding community through the Christmas of October event. Local and regional health care leaders provided fascinating lectures to the student body. Participation in extracurricular events was extraordinary. The JHAWK Forecast newsletter has continued to serve as a critical communication piece between the program, students, and alumni.

Next year's JHAWK student organization will be uniquely positioned to use this momentum and improve the personal and professional development opportunities for the continually growing student body. Given the knowledge, experience, and talent of the incoming JHAWK Executive Board, the sky is truly the limit. I invite all existing and future students to consider join-

ing JHAWK and helping to develop it into an organization that creates a stronger student body, HP&M program, and surrounding community.

The sincere appreciation of the entire JHAWK student organization goes to Dr. Michael Grasso. Without exception, Dr. Grasso was willing to provide his time, talents, and guidance to our organization throughout the year.

Finally, I would like to personally thank each of the members of the current JHAWK Executive Board for their efforts in making the inaugural year a success. Each of them served a critical role in every success that took place.

Undoubtedly, even greater success awaits next year. Good luck and best wishes in these efforts.

# Enrollment and Advising for Summer and Fall 2007

by Adam Keener, Student Services Manager

Beginning March 30, current/continuing students will be able to start enrolling in courses for both the Summer 2007 and Fall 2007 semesters. Go to <https://sa.ku.edu> to initiate the enrollment process. If you're not yet ready to enroll but want to see what's being offered, go to <http://www.opensections.ku.edu/> and select either Summer or Fall 2007 and search by department (Health Policy and Management, Graduate).

**No HP&M courses are being taught during Summer 2007.** If you are interested in fulfilling an elective, NRS 883, *Complexity Science Approaches to Improve Organizational Effectiveness*, is being offered as an online course.

**The following courses listed to the right are currently scheduled for Fall 2007.** Keep in mind that, while this is accurate, changes may be made to this schedule. Check the "Open Sections" website above for updates. E-mail updates will be sent if any major changes are made to the Fall 2007 schedule.

Many students have indicated an interest in receiving assistance with academic advising. Student Services Manager Adam Keener (913.588.3763; [akeener2@kumc.edu](mailto:akeener2@kumc.edu)) is your best resource for that sort of advising (e.g., which semester should I take a certain class, how am I proceeding towards degree completion, etc.). For career advice or advising outside those basic logistical issues, please consult a faculty member.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** In the near future, the department will begin utilizing "advising holds" to ensure that students enroll in courses in an appropriate sequence. This is for your protection and support, to ensure that the courses you've taken have adequately prepared you for future courses. For most full-time students, this will not be an issue. Part-time students will benefit most from this change. To obtain a release from the advising hold, contact Adam, and schedule and complete an advising appointment.

In conclusion, remember that we are here to support you in your academic career. Feel free to take advantage of the resources at your disposal to maximize your experience.

## Fall 2007 Schedule of Courses

**Bold = recommended first-year classes**  
*Italicized = recommended second-year classes*  
Underlined = electives

Monday, 4 p.m.

**HPM 825: Financial Concepts in Health Services Accounting**

*HPM 837: Health Care Policy and Administration*

HPM 861: Public Health Administration

Tuesday, 4 p.m.:

HPM 817: Health Care Statistics

Tuesday, 7 p.m.

**HPM 830: Health Services Management**

Wednesday, 4 p.m.

**HPM 810: The Health Care System**

HPM 835: Health and Social Behavior

Thursday, 4 p.m.:

*HPM 836: Healthcare Reimbursement Methods*

HPM 863: Quality Management

Thursday, 7 p.m.:

**HPM 814: Health Care Economics**

*HPM 842: Strategic Marketing*

By Appointment:

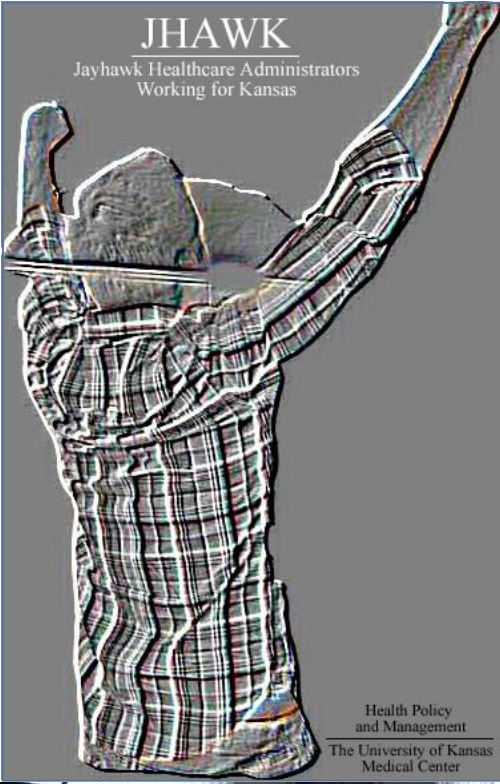
HPM 880: Internship

HPM 881: Research Practicum

HPM 890: Directed Readings

JHAWK

Jayhawk Healthcare Administrators  
Working for Kansas



Health Policy  
and Management  
The University of Kansas  
Medical Center

# JHAWK 2006-2007: A Photo Tour

