

Master of Health Administration

Department of Public Health Sciences
College of Health and Human Services

MHA Interns



Ashley Ferguson

"My internship with OrthoCarolina was valuable because it afforded me the opportunity to meet with professionals throughout all aspects of a large private physician practice. Shadowing and project opportunities were tailored to my interests, and my mentor was especially receptive and readily available for help and advice."



Justin Parnell

"Working with HIMformatics was the best learning experience of my life. I was able to see the application of HIT in a variety of health care settings and meet incredible people along the way."

MHA Program Reaccredited by CAHME for Six Years!



First Year MHA Students, 2010

Welcome! It is a pleasure to announce that our Master of Health Administration program was fully reaccredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Management Education (CAHME) in November, for the maximum period of six years. UNC Charlotte's program is one of two in North Carolina to receive this prestigious accreditation.

Our MHA program welcomed Mr. John Lloyd, MBA, MPH, CEO and President of CAHME for a campus visit in September. John toured our campus and met with MHA students, faculty, and Heather Shaughnessy, Director of Development at our college.

We have nearly 80 MHA students. Our MHA program features an active professional student association, the Charlotte Healthcare

Executive Student Organization (CHESO).

Each year, more than 35 of our students complete internships with health care organizations. Sponsoring an MHA intern is a great way to get help with projects, mentor future health care leaders, and recruit talented professionals.

Our program includes senior health care professionals as instructors, sharing their "real world" experience in the classroom. Our newsletter features an interview with Dr. Stephen Wagner, one of these senior professionals.

More than 275 students have graduated from our MHA program. One of our key priorities is to reconnect with our alumni. We anticipate sponsoring an MHA alumni event this spring. Two of our students – Andrea Barberi and Kelsey McEvoy – are helping us to reconnect with our alumni.

On behalf of our students and faculty, we look forward to sharing MHA Program news with you.

Thank you for your support!

Sarah B. Laditka

Sarah B. Laditka, PhD
MHA Program Director



John Lloyd, CAHME President & CEO
with Sarah Laditka (left) and Heather Shaughnessy

MHA Interns



Tonia Cable

“During my summer internship, I worked in the Strategic Planning Department of Holy Cross Hospital in Ft. Lauderdale, FL.

While there, I wrote a Capital Project Business Plan proposing to build a Hybrid OR for the use of TC AVR procedures.

The project was approved in October 2010 and will begin in the 2nd quarter of 2011 Fiscal Year.

Also, I helped plan the successful September opening of the Comprehensive Women's Center.”

Spring Social Networking Event

By Andrea Barberi

On April 22nd, the MHA student organization, CHESO, co-sponsored a continuing education event with the Greater Charlotte Healthcare Executive Group (GCHEG) for local Healthcare Executives and MHA students. The event focused on the role social media plays in customer satisfaction and the future of our industry. Daniel Fell, *Vice President of Neathawk, Dubuque &*

Packett, moderated the expert panel: Brian Bluff – *President & Co-Founder of Site-Seeker, Inc*, Kelley O’Brien – *Interactive Media Specialist of High Point Regional Health System*, Kerry Fulton – *eMedia Coordinator for Corporate Communications of Palmetto Health System*, and Gail Rosenberg – *Assistant Vice President Public Relations of Carolinas HealthCare System.*

Social
Networking
Event



Early Career Panel

By Andrea Barberi

To better prepare the MHA candidates for a career in healthcare, CHESO held an Early Career Panel with local alumni. Alumni speakers Sam Price of Lash Group, Beth Pless with CHS’s Accounting Department, Todd Gill of Presbyterian’s Strategic Planning and Development and Clay Locklear, the Business Manager of Levine’s Children’s Hospital participated in the

discussion. Topics included career path and current positions, advice on career challenges and guidance to help MHA students maximize opportunities. The event concluded with an information session by Dave Dougherty, Director of Human Resources at Southminster Retirement Community. Mr. Dougherty provided job search strategies and good job search practices.



Early Career
Panel

Sam Price
Clay Locklear
Todd Gill
Beth Pless

Networking and socializing with Charlotte Healthcare Executives at Blackfinn

By Kate Lowe and Kelsey McEvoy

To start the fall semester, MHA students from CHESO met with members of the Greater Charlotte Healthcare Executives Group (GCHEG) at Blackfinn, a local restaurant in Charlotte, to enjoy food, drink, and conversation on September 24, 2010. The event was a wonderful success. This was a great opportunity for first year MHA students to meet their peers, and for all of the students to meet with healthcare executives in the area who are members of GCHEG. Recent UNC Charlotte MHA alumni also participated. This social event provided students with experience that will help them to connect and network with other healthcare executives in the area.

Christen Burns, second-year MHA student and CHESO Treasurer said, "We are so lucky to have all of these professional resources, including two



major health care systems, at our fingertips. But the real value lies in the interactions we have with the health care leaders of the Charlotte community - from our adjunct faculty to classroom guest lecturers to those who simply take the time to chat with students over a cup of coffee - who all hold a genuine interest in our professional development." It is a goal of CHESO to continue to strengthen the relationships between the students at UNC Charlotte and those health care leaders, the local GCHEG and ACHE professional community.

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[MHA Program Website](#)

Faculty Spotlight: Dr. Stephen Wagner

By Kelsey McEvoy



The life of a healthcare executive goes far beyond the typical 9-5 job, and for Dr. Stephen Wagner it goes beyond working each day at Carolinas

HealthCare System. Once a week, Dr. Wagner goes straight from CHS to teach MHA students about the U.S. healthcare system. He taught Practice Management last summer. Serving as the Vice President, Business Curriculum and Resident Development for CHS, Wagner helps residents with career counseling,

works on leadership and organization development, and helps with the management structure of the physician network, among many other responsibilities. He has always been interested in healthcare. Dr. Wagner began his career on the administrative side about 35 years ago, and has conducted clinical research. When asked why he enjoys teaching graduate students, Dr. Wagner simply replied he feels it is his responsibility. In his eyes, he is helping to develop the future leadership of healthcare. There is no doubt that students in Dr. Wagner's classes will leave well prepared and well informed, learning from his professional experience. His advice to his students is, "this is a rewarding but challenging field and it's rapidly changing. Keep learning and growing, and get comfortable with change."

MHA Interns



Christen Burns

"During my summer internship at Duke University Hospital, I teamed with administrators, nurses, and physicians to complete my projects and became familiar with hospital organizational structure. I also learned the operations of various clinical services.

This experience not only confirmed my decision to pursue health care administration, but also changed my career focus from strategic planning to hospital operations management."