

Master of Health Administration

Department of Public Health Sciences
College of Health and Human Services

MHA Alumni Spotlights



Clay Locklear '03

"I am honored to say that I am part of the UNCC MHA Advisory Board. It is important to be involved with the university and the program that I graduated from.

Since the program is engaging more alumni and became accredited by CAHME, I value my education in the UNCC MHA Program even more. I am proud to say that I am a UNCC MHA graduate."

National Public Health Week Alumni Networking Event



Welcome to our spring 2011 MHA newsletter! One of our priorities this year has been to strengthen connections with our MHA alumni. More than 40 MHA students, alumni, and faculty participated in our first annual alumni networking event. Alumni and students: please join our LinkedIn group (see below).

Our newsletter describes our MHA student participation in the 2011 ACHE Annual Congress, includes an interview with Ms. Angela Sanford (Vice President of Research Finance at Carolinas Healthcare System), and describes our MHA Professional Student Organization's third annual panel session co-sponsored with the Greater Charlotte Healthcare Executives Group.

On behalf of our students and faculty, we look forward to continuing to connect with you. We appreciate your support!

Sarah B. Laditka

Sarah B. Laditka, PhD
MHA Program Director

Alumni Networking Event

On April 7th, alumni and MHA students came together for an evening of socializing and networking as part of National Public Health Week. The event was held in uptown Charlotte at the BlackFinn American Saloon.

Alumni are a great asset because of their knowledge and ability to guide students in health care. Students and alumni were enthusiastic about this event, as alumni were able to learn more about the program's progress. The program has grown immensely in the past few years; our active alumni will make that growth stronger.



Kate Lowe (CHESO President), Sarah Laditka, Angela Sanford

Be a part of the discussion! Join our "UNC Charlotte MHA Program"

LinkedIn

MHA Alumni Spotlight



Lisa DeMao '05

“I’m very happy that the MHA program under new leadership is now reaching out to local Alumni. I am particularly excited to mentor current students in preparing for their career path in healthcare.”

GCHEG/CHESO

By Andrea Barberi



On April 12th, 2011 the Greater Charlotte Healthcare Executive Group (GCHEG) and UNC’s Charlotte Healthcare Executive Student Organization (CHESO) sponsored a continuing education panel on “Strategic Marketing: Winning the Battle for Markets and Share.” Our panelists were:

- **Blair Primis**, Director of Marketing and Public Relations, OrthoCarolina
- **Tom Elmore**, Vice President of Growth and Development at Novant Health
- **Stacey Brown**, Vice President of Alliance Operations for Premier Healthcare Alliance
- **Russell Guerin**, Executive Vice President of Business Development and Planning at Carolinas Healthcare System

Matt Turner, Partner at Coleman Lew & Associates, moderated the panel.

The 75+ attendees learned organizational strategies focused on:

- Growing market share
- The patient perspective and awareness
- Physician engagement
- Organizational effectiveness
- Leveraging legislation and regulation.

A common message was the importance of being aware of data from patients, employees, physicians and operations and finance. Russell Guerin commented, “Healthcare is no longer going to be just locally provided, so how will your organization leverage innovation and information to promote your agenda?”



Alzheimer’s Association Memory Walk

In October, student members of CHESO participated in the Alzheimer’s Association’s annual Memory Walk in Symphony Park, where participants gathered to hear speakers and performers affected by Alzheimer’s disease. Our CHESO team raised over \$3,000 for the Alzheimer’s Association, helping to fund research and help for individuals and families affected by Alzheimer’s.



ACHE Congress in Chicago

By *Kate Lowe*

In March, five MHA students made the trek to Chicago to gather with 4,500 healthcare leaders to attend the 2011 American College of Healthcare Executives' Congress on Healthcare Leadership. The conference provided lectures, networking events, and information for future healthcare leaders. From a student's point of view, I had the opportunity to network with several high-level executives from various hospitals and I met MHA students from programs all over the country. This truly was a unique experience and is a wonderful opportunity for a student to gain exposure in the healthcare management world. There are lectures specific to early careerists and speakers touch on subjects such as "How to get an Administrative Fellowship" and "What I Wish I Had Known 15 Years Ago: Leadership Lessons for Early

Careerists."

Next year's Congress will be March 19-22. There are opportunities to work at the conference to waive the registration fee. Funding is also available through the Graduate School.



Attendees: Anna Lowe, Christen Burns, Tonia Cable, Ashley Ferguson, Kate Lowe (not pictured)

MHA Alumni Spotlight



Elisa Alfieri '10

"I highly value my involvement with the MHA program.

I am very appreciative of all the faculty that helped me get to where I am today.

Being that I am on the MHA Advisory Board, I want to help other students, similar to the support that was given to me."

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[MHA Program Website](#)

Faculty Spotlight: Angela Sanford

By *Kelsey McEvoy*

When looking at the everyday life of Adjunct Associate Professor Angela Sanford, it doesn't take long to see that she fills a wide variety of roles. She is a healthcare professional, a teacher, a mentor, a runner, and a grandmother to a 20-month-old girl. She moved from Cleveland, Ohio to Charlotte almost four years ago when she was recruited to be the *Assistant Vice President of Research Finance* at Carolinas Healthcare System. Ms. Sanford was with the Cleveland Clinic, responsible for the finances of clinical operations, research, and endowment funds.

Now that she is in Charlotte, Ms. Sanford manages the finances of grants and contracts awarded to CHS. She balances this involvement in strategic planning with the day-to-day operation of her department.

Students in Ms. Sanford's health care accounting class receive the benefit of her real-life examples and immense experience. Ms. Sanford said, "I think my favorite part is watching the students learn new concepts and best practices that are proven to work and providing the students with tools that will help them in their health care careers"

Ms. Sanford volunteers with the "Healthy Kids Club" at Bruns Elementary School, mentoring a 4th grade girl on making healthy lifestyle choices.

When asked why she decided to work in the health care industry, Ms. Sanford mentioned that working in a hospital gives you a sense of helping people. Not only is she helping the greater good of CHS in her everyday job, she is helping our students excel with the hope they will someday do the same.

