Health Management and Informatics

Alumni
NEWSLETTER

Department Report

In March, during the ever consequential ACHE conference in Chicago, HMI hosted many alumni and students over three days in the HMI conference suite, now in its third year. The HMI conference suite is rented in a participating hotel and dedicated exclusively to promote interaction between HMI's main stakeholders, students, alumni members, and some occasional guests.

In my personal interactions with many of HMI's stakeholders during the ACHE conference, I've felt a genuine and palpable positive energy about the future of HMI every time I described how much the department has achieved in the past few years. These achievements include the development of academic programs (Master of Health Administration and Master of Science in Health Informatics), the growth and quality of the research enterprise, and other productive activities. However, during the conference, I also experienced firsthand the consequences of misinformation about HMI and its programs when visiting the exposition area with booths from all academic programs, consultants, and health care management companies. In two booths for academic programs similar to HMI's, two different people independently shared their incredulity that HMI of the University of Missouri "still existed". In another booth promoting a population management software, a worker who has worked for that company for over five years has never heard about HMI. But the same worker could point me to a similar program booth located in an area of the exhibition room not visible to the worker.

The juxtaposition of these two perceptions about HMI and its programs rings a bell as to why some reputational reports like U.S. News & World Report lists the HMI MHA program in the middle of the distribution of the reputation ranks for similar programs in America. HMI has lost its visibility among peers, some stakeholders, and the public at large, despite large data and information gathered every year that clearly indicate its programs have never been stronger and that key stakeholders--the students--have never been more satisfied. HMI needs a strategy to continue garnering the trust and sup-port of our stakeholders while educating the public at large about what it is and does. The strategy should be based on knowledge as old as marketing and advertising are concerned: "being out of sight subsequently leads to being out of mind."

Call For Nominations

If you are interested in running for the HMIAA Board of Directors the call for nominations is open. Please submit your name or that of a colleague that may be interested to Ashley Kimberling at akimber2@jhmi.edu. Nominations need to be submitted by May 22, 2016.

HMI Alumni Association Awards Nomination Form

We are pleased to announce the call for nominations for the 2016 HMI Alumni Organization Awards! Each year two alumni are awarded the Early Careerist and Lifetime Achievement Awards. To nominate distinguished alumni for these prestigious awards. Please download the nomination form, which can be found at:
http://hmi.missouri.edu/alumni/alumni_awards_nomination.html

Please email the completed form with your other nomination materials to:

Justin Garry, MHA
HMI Alumni Board President-Elect
Justin.Garry@avera.org

If you have questions, please contact Veronica Lemme at lemmev@missouri.edu

Save the Date
for
Fall Institute 2016
September 22-23, 2016

Stoney Creek Inn and Conference Center
2601 South Providence Road
Columbia, Missouri

ACHE Category 1 Sessions - Student and Alumni Receptions - Silent Auction - And More!

Invitation to Follow

To reserve a room please call 1-800-659-2220 and reference the block of rooms under "Health Management and Informatics".

For questions, contact Veronica Lemme at lemmev@health.missouri.edu or 573-884-0698. You can also find information at http://www.hmi.missouri.edu

HIMSS 2016

The Health Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS) conference was held February 29th to March 4th in Las Vegas, Nevada. Vendors from all over the country came to share the latest cutting-edge technologies. There were over 200 educational sessions for professionals and students. Topics ranged from career development to health information exchange. The conference closed with an motivational speech from Peyton Manning about the future of healthcare.

> "Peyton Manning gave an inspirational speech about how to be a great leader. He mentioned that sometimes we have to look back in order to be a great leader in the future. We must learn from our pasts (both successes and failures) in order to better lead others."

31 first and second year graduate students from the HMI program attended the conference. Many were chosen as program assistants. These students helped ensure the program ran smoothly. HIMSS is a wonderful opportunity to explore potential career paths. There are multiple networking opportunities for students to connect with employers.

ACHE 2016

American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE) is an international professional organization that consists of 40,000 healthcare students and executives who lead hospitals and other healthcare organizations. This year, alumni and students from the HMI program attended the congressional meeting. Students can earn points for philanthropy, professional development, and participation in HMIGSA activities to earn reimbursement for conference travel. This opportunity is made possible from the great support of our alumni at Fall Institute through fundraising. A second year student, Shreya Patel was given the honor to be a Program Assistant for the conference. Shreya's experience was unlike any other, "Working as a program assistant at ACHE Congress is a wonderful opportunity to directly interact with numerous executives and build your professional network. In addition to the networking, being a PA allows you to work and sit in on executive educational sessions that you would otherwise be restricted from at no cost to you. PA's also receive full registration reimbursement, so it is beneficial for anyone

Front row left to right: Jared Long, Veronica Lemme, Amy Myers, Ellis Lichtfuss, Sara Sternberger, Bill Blanchard, Eduardo Simoes, John Link, Rick Sommer
Back row left to right: Justin Garry, Jaie Lavoie, Sue Boren, Ashley Kimberling, Kaci Dannatt, Lindsey Lehman, Dan Kline, Alex Gill, Hemanth Modadugu, Carol Hafley, Shreya Patel, Shelby Sturgill, Beau Lavoie

The strategy should make HMI's presence real, reachable, and interactive for those who don't know about HMI, and even for those who do. The strategy should build a level of recognition which is commensurate with HMI achievements in higher education. Starting this Spring of 2016, HMI will have a four-step action plan to increase its visibility and reputation.

The first action is HMI's commitment to report annually to stakeholders about its achievement as a higher education institution: training and graduate programs, research, service, and administrative acumen. This report will be done through our newsletter every spring. In this newsletter issue, HMI is presenting its first comprehensive report covering the past four years of the department.

The second action is to redouble HMI's current effort to market the program to all. HMI marketing efforts had been neg-atively affected by cost-saving decisions administration had to make based on the financial situation of the department back in the Fall of 2011. For example, HMI will, for the first time in five years, have a booth and stand at the 2017 ACHE conference exposition and every year after 2017. HMI will also be officially present in five conferences every year: Missouri Hospital Association Annual Conference, AUPHA, ACHE, AMIA, and HIMSS. Often, these conference exhibitions guarantee that each sponsor at the "outreach level" receives: a) logo on conference website with link to business site; b) company name in conference program; c) option to place materials in attendee portfolios; d) up to 18" x 24" poster displayed in exhibit hall; and e) logo on conference mobile application.

The third action is to make HMI faculty involvement essential in organizations such as MHA, AUPHA, ACHE, AMIA and HIMSS, since these are the leading organizations in either academic or practice of health care management and informatics in the United States. More specifically, HMI will aggressively pursue its faculty participation in services oriented to the membership of these organizations. For example, Dr. Sue Boren is sensitive to this issue through her leadership on the AMIA Academic Forum Executive Committee and the National Council on Administrative Fellowships Steering Committee. In this way, other member programs begin to identify HMI with their membership organizations.

The fourth and final action revolves around nurturing and guaranteeing a strong and participative membership of the HMI Alumni organization now and in the future. To this end, HMI administration will continue to support recently adopted strategies for more student involvement in the educational programs' structure and activities, as well as in the Fall Institute which every year brings together alumni members of all ages and classes. It also involves direct and regular communication with alumni through monthly conference calls and the HMI Alumni suite at the ACHE conference.

Evidently, the underlying context for a successful implementation of this strategy involves continuing HMI efforts to always pursue administrative acumen, accountability, transparency, and planned actions. It also involves continuing efforts to shore up quality and depth of teaching by recruitment and hiring of highest quality faculty to compose HMI's rank of renowned faculties. Finally, increasing HMI's status in health care management and informatics research is also critical for building its reputation as an expert organization in this field.

This report is the first in a series that will be produced every year to update on seven items that comprehensively address HMI program achievements.

1) Description of our graduate program student body, including its diversity:

There are currently 191 students actively enrolled in our graduate programs. 151 students are pursuing an MHA degree and 61 students are pursuing an MS degree in health informatics. Several students are pursuing both degrees. Our MHA program is the fourth largest program in the country. The 164 students who have graduated in the past three years represent the following demographics: 87 (53%) male, 77 (47%) female, 140 (85%) domestic, 24 (15%) international, and 18 (11%) underrepresented minority.

2) Graduate student achievements in terms of instruction received, internship placement, satisfaction, willingness to recommend program, and completion:

By multiple measures (e.g., course evaluations, faculty teaching awards, internship placement rates, retention rates, and graduation exit interviews), instruction offered by the Department of Health Management and Informatics is effective. Overall, student course evaluations of 4.4 on a 5.0 scale suggest that the Department is doing a very good job in instruction. All course evaluations are reviewed by administration. In 2014, Dr. Lanis Hicks was the School of Medicine faculty recipient of the 2014 Gold Chalk Award. The Gold Chalk Award, presented by the Graduate Professional Council, recognizes University of Missouri faculty who have made significant contributions to the education and training of graduate and professional students. 100% of our residential MHA students are placed into internships with the facilitation of our Executive-in-Residence, Mr. Rick Sommer, and our summer internship educational partners who provide high quality experiences for our students. The internship placements for the past three years are available on our website (https://hmi.missouri.edu/prospective/educational_partners.html). Currently, 94% of our MHA students complete the program within two years. Since 2013, 80% of our graduates agree or strongly agree with the statement "If I had to choose a graduate program again, I would choose this one." Since 2012, 84% of our graduates are extremely confident or quite confident that they will enjoy a great career in healthcare.

3) Jobs and fellowships within three months after graduation:

The HMI Department faculty prepares students for the next phase of their careers. Since we began tracking employment placement rates in 2012, 100% of our residential graduates entering the workforce have been employed within three months of graduation. The initial post-graduation placements for the past three years are available on our website (http://www.hmi.missouri.edu/prospective/placements.html). Many of our students pursue administrative fellowships instead of jobs for their first placement following graduation. Administrative Fellowships are highly competitive and in short supply. Based on the numbers of available fellowships, only 10% of graduates from a health administration program would be expected to obtain a fellowship, however, on average more than 30% of our residential graduates have obtained fellowships in recent years. The market for our graduates is a national one. Since 2013, graduates pursued jobs and fellowships in 21 states, the District of Columbia, and 3 other countries. Graduates of our executive program are already employed in the health care field.

4) The report will also cover other areas of the department to show growth and development in research performance (grants and sponsored research, publications, presentations, faculty awards) compared to peers across the United States:

Academic Analytics places the HMI Department at the top of the second quintile for grants, awards, publications, and citations, as compared to 113 other similar Departments. Academic Analytics, LLC, is a company that provides annual measures of scholarly productivity using aggregated data from several sources. The Department is ranked above the national median on 23 of the 26 indicators of research productivity. For the indicators "Grant Dollars per Faculty Member" and "Total Grant Dollars," the Department is at the national average. For the indicator "Dollars per Grant," the Department is just below the national average. The Department currently is experiencing an extremely competitive and tight funding environment. Several faculty have shifted their focus away from research and toward teaching. All of the HMI Department faculty members have been placed into the Academic Analytics five quintiles based on scholarly productivity defined by the following items and weights: citations (33%), articles (33%), awards (10%), books (4%), and grants (20%). The first quintile represents the most productive faculty members and the fifth quintile represents the least productive faculty members. Academic Analytics' quintile analysis of HMI Department faculty shows that nine of twelve faculty are highly productive and rank in the top two quintiles, while three faculty rank in the third quintile.

5) Fiscal and management acumen:

Health Management and Informatics faculty research programs are highly productive as measured by all

traditional standards. One example of sponsored grants and contracts is MOHIT. HMI received an $8.7 million contract from Department of Health and Human Services to help rural providers and physicians achieve meaningful use stage 3 compliance. This contract began in FY10 and is expected to end in FY16. Partners on this project have included MU's Center for Health Policy and MU's Telehealth along with several non-MU partners that include Hospital Industry Data Institute, MO Primary Care Association, Primaris and EHR Pathway. As a result of the success of this project, MOHIT is assisting another state with its providers who have ties to Missouri. Another project will focus on local public health departments across the state.

Another example of a sponsored research and contracts award is the contribution of HMI faculty as co-principal investigators of the two-year Centers of Medicare and Medicaid Services Health Care Innovation Award of $13.3 million to the University of Missouri (2013). This project aimed to provide enhanced primary care to Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries receiving primary care within the University of Missouri Health System.

Since 2012, HMI's grants and contracts have been vital to the survival of HMI and account for more than 50% of its annual budget. These grants and contracts have also accounted for approximately 1/3 of faculty salaries annually. As evidenced in the Academic Analytics report, total grant dollars for HMI have exceeded the national benchmark for like departments. After factoring in the sponsored activities above, HMI is doing more than its part in bringing revenues in to the University of Missouri.

6) CAHME accreditation of the Health Administration Program for the longest period possible (granted to similar programs in the US):

The Master of Health Program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Management Education (CAHME). Following our site visit in Fall 2013, we were granted the full seven-year reaccreditation. (http://www.cahme.org/CAHME/Linked_Internal_Pages/Fall_2014_Accreditation_Actions.aspx)

7) New courses and programs:

Our Master of Science in Health Informatics program is preparing to be accredited by the Council on the Accreditation of Health Informatics and Information Management (CAHIIM). This opportunity has only been available for a few years. We expect to be among the first 10 health informatics programs to be accredited. Dr. Sue Boren serves on the Health Informatics Accreditation Council of CAHIIM.

HMI has developed a 100% online Graduate Certificate Program in Informatics for Public Health expected to launch in 2017 to 1) further meet the growing demand for professional education and development in the field of public health informatics, and 2) expand the reach of our educational program offerings. Students in the program will gain a basic knowledge of issues in informatics and competence in evaluating and discovering solutions for the current and future public health informatics challenges.

If you are not currently a connection on our University of Missouri Department of Health Management and Informatics Alumni LinkedIn page please be sure to become a member.

We have started a new Facebook page for recruiting purposes and would love to have you as a friend. You can find our new page at Mizzou Health Management and Informatics or click the link below. It's a great way to keep up with our students, department and faculty accomplishments and events.

Meet....

Executive Student Robert Hamilton

Program Year: Executive MHA/MSHI, December 2016

Previous Degrees: BS in Biomedical Engineering at the University of Missouri.

Current Employment: Eastern Kansas Healthcare System, Veterans Health Administration, Chief Biomedical Engineer

Why did you choose the Mizzou HMI program?

My preceptor when I was an intern for the VA had graduated from the program in 2009 and strongly recommended it. I was interested in pursuing an advanced degree and liked the idea of working on it while I worked in a regular career.

What is the most memorable thing that you have learned in the program so far?

It's really hard to peg down one single thing that I've learned that was my favorite, so I'm not even going to try and narrow it down. As far as assignments go, I've enjoyed the group work the most. My cohort works well together and it's made the group projects very enjoyable.

What benefits have you encountered in getting your degree through the Executive Program?

Definitely the biggest benefit is the people I have met working in the program. It has been great to meet a lot of people from very unique backgrounds coming together for a common goal. I got a lot of exposure I never would have received and made several friends. In addition, working on the program while working a regular 9-5 has taught me how to budget my time - I never thought I could fit so much into one day.

Why did you choose a career in healthcare?

Really, I stumbled into it. After graduating from MU, I didn't have any plans, but knew I wanted to stay close. I found a job in Kansas City that offered a lot of room for growth and wound up really liking healthcare. My experience in the program has only increased my interest.

What do you think the biggest challenges will be in healthcare going forward?

Keeping up with the ever-changing landscape of the industry, in terms of externally imposed governmental/regulatory requirements that seem to increase in complexity year after year. Healthcare leaders are expected not only to meet current requirements, but also forecast where the industry is going to go in 5 years and make the best decisions in spite of the changing and uncertain policy. That and cutting costs. In my own niche, it's going to be getting medical device manufacturers to work with other industry leaders and regulatory bodies to make more flexible (in terms of maintaining and updating) and interoperable medical systems.

What is your favorite Columbia or Mizzou experience?

It's hard to beat tailgating. Pretty much anytime I've ever been to Snapper's could qualify as my favorite Mizzou experience. If you haven't been there I strongly recommend it.

What is one fun fact that we may not know about you?

I used to load missiles and bombs on F-15s and B-2s, respectively, for the Air National Guard. I was the epitome of safety as a young man.

Residential Student Dominique Bouchard

Hometown: North Bay, Ontario, Canada

Program Year: Residential MHA, 2016

Previous Degree: BA in Psychology and BS in Biology also at University of Missouri

What are your career interest areas?

Physician Practice, Medicine

Why did you choose the Mizzou HMI program?

I always had an interest in health care. However, the program fit perfectly for where I am in my life right now.

Who has been your favorite professor and why?

A tie between Dr. Hensel and Dr. Phillips. They are very engaging and know how to show both sides of an issue and bring in real life experiences. Honorable mentions go to Dr. Wakefield and Koby Clements. They both really know their stuff when it comes to quality and process improvement!

Why did you choose a career in healthcare?

There are not very many industries that everyone is involved with at least once in there life and health care is one of them.

What do you think the biggest challenges will be in healthcare going forward?

The intricacies of the ACA, and the different interpretations of it. The adoption of new payment systems/reimbursement systems and the amount of spending are also issues that will be a challenge going forward.

What is one fun fact that we may not know about you?

I am a world ranked competitive swimmer. I swam for Mizzou from 2009-2013 and was a four-time NCAA All-American. I am currently on the Canadian National Team. I was a silver medalist at the 2015 Pan American Games in Toronto, ON, in the 200 meter backstroke. I was also 6th at the 2015 FINA World Aquatic Champions in Kazan, Russia. In April of 2016, I qualified for the Canadian Olympic Team and will be competing at the Rio Olympic Games in August 2016 in the 100 meter and 200 meter backstroke. Once I get back to Columbia after the Olympic Games, I will be doing my internship in Patient Access at University Hospital.

The University of Missouri team took second place at the 2016 CLARION National Case Competition in Minneapolis April 15-16. The CLARION Case Competition brings together inter-professional teams from universities around the country to work on an adverse events-related case, creating a root cause analysis, and propose solutions to problems. The teams present their analysis to a panel of interprofessional judges that evaluates their analysis in the context of real world standards of practice. MU also won the 2005, 2009, 2011, and 2013 Clarion competitions. The team included MHA student Dillon Falk, pharmacy student Kenna Marx, nursing student Kristy Nielson, and medicine student Nathanial Nolan.

MHA students Monica Godbee, Sally Dalton, Shreya Patel, and Saniya Bhusari pose with Dr. Boren after competeing in the the Univesity of Alabama Case Competition earlier this semester.