January 9, 2008

Resolution for the new year... HMI ALUMNI MENTORING!!!

Dear HMI Alumni,

A couple of months ago we invited you to participate in the HMI Alumni-Student Mentoring Program that has been created by the HMI Alumni Organization in collaboration with HMI Faculty.

We've made some improvements to the program this year, including quarterly "check-ins" by steering committee alumni and faculty to gauge how the mentoring relationship is going and whether some coaching or intervention is needed.

We currently have all second year students paired with an alumni mentor (many thanks to alumni that have already begun the mentoring process for this academic year), but we still need additional alumni to complete the pairing with the first year students.

This is a great opportunity to mentor an HMI student. If you were an alumni mentor last year and your student graduated, please sign up to take on a first year student! If you aren't currently an alumni mentor, please join us! We would like to thank those that have already volunteered this year!

   Dan Body    Michelle Koller    Bryce Silyman
   Lee Clinton  David Lewis      Jeff Tindle
   Brian Cook   Jeff McKune     Carey Unger
   Dexter D'Costa  Elizabeth Mills  Rohini Wadhawan
   Justin Garry  Gonza Namulanda Justin Watkins
   Mark Hamilton  Hetal Rupani

What is the HMI Alumni-Student Mentoring Program?  HMI Alumni are paired with current health services management and health informatics master's degree students in dedicated, one-on-one mentor-student relationships. Receiving ongoing support, advice, and guidance from an experienced and helpful senior colleague is extremely valuable during the early stages of (and throughout) one's career.

What is the Length of Commitment?  The commitment is for a one-year mentor-student assignment.

What are the Expectations of Alumni/Mentors?  Meet with the student on a monthly basis (by telephone or face-to-face) to assist him/her in crafting an Individual Career Development Plan (ICDP) designed to help identify and achieve
career planning and professional development goals.

What are the Benefits of Mentoring? Satisfaction from helping others and seeing them progress; opportunities to practice and develop management skills; and job enrichment and the chance to broaden professional networks.

"My mentoring relationship with Matt works well due to regular communication. Matt contacts me whenever he's got a question, wants my opinion, or just wants to talk with someone out in the field for a different perspective. The relationship takes commitment from both the student and the mentor. Through communication with Matt, it's given me a chance to relate to past experiences and current situations to grad school classes. This helps me to see different avenues I may take in my professional workings. Participating in a mentoring relationship as both a student and now a mentor has helped me to continue to build on my professional success and be involved in my alma mater graduate MHA program."

-- Michelle Koller, MHA Graduate 2000

If you are interested in being an alumni mentor or for more information, please contact Linda Huether at (573) 882-6179 or HuetherL@health.missouri.edu.

Thank you,

Natalie Caine
(MHA 2005)
President-Elect, HMI Alumni Organization

Jag Gill
(MHA 1989)
Chair, Student Relations Committee

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