



University of Missouri - Columbia
Department of Health Management and Informatics
Affinity Group Within Mizzou Alumni Association



Dear HMI Alumni,

The HMI Alumni Organization, in collaboration with HMI faculty, invites you to participate in the **HMI Alumni-Student Mentoring Program**.

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 most second year students paired with an alumni mentor (many thanks to those who have continued the mentoring process for this academic year), but we still need additional alumni to complete pairing with first year students.

This is a great opportunity to mentor an HMI student. This year we need to match 36 students with an alumni mentor. 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! The start of a pairing will be a great way for the first-year students to start the new semester and year, and **the Fall Institute will be a great opportunity to meet each other**.

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?

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.

Expectations of Students

- Engage in monthly telephone or face-to-face meetings with the alumni/mentor;
- Work with the alumni/mentor to compose, launch, and follow an Individual Career Development Plan (ICDP) designed to help achieve career planning and professional development goals; and
- Join and participate in one or more professional organizations (e.g., ACHE, MGMA, AcademyHealth, AMIA, HIMSS, HFMA, or other well-respected organizations).

What are the Benefits of Mentoring?

Students have found consistently that mentoring has:

- Enhanced their training and career development,
- Significantly influenced their attitudes and professional outlook, and
- Provided guidance when faced with major professional decisions and obstacles.

Alumni Mentors have found consistently that mentoring provides:

- 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.

If you are interested in being an alumni mentor: Please e-mail Linda Huether at HuetherL@health.missouri.edu by Wednesday, October 15, 2008.

Thank you,

Jag Gill (MHA 1989)
Student Relations Committee Chair
HMI Alumni Organization

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