

# ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

MAY 2009

## MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Greetings All,

It never fails to amaze me how fast the academic year goes by. It seems like we have no sooner attended the opening picnic than we are at the pre-convocation reception across the street from the Meyerhoff. I guess the old adage that “time flies when you’re having fun” is true. This has certainly been a fun year.

A big “congratulations!” goes to Jamila Savage, our Academic Program Coordinator, who was awarded the Student Assembly Staff Recognition Award. Those of you familiar with Jamila know exactly why and how she won it. For those who have not yet met her, let me just say her hard work has really allowed us to improve the program significantly. We’d truly be lost without her.



Bill Ward

Also to be congratulated is Ann-Michele Gundlach, Ed.D., Associate Director, who won one of this year’s Golden Apple Awards. We’ve had winners in the department before, but I think this is the first time one of our program faculty has won the award. Congrats, Ann-Michele!!

Ann-Michele was also the person responsible for implementing our program’s new case competition this year. More on that elsewhere in this newsletter, but it highlights the changes we continue to make to the program in order to keep it on the cutting edge. We added two courses this year, one dealing with the management and leadership side of clinical quality improvement and the other introducing students to hospital operations.

I’ve been on the road a bit of late. New Jersey passed legislation requiring that all hospital trustees be trained in such things as reading hospital financial statements. The New Jersey Hospital Association has asked me to provide the training. I’ve been all over the state and even got my picture in the March 6th issue of Modern Healthcare!

As I write this, the second year students are about to graduate, the first years are looking forward with great anticipation to the end of classes and the start their residencies, and all of us in the program are looking forward to a few days of rest before the Summer Institute begins and we get back to work getting ready for the start of the next academic year. Those of you living/working in the area, feel free to stop in for a visit whenever it is convenient for you. Or plan on attending one of our “meet and greet” networking sessions. Those of you outside the Baltimore area, please let us know what you are up to. And if you find yourself in Baltimore, let us know so we can try to connect.

Best wishes to all of you. Enjoy the summer!

Cheers,

*Bill*

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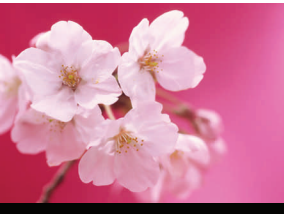
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## MHS PROGRAM INSTITUTES CASE COMPETITION

One of the continuing challenges of working in the health care sector in the United States is the ability to analyze problems, develop innovative solutions and convince others of their viability. To that end, we have added a new component to our curriculum this year, a formal case competition. This educational experience was designed to give students the opportunity to apply what they have learned in the classroom to a real-world health care problem before they begin their residencies. Our case competition uses a similar format to those used in national case competitions for MHA and MBA programs throughout the country.

This year's cohort, Class of 2010, was divided into six teams and on April 3 presented their recommendations to a panel of judges composed of health care decision makers from the Baltimore area. These judges included Warren Green, President and CEO of Lifebridge Health, Paul Sokolowski, former Senior Vice President, Finance Advocacy, Maryland Hospital Association and Paula Terzigni, Clinical Director Emergency Services, Greater Baltimore Medical Center. In the two weeks following the competition, teams also had the opportunity to view and critique the video tape of their presentations.

The Case Competition Awards went to the following teams:

- **First Place - Team 3:** Marco Priolo, Kristina Das & Angela CJ Vincent
- **Second Place - Team 4:** Sunil Vasudevan, Lisa Doshi & Sara Wei
- **Third Place - Team 2:** Ahmed Elsayed, Anamika Jain, Su Lee & Michael Poli

Based on the success of this year's experience, we will continue to sponsor this case competition each year.



**MHS Class of 2010 at the April 3, 2009 Case Competition**



**The Judges**  
(from left to right)

**Warren Green, Paula Terzigni, &  
Paul Sokolowski**

For more pictures from this year's Case Competition, please log onto JHU InCircle at <http://alumni.jhu.edu/> or email Jamila Savage at [jsavage@jhsph.edu](mailto:jsavage@jhsph.edu)


**SPOTLIGHT ON ALUMNI**
**Inga Adams-Pizarro, HFM Class of '02**

Written by Min Wang, Class of 2009



Ms. Inga Adams-Pizarro, MHS class of 2002, has led a diverse and exciting career in international development, healthcare quality, and patient safety. After graduating from college with a degree in international affairs, Inga spent a year in Panama City working in public relations for a medical equipment company. Upon her return to the States, Inga identified a desire to work in healthcare quality issues. First, she held various positions at an international development organization working on pharmaceutical management issues, then decided to study healthcare management through the HFM program. In 2001 she began her residency at a large public hospital system in Florida, at a time when patient safety and clinical informatics were a major thrust for both her organization and the national healthcare environment. With this experience, upon returning to the DC area in 2003, Inga has worked both domestically and internationally on healthcare quality and patient safety issues.

Inga has a broad range of experience and skills, and brings a thoughtful, collaborative, and dynamic approach to the table. Currently she is the Director of Operations and Development for the Maryland Patient Safety Center. Designated as a state patient safety center in 2004, the Center began as a collaboration between Delmarva Foundation and Maryland Hospital Association. Now an independent nonprofit with a regional focus, the Center brings together a spectrum of Maryland healthcare professionals, all of whom are dedicated to improving the safety and quality of health care delivered in the state. Ms. Adams-Pizarro oversees strategic planning for regional patient safety efforts, designs healthcare quality and patient safety programs involving a broad range of stakeholders, develops partnerships and collaborations, and serves as the hub of the Center's multitude of efforts. Her experience is a testimony to her creativity in utilizing her diverse skill set in many different settings.

**MEET A CURRENT MHS STUDENT**
**Keith Laffman**  
**MHS Candidate, Class of 2010**

Keith M. Laffman is a first year student currently on a military scholarship. He has been working in the healthcare field for the last 14 years as a physical therapy technician and the last 8 years as an emergency medical technician in the United States Navy. This additional degree will present new opportunities for him to approach healthcare from the other side: administration.

Keith will be starting his residency at Kernan Hospital in Baltimore, MD at the end of May 2009. He believes the residency will offer many chances to apply and strengthen what he learned during the didactic portion of his program. Upon completing the MHS degree, Keith will return to the military where he will be reassigned, hopefully, in a hospital setting to put his new knowledge to the test. Keith stated that, although this time away from the military has been interesting, he is excited about returning to the military full time and looks forward to using his new skills to positively contribute to the US healthcare system.



## ALUMNI CLASS REPRESENTATIVES SELECTED

Thanks to all of you who have agreed to be class representatives. The Student Association will be in touch with class reps during the summer asking the reps to assist in getting updated information from their classmates. Reps will also be asked to be the liaison between the Student Association and their cohorts. If there is not a class rep assigned to your graduating class, this would be the perfect opportunity to volunteer!!! If you would like to be the class rep for your cohort, please contact Jonathan Liu at [joliu@jhsph.edu](mailto:joliu@jhsph.edu).

<u>Graduation Year</u>	<u>Class Representative</u>
2010	Ekta Sura
2009	Dorothy Kester
2008	Lisa-Nicole Danehy
2007	Nicole Orange
2006	George Karageorgiou
2005	Shaila Toro
2004	Zahabia Electricwala
2003	Mayank Patel
2002	Jessica Panish/Inga Adams-Pizarro
2001	Amanda Berke
2000	Heather Campbell
1999	Stacy Lee
1998	Aileen McShea
1997	Jill Brown
1996	
1995	
1994	Elisabeth Johnson
1993	
1992	
1991	Shannon Gallivan
1990	Alfred Campanella
1989	Mary Shaub

## ALUMNI UPDATES

**Sarani Banerji, Class of 2002**, recently left the world of healthcare consulting to become the Director of Finance Planning at St. Vincent's Catholic Medical Center in Manhattan.

**Derrick Flowers, Class of 2001**, is now in Texas. Although still in the military, he has been wearing civilian clothes and doing Training With Industry (TWI) with Vanguard/Baptist Health System in San Antonio. The intent of the program is to learn the best business practices from a for-profit civilian healthcare system that can be employed in the Army medical system. Upon completion of TWI in May 2009, Derrick will be reassigned as the Chief, Finance and Accounting (Corporate Controller) for the U.S. Army Medical Department, Fort Sam Houston, TX.

**Yanie Mata Jackson, Class of 2005**, left Deloitte to take a position within the Center for Quality and Safety at Massachusetts General Hospital.

**Shaila Toro, Class of 2005**, moved to Richmond, VA to join KLMK, a healthcare consulting firm that specializes in facility planning and strategic services.

**WHAT'S NEW WITH YOU?**

The program office encourages you to share your information via email/internet. We would love to hear from you. Let us know if you have changed positions, addresses, etc. Also, if you have some updates you would like us to include in upcoming newsletters, we'd be happy to do so.



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