Greetings to All,

Hard to believe it has been a year already! So many great things happened in 2014-15 and with the Bloomberg School of Public Health’s Centennial in full swing, this year promises to be even more exciting (see the Article on the 2016 Centennial on page 2). The JHSPH will be holding events all over the world this year as part of the celebration, so be sure to see if you can attend one near you.

The biggest part of starting a new school year is the arrival of the new class. Like all of our cohorts, the Class of 2017 comes from a wide range of educational backgrounds, experiences and geographic locales. They are off to a great start and are getting out and about in the community to see how health care is delivered in Maryland.

Speaking of Maryland, the state is in the midst of a major experiment that changes the way hospitals and health systems are reimbursed. The aim of the program is to move toward a population-based payment method that relies on ‘global budgets’ designed to shift the focus from the treatment of illness to wellness promotion. The experiment is being closely watched both across the country and around the world. Many of our alumni are already playing a major role in the project (see Meet the HSCRC story on page 4).

Lastly, I’d like to touch on a couple of events in the MHA Program’s staffing. Join me in welcoming LaKeasha Wormley to the program. She is already off to a flying start! Congratulations are also due to Dr. Doug Hough who was married over the summer and honeymooned in Barcelona this fall.

Best,

Eric W. Ford, MPH, Ph.D.
Welcome MHA Class of 2017

All 26 first-year MHA students made it to the Towson home of Eric and Deborah Ford on August 21 for the program’s annual welcome party. By the time the cohort arrived to Baltimore, they had already been in regular email contact with the program office and each other. Although the venue was new, the drill remains the same: eat, drink, be merry and smile for the camera! The weather, though hot, held out to allow for another outstanding outdoor group photo.

The Class of 2017 succeeded on their first attempt to do what they will be asked to do multiple times throughout the year......carpool and arrive to their destination on time.

A Century of Saving Lives at JHSPH

JHSPH is celebrating its 100th birthday during this academic year. Regardless of where you are, please visit http://www.jhsph.edu/about/centennial-2016/ to learn how the school is celebrating, both in Baltimore and around the world.

On September 9, the Fun Festival took place on the parking lot near the School of Nursing. For just $1, you had the opportunity to dunk a JHSPH faculty member. Dean Klag, who you probably last saw dressed in regalia, raised a small fortune for the Wolfe Street Academy, one of the local elementary schools. (Pictured is a very wet Dean Klag)
Only a few weeks after teaching her 4th term course in Human Resources, Pamela Paulk was among the 20 Hopkins faculty and staff members who twisted, turned, flipped and glided across the stage in Turner Auditorium in support of United Way. Ron Peterson, president of the Johns Hopkins Health System and executive vice president of Johns Hopkins Medicine and Sandy Johnson, training and education coordinator for general services at The Johns Hopkins Hospital, served as the emcees for the inaugural Dancing with the Hopkins Stars.

Each couple performed a 90-second dance routine to a different dance style and song. When Pamela, the president of Johns Hopkins Medicine International, volunteered to donate her kidney in 2009 in a historic domino kidney transplant procedure led by JohnHopkins, she never imagined that one day she’d be dancing alongside one of the surgeons involved in the operation. Her partner for the evening was Dorry Segev, associate vice chair in the Department of Surgery. Dorry has been dancing and competing in Lindy Hop, a version of swing dance, with his wife for over 16 years. Pamela, who frequents the dance floor much less regularly than Dorry, was terrified of performing but Dorry knew that they would win over the crowd when he flipped her during their performance to a 1940s Andrew Sisters song. Many said the backflip sealed the deal and the couple left the event with the coveted mirror-ball trophies.

The event raised over $52,000 for United Way.
Ward to the Wise — New Book to be Available Soon

Bill Ward’s new book, *Healthcare Budgeting and Financial Management*, should be hitting the bookshelves in December. This is Bill’s third book and it is a completely revised and updated version of his classic on healthcare financial management that MHS/HFM and MHA students have been using for years. References to floppy disks have been deleted, but some of the pay rates used in explaining the various concepts are still pretty low. Bill reminds us they are strictly for illustration purposes. The plan is to finish academic year 2015-16 with the current text before switching to the new one beginning with the Summer Institute offering of the budget course. There is no sex or violence in the book, but if Hollywood is interested, there could always be a rewrite with Biff the CFO being murdered in chapter one by a frustrated line manager followed by the hunt for the killer! If there is a movie adaptation, Bill is hoping to be played by George Clooney.

Welcome to Maryland....Meet the HSCRC

Each year the MHA cohort attracts students from all over the U.S., and it doesn’t take students long to understand that one of the distinguishing characteristics of the Hopkins MHA is that it is in Maryland. What’s so special about that? Hopkins students are introduced to an acronym that most MHA students never need to learn: *HSCRC*. Rather than asking healthcare executives who frequently reference the “Waiver” to explain it, the program office invited program alum Nina Lieu, Sierra Long and James Case from KPMG’s healthcare practice in Baltimore to provide a course in HSCRC 101. The *Health Services Cost Review Commission* is the state regulatory commission that sets rates at Maryland hospitals which ALL payers must pay. These rates differ from government rates (Medicare and Medicaid) paid in other states. The original “Waiver Test” was based on Maryland inpatient regulated acute and chronic Medicare payments only. The new waiver, approved January 1, 2014 for a 5-year period, is a shift in focus to population health and delivery system redesign. This new model has effectively shifted all hospitals in Maryland from a “per episode” rate setting methodology to a fixed revenue base. What happens in Maryland over the next few years as a result of the new waiver is something that will and should be watched across the country.
Residency Updates from the Class of 2016

Our residents aren’t afraid to roll up their sleeves. Matt Castner scooped out more than 15 gallons of Italian Ice to night shift employees as part of an employee appreciation event at Howard County General Hospital. Matt was certainly in good company.

From left to right: Debbie Miller, Director of Cultural Transformation; Kim Salazar, Director of Finance & Decision Support; Matt; Nancy Smith, Senior Director of Patient Care Services; Bryan Columbo, Developmental Services Associate; and Dr. Eric Aldrich, Vice President of Medical Affairs.

No, Liana Burns is not attending a Ravens game with her preceptor, President and CEO of LifeBridge Health, Neil Meltzer. Yes, it is M&T Stadium. LifeBridge hosted an employee celebration and rally on Sunday, September 20. The event was an opportunity for employees from different facilities to come together as one team, including the newest member of the LBH family, Carroll Hospital. Employees and their guests enjoyed games, food, locker room tours and meeting several former Ravens.

The MHA program office knew that when Julie Sorensen moved to Phoenix for her residency with Cigna Medical Group, she was going to take full advantage of the great outdoors and her proximity to Colorado. Here’s Julie at Columbine Pass during her four-day backpacking trip in the San Juan Mountains during Labor Day weekend. (Funny, Labor Day is only a three-day weekend on the East coast!)
One of Teresa’s most enjoyable responsibilities is to monitor second year students during their residencies. Her first site visits this year were in Washington D.C. to visit Christine Careaga at Sibley Memorial Hospital and Edwin Zhao, this year’s resident at MedStar Institute for Innovation/MedStar Emergency Physicians. A summer Happy Hour in DC is now a program tradition. Even with August vacation schedules, it didn’t take much to rally a group to meet on Monday, August 11 at Circa by Dupont Circle.

Seated from bottom left to right are: Meherazade Sumariwalla,’16. The Advisory Board Company; Amy McDonough, ’16, Deloitte; Carolyn Kniefel,’16, MedStar; Liana Burns, ’16, LifeBridge; Edwin Zhao; Arron Sikka, ’16, Deloitte; Christine Careaga; Christine Laccay, ’14, MedStar; Jeff Collins, ’08, MedStar; Sierra Long, ’13, KPMG; Ashley Spivey, ’11, Linda Sobh, ’13, MedStar; and Ashna Saxena, ’15, MedStar. The event was also a great way to wish Edwin a happy birthday and to congratulate Jeff and Sierra on their upcoming wedding.

The following week Teresa and Doug Hough traveled to Philadelphia to meet with second-year student Mitali Desai and her new preceptor at Temple University Hospital, Steve Carson, VP for Clinical Integration. Mitali is working very closely with Alyssa Nardi,’13, at Temple Physicians, Inc., TUHS’s network of community based physicians. Teresa and Doug also visited Laura Zacchigna and Craig Holm at Veralon, the consulting firm that was formed by the merger of Health Strategies & Solutions and DGA Partners. Veralon is planning to participate in this year’s residency match. From Veralon, Doug and Teresa visited Nancy Cushman, ’12, who recently joined Vynamic. Of course, no visit to Philadelphia was going to take place without an alumni gathering.

Pictured standing from left to right are Laura and Victoria Schroeter from Veralon; Debbie Bernstein,’91; Al Campanella,’90; Alyssa Nardi,’13; seated are Nancy Cushman,’12; Teresa, Mitali, and Doug. Prashant Dilwali ’13 surprised the group since he was working in Philly that day, but he was too late for the photo opportunity.
Alumni Updates

Debbie Bernstein, ‘91, left Temple Physicians, Inc. to join Health Partners Plans as the Director for Provider Performance and Analytics.

Nancy Cushman, ’12, is now a manager at Vynamic, a management consulting firm in Philadelphia.

Prashant Dilwali, ’13, recently moved from NYC to the Fort Lauderdale area to join US Anesthesia Partners as its Director of Financial Analytics.

Lisa Doshi, ’10, was recently promoted to Assistant Administrator in the Department of Surgery at Johns Hopkins, where she completed her administrative residency. Lisa’s role has expanded to include clinical operations, sponsored projects research and management of the education office.

Leslie Dickens Lennergard, ’08, recently moved from Chicago to Milwaukee where she will be joining Aurora Health Care as a strategic planning manager.

Matt Drohan, ’13, after completing the Management Development Program at The Emory Clinic, is now Senior Manager, Business Development for the Department of Surgery at TEC. Matt has a combination of programmatic development responsibilities at the departmental level and operational leadership over TEC’s Cardiothoracic and Vascular Surgery divisions.

Steve McMillen, ’13, after spending three great years at Rush University Medical Center, joined ECG Management Consultants as a senior consultant. Chicago still remains home for Steve and Theresa.

Zahra Nathu, ’14, remains with Deloitte in their Atlanta office. Zahra was recently accepted into LEAD Atlanta. https://www.leadershipatlanta.org/LEADAtlanta. Zahra is the second program alum to be accepted in this leadership program. Stephanie Vicent, ’13, is a 2015 LEAD alumnus.

Shivani Patel, ’14, left her position at UMMS in August to return home to California. She joined the Permanente Medical Group in Oakland as a senior consulting associate.

Purvi Shah, ’11, joined Emblem Health in NYC as a “leader for member engagement.”

Darline Tunis, ’11, recently moved from Texas to NYC where she is now the Division Administrator for the Breast and Colorectal Divisions and the Center for Innovation and Outcomes Research at Columbia University Medical Center.

Cheri Wilson, ’10, left Hopkins after 12 years to join Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital as its Director of Diversity and Inclusion. Cheri leads the operational aspects of Diversity and Inclusion at RWJ New Brunswick and RWJ Somerset, provides support to the expanding Business Resource Groups and serves as the major driver for further implementation of diversity and cultural competency training and education for RWJ Health System.

Congratulations to all of our alumni!
MHA Program Welcomes Lakeasha Wormley — New Sr. Academic Coordinator

Just as every incoming MHA student prepares a biosketch for the program’s annual photo directory, Lakeasha drafted her own. You will be hearing more from Lakeasha as the year progresses, but please feel free to reach out to her at lwormley@jhu.edu or by stopping by Hampton House 537.

Prior to joining HPM, LaKeasha was the Academic Services Specialist in the Office of Continuing Education Students Services (CESS) for the non-degree population at The Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health (2010-2015). During her years in the CESS office, Lakeasha was delighted to work with a large population of students, faculty, and staff interested in attending courses during regular terms and institutes. Through her work, she’s had the opportunity to meet many potential degree-seeking students from all over the world interested in the School of Public Health. Lakeasha’s experiences working closely with students sparked her interest to become an Academic Coordinator within the school. She is eager to begin working with both the MHA and Executive Education programs.

She received a B.A in Classical Music (voice) from Morgan State University, and a Masters in Organizational Management from Ashford University. When she isn’t working, Lakeasha can be found exercising in the Cooley Center, singing, attending Broadway shows, or playing with her infant son.

JHSPH Loses a Hero…..Remembering Leon Gordis

Whether you had him as your professor or just read his book, there is not an alumnus of the MHS/HFM or MHA program who shouldn’t recognize the name Leon Gordis, MD, MPH, DRPH. Dean Klag recently informed the JHSPH community that Dr. Gordis passed away this September. Dr. Gordis taught thousands of medical and public health students at Hopkins and in lectures around the world, and was voted one of Hopkins students’ favorites on multiple occasions. He joined the JHSPH faculty in 1971 and was chair of the Department of Epidemiology for 20 years. After moving to Israel, he returned to campus each June to teach in the Summer Institute program. In 1996, W.B. Saunders and Co. published the first edition of a textbook Dr. Gordis wrote, simply called "Epidemiology." It is believed that the book is used more than any other text in the world in the field of epidemiology.

What’s New with You?

Let us know if you have changed positions, addresses, etc. We would love to hear from you! http://www.jhsph.edu/departments/health-policy-and-management/degrees-programs/master-of-health-administration