



# HSA Happenings



News from the Health Services Administration Alumni Club • Department of Health Professions • College of Health and Public Affairs  
Spring 2006

## News from the Program

The master's degree program in Health Services Administration (HSA) at the University of Central Florida submitted its year-two progress report to the Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Management Education (CAHME) on Feb. 1, 2006. The progress report describes changes in curriculum, admission standards and internships initiated over the past year. *For accreditation, the program needs all alumni to update their contact information by visiting [www.cohpa.ucf.edu](http://www.cohpa.ucf.edu) and clicking on "Alumni and Friends" and then "Stay Connected."*

## Internship Requirements for HSA Graduate Students

In 2005, the master's degree program in HSA underwent accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Management Education. One of the major recommendations from the Commission was that the program establish a formal internship program as a mandatory component of the course of study. For students who entered the program after May 2005, this recommendation has been adopted. Completing an internship is now a requirement to earn an M.S. in HSA.

One of the responsibilities of Larry Walters, director of the graduate HSA internship program, is to work with colleagues in the health-care industry to identify and develop internship opportunities for students. If you are an alum and think your organization would be willing to participate as an internship site, and you or a colleague would be willing to serve as a preceptor, please contact Larry Walters at [lwalter@mail.ucf.edu](mailto:lwalter@mail.ucf.edu).

## Certificate Opportunity

A program offering a certificate in health-care management with a specialization in emergency/trauma health-care leadership and administration will be held June 5-10, 2006, at the UCF Orlando Campus. Class enrollment will be limited to physicians, nurses, EMS providers and administrators, staff members of hospital emergency departments, and persons who work for medical providers that support pre-hospital and emergency care. All class sessions will be taught by UCF faculty members. For more information, please call Bunnie McPeck, continuing education coordinator at 407-882-0261 or e-mail [bmcpeek@mail.ucf.edu](mailto:bmcpeek@mail.ucf.edu).

## Research Update

Associate Professor Lynn Unruh is the investigator for a grant from the Florida Center for Nursing entitled "Forecasting Nursing Supply and Demand." Unruh is being assisted by HSA graduate student Valerie Danesh and nursing graduate student Kelly Phillips. The team is gathering data on the supply and demand of RNs in Florida, and their research will be used to forecast future supply and demand. Unruh is also working on her own econometric model.

## What Can You Do With Your Degree?

### *A Focus on Long-Term Care*

Long-term care services support the active population so individuals may live life with dignity and respect while aging. They are designed to meet basic human needs regardless of functional abilities or disabilities. Some of the responsibilities undertaken by a nursing home administrator or executive director in long-term care include:

- providing quality health-care services
- ensuring total resident, family and employee satisfaction
- helping employees have rewarding jobs and ensuring proper training and motivational programming
- mentoring and leading a management team
- facilitating strong public relations
- influencing legislative matters
- managing emergency situations

A career in long-term care provides opportunities to maintain job autonomy, receive excellent compensation and be personally rewarded on a daily basis. Individuals interested in a career in long-term care should pursue volunteer opportunities at continuing-care retirement or nursing homes, network and gain leadership exposure with trade associations, obtain nursing home administrator licensure, and assist and shadow an executive director for two or more years. For more information about careers in long-term care, visit [www.faha.org](http://www.faha.org), [www.aahsa.org](http://www.aahsa.org) and [www.lcsnet.com](http://www.lcsnet.com).

## Alumni in the Community Spotlight

**Name:** Becky Beasley Ortiz

**Education:** B.S. in health services administration with a certificate in aging studies ('03)



**Describe your current job:** I work at Hunter's Creek Nursing & Rehab Center as an assistant administrator. I assist with the daily operations of the facility and ensure the quality and appropriateness of resident care. I am also the facility risk manager and grievance coordinator.

**What other positions have you held?** I have also served as the safety committee program manager and admissions coordinator.

**What made you interested in a career in long-term care?** I have always had a passion for the elderly and want to make a difference in their lives.

**What advice to do you have for current HSA students?** Learn as much as you can about the business, even while in school. Work, volunteer or intern to gain as much hands-on experience and knowledge as possible.

### Undergraduate Student Spotlight

**Name:** Loyd Cadwell



**Where are you from?** I was born in Dover, Del., but only lived there for six months. I have lived in Orlando since September 1963.

**What is your major?** I am currently a full-time student pursuing dual bachelor's degrees in HSA and Health Information Management.

**How did you get interested in HSA?** In late 1999, a bout of pneumonia caused me to be in a coma for three weeks, to have two lung machines hooked up to me and to have parts of five toes amputated. After three months in the hospital, and two years in recovery, I knew that receiving my education and eventually working in health was what I wanted.

**What are your hobbies?** I enjoy bowling and golf and like to take my rat-terrier dog, Artie, to the park to meet new friends.

**Who are you grateful to for their encouragement?** I am grateful to almost all of my professors for their constant support and for assisting me in making educational decisions regarding my career. I am also thankful for the continued support of my parents.

**What advice would you offer to current HSA students?** Get involved! Join at least one professional or student organization. ACHE (American College of Healthcare Executives) is a great way to meet people and learn from others, and it serves as an invaluable networking tool. Membership in professional and student organizations show that you are serious about your education and help you stand out to others — possibly even to future employers.

### Graduate Student Spotlight



**Name:** Mindy Boggs

**Where are you from?** I am from Norton, Va. I received a B.S. in biology from the University of Virginia-Wise, and moved to Orlando in 2004.

**What degree(s) are you pursuing?** I am pursuing an M.S. in HSA.

**Where do you work?** I am the Human Resources Manager at Orlando Heart Center.

**What are your hobbies?** I enjoy music and the arts.

**Who are you grateful to for their encouragement?** I am fortunate to have the encouragement of my family and friends both in Virginia and Florida.

**What advice would you offer to current HSA students?** I would tell current HSA students to always look at present activities as stepping stones to where you want to be in the future. For example, a marketing project in Dr. Fottler's course initiated contact with my present employer. My future employment was never even a thought when I was taking the course.

### Upcoming Events

#### Second Annual State of Health Care in Central Florida Symposium

Friday, March 23, 2006, 5:30 to 8:00 p.m., *FAIRWINDS* Alumni Center, UCF Orlando Campus. This event will include presentations by health-care professionals on health law, nursing shortages, hospital administration and patient rights. A resume workshop will also be offered for students before the symposium from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. This event is hosted by the HSA Alumni Club, ACHE UCF Chapter and UCF Career Services and Experiential Learning. For more information about the event, please contact Katie Wolczanski at [kwolczan@mail.ucf.edu](mailto:kwolczan@mail.ucf.edu).

#### HSA Career Fair

Thursday, April 13, 2006, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Health and Public Affairs I atrium, UCF Orlando campus. Sponsored by the UCF ACHE Chapter and the HSA Alumni Club. If your company is interested in participating, contact ACHE President Tim Schwabe at [ttschwabe@mail.ucf.edu](mailto:ttschwabe@mail.ucf.edu).

#### Fall 2005 Recap



*The Health Services Administration Alumni Club joined efforts with the Criminal Justice and Legal Studies Alumni Club to offer a fall social and networking event on Oct. 19, 2005, at Rhythm and Flow in Orlando.*



*The Health Services Administration Alumni Club greeted UCF health services administration alumni at the FAIRWINDS Alumni Center Open House on Nov. 5, 2005.*



*Health services administration alumni celebrated UCF Homecoming and cheered the Golden Knights on with a tailgating party at the Nov. 6, 2005, UCF vs. Houston game. They also participated in the 2005 Homecoming Parade.*



**REGISTRATION FORM**  
Health Services Administration Alumni Club  
“State of Health Care in Central Florida” Symposium

Thursday, March 23, 2006, from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m.  
FAIRWINDS Alumni Center, UCF Orlando Campus

Join experts from the local health-care community as they share their points of view on the present state of health care in Central Florida. The agenda includes an optional career workshop for students from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.; hors d’oeuvres and mingling from 5:30 to 6:00 p.m.; and the symposium from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Free parking is available in the North Parking Garage on the UCF Orlando campus. **Business attire is requested.**

*Please fill out a separate form for each attendee. Check the appropriate box:*

- I am a UCF student and will attend for free.  
 I am a UCF Alumni Association Member and have enclosed my \$5 registration fee. Non-members can join the UCF Alumni Association by visiting [www.ucfalumni.com](http://www.ucfalumni.com).  
 I am not a UCF Alumni Association member and have enclosed my \$10 registration fee.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

UCF Degree/Graduation year: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to the UCF Alumni Association. Please include “HSA Symposium” on the memo line.**

If paying by credit card, please print the information below. Visa, MasterCard and American Express are accepted.

Name on credit card: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount to charge: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit card number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please help us cater this event to what YOU are interested in by providing the following:

Questions I would like to see answered at the symposium: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Topics that interest me and would like to see covered at the symposium: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
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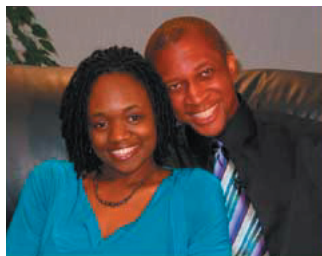
Please complete this form and return it by fax or mail. Pre-registration and pre-payment for the event is requested.

Please contact Valerie at [vdanesh@mail.ucf.edu](mailto:vdanesh@mail.ucf.edu) or call Katie at (407) 823-4577 with additional questions.

Fax completed registration forms to Valerie Danesh at (407) 823-6138 or mail to  
UCF College of Health and Public Affairs • Department of Health Professions • Attn. Valerie Danesh  
P.O. Box 162205 • Orlando, FL 32816-2205

### Wedding Day Giveaway Winners

Congratulations to HSA graduate student Quintell Watson (B.S. in health information management, '04) and her fiancé, Michaé Allen, for being this year's WFTV Wedding Day Giveaway winners. The WFTV Wedding Day Giveaway is a contest that allows viewers of WFTV Channel 9



to serve as wedding planners and decide the details of Quintell and Michaé's March 26, 2006, wedding. The wedding is a sponsor-supported opportunity for the couple to enjoy an expense-paid wedding valued at \$12,000-\$15,000.

If you are interested in a leadership role in the HSA Alumni Club, please send an e-mail to [hsaalumni@mail.ucf.edu](mailto:hsaalumni@mail.ucf.edu).

Future editions of *HSA Happenings* will be sent by e-mail. To subscribe, please send your e-mail address to [hsaalumni@mail.ucf.edu](mailto:hsaalumni@mail.ucf.edu).

Don't forget to register for the  
"State of Health Care  
in Central Florida"

Symposium

Thursday, March 23, 2006

5:30 to 8:00 p.m.

at the

*FAIRWINDS* Alumni Center

UCF Orlando Campus

Fax or mail in the form  
on page 3 today!



HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

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