From the SOHA Director—

Greetings! As many of you know, Dr. Michael Nowicki retired as Director of the School of Health Administration effective August 31, 2013 after six years of leadership. He will take a much deserved fall semester leave and return to the faculty January 2014. With an unsuccessful search for Director earlier this year, I was asked to serve as Interim Director for the 2013-2014 year. I have been at Texas State since 1986 and for the past ten years have served as Chair of the Department of Physical Therapy and the Associate Dean of the College of Health Professions. With the assistance of a great faculty and staff, I agreed to take on this role.

The SOHA management team this year consists of Dr. Matthew Brooks, Director of Graduate Programs, Dr. Eileen Morrison, Director of Undergraduate Programs, and our two Administrative Assistants, Julie Carroll & William Cardwell.

With the continued changes in the health care industry, the good news continues to be growth and opportunities in the industry and our graduates continue to report success in employment outcomes. The SOHA has hired a number of new faculty in the past two years and I hope you will take time to read about them in our Newsletter and on our web site AND come by to meet them when you have an opportunity. They join an experienced and well qualified faculty. This cadre of professionals has expertise in military health care, for-profit and not for-profit health care administration, public health, mental health, managed care, long term care, ambulatory care, physician practice, specialty care and human resources management as well as other areas. The faculty are leaders in their profession, active on campus and are excellent teachers.

2013 SOHA Conference & Recognition Dinner

The SOHA Conference and Recognition Dinner is scheduled for Friday, November 1. The Conference returns to the Embassy Suites and is scheduled from 2-5. This year’s featured speaker is Ms. Diane Gottsman from the Protocol School of Texas and will cover business etiquette. The SOHA Reception begins at 5 and will be followed by the Recognition dinner at 6. The dinner will include award presentations to preceptors, alumni and students. The Dinner also serves as the induction ceremony for Upsilon Phi Delta—the healthcare management honor society.

The 2013 Allen G. Herkimer, Jr., Award for Outstanding Alumni will be presented to:

Barbara C. Wells, BHA ’03
Director of Business Services
North Austin Surgery Center
St. David’s/HCA

&

Joel W. Helmke, MHA ’96, FACHE
Administrator
Division of Internal Medicine
MD Anderson Cancer Center
BHA PROGRAM CELEBRATES 40 YEARS!

Created in 1973, the Bachelors Degree program in Health Administration (BHA) is now celebrating its 40th year of service to the profession of health administration. This nationally certified program has grown from a few students to accepting 80 students each year under the direction of faculty who have experience in the field of health care including administration in hospitals, long-term care, public health, and clinics. According to Texas State University's Institutional Research Department, over 1,900 students received their BHA degree from this program. These alumnae have gone on to distinguished careers in health administration.

The motto for the BHA program is “Now It Counts”. In this time of great change, this motto is even more important to the future of healthcare administration. The message for the 40th anniversary of the BHA program should be “Now We Count”. We constantly hear news about how great you are performing in the workplace. Even our residents receive accolades in their residency placements. Always remember, “you are the best” and be proud of your contribution to the future of health care.

Please join your fellow BHA alumni at the November SOHA Conference and share how you have made a difference to healthcare administration. Also, keep us posted in where you are employed and what you are doing.

About the Faculty—

The faculty of SOHA continue to be recognized for their talents in and out of the classroom. Dr. Brooks was selected for the Presidential Award for Excellence in Teaching as well as the College Award for Excellence in Service at the Professor/Associate Professor level, Dr. Renick received the Presidential Award for Excellence in Service at the Professor/Associate Professor level and Dr. Shanmugam won the Dean’s Award for Excellence in Scholarly Activities at the Professor/Associate Professor level.

The School of Health Administration is happy to welcome five new faculty hired over the last year. Two faculty began in the Spring, Ms. Amber McIlwain & Dr. Michael Mileski. Amber comes to us from the University of Kentucky where she is currently finishing up her PhD in Gerontology and Michael has most recently Adjunct Professor for Midland College, Ashford University & Kaplan University.

Three more faculty members began this fall, Dr. Scott Kruse from the Army-Baylor Graduate Program in Health & Business Administration, Dr. Mary Hogan who served as the Director of Marketing & Administration at the Texas Center for Medical & Surgical Weight Loss & Dr. Amanda Sokan from Kentucky State University.

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Dr. Matthew Brooks received the College of Health Professions Service Award and has also been appointed to the Standards Council for the Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Management Education (CAHME). Dr. Brooks has also stepped into the role of Graduate Advisor & Graduate Programs Director as well as steered the School of Health Administration through the CAHME reaccreditation site visit in May.

Dr. Tina Fields has coauthored two articles, one accepted in the Journal of Management Policy & Practice and one under review for the Administrative Issues Journal, and conducted peer reviews for Administrative Issues Journal, International Journal of Multicultural Education & CDC’s Environmental Public Health Tracking Network Classroom Modules. Dr. Fields has served as a chair and presented at the 2013 Southwest Academy of Management which also published the presentation in their Conference Proceedings. She was also an invited presented for the Brownsville Community Health Center regarding Hurricane Preparedness, conducted a Community Health Needs Assessment for Colorado County, provided technical assistance for Falls County Community Health Needs Assessment and assited two federally qualified health centers in writing their continuation grants. This does not mean Dr. Fields hasn’t been busy on campus. She has served on the School of Health Administration Faculty Evaluation Task Force, the University Research Committee and chaired the College of Health Professions Research Enhancement Committee.

Dr. Lloyd Greene served on the peer review panel for the Journal of Health Administration Education where he reviewed two manuscripts for possible publication. Dr. Greene also advised two graduate students on their research projects for Directed Study requirements to complete their MS-HHR degrees, consulted to a rural community based healthcare system on policy issues, and continue to teach and work with students in both the BHA and MHA programs. Dr. Greene also completed his service as the College of Health Professions PACE liaison.

Dr. Jeff Hatala has had two research articles accepted for publication in the Journal of Management Policy and Practice, one with Dr. Tina Fields about the role of academic & public health partnerships under PPACA, and the other was part of his dissertation research that examined factors associated with public health participation in obesity prevention activities. Those articles will be published later this year. He also presented research at the Southwest Academy of Management Annual Meeting in Albuquerque, New Mexico and will be presenting new research at the Southern Obesity Summit in November. He has been invited to be a speaker at the International Conference and Exhibition on Obesity and Weight Management. He is presently engaged in a study that examines the uninsured in Hays County. In the fall, he will be profiled in a video for a Texas State Honors College course that discusses the roles research can play.

Dr. Cristian Lienek continues to pursue his scholarly research agenda and associated publications on medical group practice administration and core competencies of healthcare administrators, and has taken on several leadership roles within MGMA-ACMPE this past year at the local, state, and national levels. His most current education research publication (authored with Drs. Morrison and Price) outlines the detailed psychometric processes used to evaluate item-level reliability of the BHA Exit Exam and overall competency assessment of SOHA BHA graduates. Additionally, his most recent continuing education efforts have focused highly on the ongoing, increasing influx of returning combat veterans into the higher education system, to include the “From Combat to Classroom” training at Texas State. Dr. Lienek also serves as a Texas State Veterans Affairs Office faculty mentor, therefore matched individually with Texas State student veterans each semester to further assist in their transition from soldier to student. Furthermore, Dr. Lienek is very proud to have led the initiative of establishing the School of Health Administration as a “Veteran Friendly Office,” a Veteran’s Affairs-level certification that ensures departmental administrative staff are officially trained and aware of all on-campus veteran resources available to current and potential SOHA student veterans.

Dr. Michael Mileski was nominated for the spring semester Faculty Excellence Award in teaching. He is currently teaching the Preceptor training for the State of Texas.
Department of Aging and Disability, entirely rewriting the program and its delivery. Additionally, he has been involved with a rewrite of the State of Texas Administrator in Training Manual which is pending approval for publishing. His current research focus is on the efficacy of secured units in the treatment of Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. Concurrently, he is serving in the elected position as the Professional Development Chair (2013-2014) for the Texas Chapter of the American College of Health Care Administrators.

Mr. Robert Mooney is the President-Elect of the Heritage Association of San Marcos and the Associate Teaching Director of the San Marcos/Wimberley Community Bible Study. He is serving on the Neighborhood Commission for the City of San Marcos. Additionally, Mr. Mooney reviewed an article titled The Future of Adjunct Teaching at American Colleges and Universities Under the Shared Responsibilities Provision of Obamacare for Administrative Issues Journal.

Dr. Eileen Morrison has the 3rd edition of Health Care Ethics: Critical Issues for the 21st Century textbook that she edited with Beth Furlong published. This book includes four chapters that were completed in collaboration with other authors. Dr. Morrison also received a contract for the 3rd edition of Ethics in Health Administration: A Practical Approach for Decision Makers which is due to the publishers in August 2014. She has also been busy writing the AUPHA recertification report for the BHA Program that is due in November.

Dr. Michael Nowicki returned to the faculty ranks after serving 6 years as school director, 10 years as graduate advisor, and four years as coordinator of graduate field placements. During the fall semester, Dr. Nowicki will be on a provost leave to complete the 6th edition of his book, Introduction to the Financial Management of Healthcare Organizations. During last year, Dr. Nowicki presented papers on healthcare economics and finance at the national meetings of ACHE and HFMA; presented workshops on hospital financial management for ACHE in Park City and Cape Cod and for HFMA in San Francisco, Memphis, and Chicago; national certification coaching courses in Chicago and Scottsdale; state and local invited presentations on the future of healthcare in Corpus Christi, San Antonio, Franklin (Tennessee), and San Marcos.

Dr. Oren Renick continues as Adjunct Professor at the Medical College of Wisconsin (Health Law) and Honors Professor at Texas State (Baseball and the American Experience). Awarded this fall, he received a Presidential Runner-Up Award for Faculty Excellence in Service at Texas State. Dr. Renick had a second essay addressing discrimination through the medium of sports published. The essay "Racing into the Storm: Roberta Gibb, Katherine Switzer, and Women’s Marathoning" reviews gender discrimination. It is available as a book chapter in A Locker Room of Her Own published by the University of Mississippi Press. The paper “Mario’s Choice: To Cheat or Not to Cheat” was presented at the 35th Cooperstown Symposium on Baseball and American Culture. It explores the ethical considerations of performance-enhancing drug use by professional athletes. Dr. Renick has maintained grant related work as Principal Investigator of intergenerational service learning programs like Mutual Adoption Pact and Safe at Home. He is President of the Board of the National Volunteer Caregiving Network, an association of 150 nonprofit community organizations. Dr. Renick is Immediate Past-President of the Board of Hope Hospice, and is Chair of the Mary Bonner Community Needs Program.

Major General David Rubenstein highlighted Texas State and SoHA while giving leadership talks to a variety of state hospital associations and hospital systems. He is serving as a member of the American College of Healthcare Executives Regent’s Advisory Council for Central and South Texas and as a Board member for the South Texas Chapter of ACHE (STC-ACHE). David has been invited to present two seminars, titled "The Young Professional’s Toolkit," to the 2014 student track of ACHE’s annual Congress on Healthcare Leadership. In addition to a regular leadership column in the STC-ACHE newsletter, he had an article titled "Know Yourself, in Order to Lead Others" published in the US Army Medical Department Journal. David’s visits with students during their field placement and their preceptors have resulted in a better understanding of the work-site experience. A tangible result of these visits will be a future on-campus preceptors’ conference.

Dr. Ram Shanmugam attended and presented a research talk on Hacking-Vigilance Distribution with Application to Assess Cyber Insecurity Level in the International Conference of Engineering and Computer Sciences in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada in April 2013. A manuscript with the same title was later published in the refereed International of Informatics and Education Technology, 3(3), 300-303 in June 2013. In addition to his scholarly activities, Dr. Shanmugam served as chair for five faculty search committees over the last year and successfully hired qualified candidates for each open position.
SOHA 2013 Fall Recognition Dinner Reservation Form  
Embassy Suites Conference Center—San Marcos, Texas  
Friday, November 1

Name__________________________________________________________Degree__________Year___

Title__________________________________________________________________________________

Organization___________________________________________________________________________

Guest Name(s)__________________________________________________________________________

$35 per person for Recognition Dinner

please make checks payable to the HA Fund

RSVP by Friday, October 25, 2013

Pin Order Form

Name_________________________________________________________________________________

Address____________________________________City________________________Zip_____________

☐ $15 for HA Lapel Pin

please make checks payable to the HA Fund

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☐ $_____ donation to HA Fund
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☐ $_____ donation to Winfield Fund
☐ $_____ donation to Megan Hamid Memorial Fund

please make checks payable to the appropriate fund

All forms/donations should be sent to   William Cardwell  
School of Health Administration  
Texas State University  
601 University Drive  
San Marcos, Texas 78666