From the SOHA Director—

While America continues to debate whether the healthcare industry is "too big" or "too small" or just about right, the data are clear that the healthcare industry continues to grow and currently represents about 17.6 of the nation's gross domestic product. Because healthcare is viewed by some as one of the few bright spots in the nation's sluggish economy, new opportunities exist for improving quality and access while reducing cost.

I feel that the School of Health Administration is well positioned to provide the healthcare industry with the administrators and researchers needed to address those new opportunities. Understanding that the current healthcare system is unsustainable, our graduates continue to enter the job market with a realistic approach to improving quality and access while reducing costs.

The key to educating students in competencies that will serve them well in this new era of accountability is our great faculty. We have one addition to our faculty: Jeff Hatala will be replacing Attila Hertelendy. Mr. Hatala comes to us from the South Carolina Rural Health Research Center where he was a Research Associate. Mr. Hatala is finishing his dissertation this fall and is due to graduate from the University of South Carolina with a doctorate in healthcare administration in December. Peggy Johnson and Cristian Lieneck, both of who started in 2010, as well as Yvonne Lozano who started in 2009, completed their doctorates during the last year. Dr. Renick, Dr. Shanmugam, and Mr. Mooney received runner-up awards for University Excellence in teaching, research, and service respectively. And Dr. Fields received the College’s Teaching Excellence Award.

Hajek and Hartle receive Herkimer Awards

Julie Hajek and Chris Hartle will receive Herkimer Awards for Outstanding Alumni at the School of Health Administration Recognition Dinner on Friday, October 21, at the Embassy Suites in San Marcos. The Dinner will follow a reception honoring School of Health Administration award recipients.

The 2011 Allen G. Herkimer, Jr., Awards for Outstanding Alumni will be presented to

Julie Hajek, BHA ’97, MS-HHR ’03, SPHR
Director of Human Resources
St. David’s North Austin Medical Center

Christopher L. Hartle, MHA ’97
President & CEO, Insurance Services
Seton Healthcare Family

Look us up online at:
www.health.txstate.edu/ha

Texas State University-San Marcos is a member of the Texas State University System.
SOHA Conference on October 21

Our SOHA Conference will be held Friday, October 21, from 2 until 5 at the Embassy Suites in San Marcos. A reception will be held immediately following the conference.

The Conference will feature talks by top professionals and alumni. Dr. Harry Greenspun, co-author of Reengineering Healthcare, will talk about the future of healthcare and give insight to the personal health record. Dr. Dan Stultz, FACHE, President of the Texas Hospital Association, will give an update on healthcare in Texas. And Herkimer Award Winners Julie Hajek and Chris Hartle will discuss their professional roads to success after graduation.

From 6-8 will be the SOHA Recognition Dinner with alumni and student awards. The Dinner also serves as the induction ceremony for Upsilon Phi Delta—the healthcare management honor society. HA graduate students with a 3.5 GPA in their first 21 hours in the major and undergraduate students with a 3.25 GPA in their first 21 hours in the major will be invited to the induction. Outstanding student awards will be announced for each degree: BHA, MHA, MS—HSR, and MS--HHR. And the School will be awarding Outstanding Preceptor Awards for the first time.

Please keep in touch and we hope to see you at the SOHA Conference and Recognition Dinner on Friday, October 21, at the new Embassy Suites in San Marcos. For those of you wishing to spend the night at the Embassy Suites, ask for the Bobcat rate!

About the Faculty

While teaching is our top priority, SOHA faculty continue to provide leadership in service and research as well. Drs. Renick and Shanmugam and Mr. Mooney received runner-up awards for University Excellence in teaching, research, and service respectively. And Dr. Fields received the College’s Teaching Excellence Award.

Dr. Michael Nowicki presented the finance portion of the ACHE certification exam at national coaching courses in Phoenix and Chicago and continued to teach national healthcare financial management workshops for ACHE and HFMA. During the last year, Dr. Nowicki taught ACHE workshops in New York and Vail and taught HFMA workshops in Seattle, New Orleans, Denver, and Chicago. Dr. Nowicki presented at the national meeting of ACHE and the state meeting of TORCH and provided financial management training to Kaiser Permanente in Los Angeles and Cardinal Health in Dallas. Dr. Nowicki published the fifth edition of Introduction to the Financial Management of Healthcare Organizations.

Dr. Morrison is continuing her work as Director of the BHA program. In an effort to select the best students for the program, she talks to each student who expresses an interest in health administration and interviews each student who declares health administration as a major. Drs. Morrison and Fields presented a poster on intergenerational mentoring at The Teaching Professor Conference in Atlanta. Dr. Morrison was selected as Chair Elect for the Advancing Women in Healthcare Administration Faculty Network of AUPHA.

Dr. Renick continues as Adjunct Professor at the Medical College of Wisconsin teaching health law and as Honors Professor at Texas State teaching Baseball and the American Experience. Dr. Renick has had a second essay addressing discrimination in sports accepted for publication. The essay “Roberta Gibb, Katherine Switzer, and Women’s Marathoning” reviews gender discrimination. Dr. Renick also presented “Roberto Clemente and Continuous Quality Improvement: Move over Deming, Shewhart, Crosby, Juran and Covey” at the 2011 Cooperstown Symposium. Dr. Renick continues to direct the Long Term Care Institute and intergenerational programs like Mutual Adoption Pact and Safe at Home. Dr. Renick is President of the Board of Hope Hospice, Chair of the Mary Bonner Community Needs Program, and is on the boards of the National Volunteer Caregiving Network and the Hays County United Way. He is still playing in a Men’s Senior Baseball League.

Dr. Shanmugam has been invited to be the honorary Executive Director for the Association of Scientists, Developers and Faculties in India. And Dr. Shanmugam co-authored an article with Dr. Chakraborti in the Department of Communication Disorders, which was published in the International Journal of Speech-Language Pathology.

Dr. Summers has started the third year of his modified retirement. He continues to teach his marketing courses during the fall of each year and he is diligently converting the marketing materials so that others can easily step in and take over the courses. He is also updating two chapters that he wrote for Dr. Morrison’s ethics book.

Dr. Brooks presented at three national conferences last year focusing on Veteran’s issues: the AUPHA Leader’s Conference, the AUPHA Annual Meeting, and the Academy of Health’s Annual Research Meeting. He also had articles published in the Journal of Health Administration Education; Armed Forces and Society; and Military Medicine. Dr. Brooks is completing his third year as a CAHME Fellow and made accreditation visits to Georgetown University and Columbia University.

Dr. Fields continues to teach the public health courses. This year she attended the Multicultural Curriculum Transformation and Research Institute and transformed her undergraduate public health course into a university-recognized multicultural course. Dr. Fields leads the School assessment efforts and was the faculty advisor for the Healthcare Leadership Coalition. She made three national presentations, co-authored an article, and contributed a chapter to Dr. Griffin’s book.
Mr. Mooney has been appointed to the AUPHA Annual Meeting Planning Committee for 2012. He has been elected as Vice Chair for the City of San Marcos Neighborhood Council, Vice President of the Willow Creek Homeowners Association, and Vice President of the Council of Neighborhood Associations. Mr. Mooney also reviews articles for *Administrative Issues Journal: Education, Practice, and Research*.

During the past year Dr. Nauert continued his research on post acute care utilization of health information technology, the adoption of electronic health records, and interventions to improve quality of life for long term care residents. He completed the monograph Adoption of Information Technology by Texas Long Term Care Facilities: A Study and Comparison and published articles in the *Texas Public Health Journal* and the *International Journal of Health, Wellness and Society*. Dr. Nauert presented at the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services and the Texas Conference on Aging. Dr. Nauert continues to teach in a consortium of HIT certificate programs led by Texas State’s Health Information Management Department in collaboration with the University of Texas.

Dr. Griffin’s latest book *Hospitals: What They Are and How They Work* was published in its fourth edition this year. He presented two papers: one at a conference in Berkeley and another in New Orleans. Dr. Griffin will be the new advisor to the Healthcare Leadership Alliance—the School’s student organization.

Dr. Johnson submitted an article based on her dissertation and co-authored an article with Dr. Nauert. She is completing a needs assessment with Dr. Fields in Gonzales county and received multicultural designation for her undergraduate course.

Dr. Lozano published a chapter on the *Biology of Aging* and made presentations at the American Association of Hispanics in Higher Education, the National Association of Adult Protective Services and the American College of Healthcare Administrators.

Dr. Moore teaches the graduate policy course and the graduate research methods course as well as the undergraduate history, culture, and language course. Over the summer, she participated in the Multicultural Course Transformation Institute and applied what she learned to her undergraduate course. Dr. Moore was awarded a 24-month Robert Wood Johnson Foundation New Connections Grant for $75,000 to determine whether the savings associated with banning the use of hand-held cell phones in Texas school zones reduces mortality and morbidity compared to compliance costs of the unfunded mandate. Dr. Moore is serving as a CAHME Fellow for 2011-13 and serves on the AUPHA Corris Boyd Minority Scholarship Selection Committee.

Dr. Lienecck completed his dissertation in April and graduated in August with a doctorate in Adult, Professional, and Community Education from Texas State. Earlier this year, Dr. Lienecck was granted Fellowship in the American College of Medical Practice Executives, the credentialing body for the Medical Group Management Association. This past year, Dr. Lienecck made presentations to several organizations including HIMSS and ACHE.

Mr. Jeff Hatala, new to the faculty, presented research at the national conference of the American Public Health Association that examined the degree to which school-aged children have access to dental care through school-based partnerships in South Carolina comparing difficulties faced by urban school nurses and rural school nurses. He also presented part of his dissertation research to the Keeneland Conference hosted by the Center for Public Health Systems and Services Research at the University of Kentucky.

Mr. Hatala completed a long-term process evaluation for multiple research projects with the U.S. Army and served as manuscript reviewer for the Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved.

Dr. Lloyd Greene was appointed to the editorial review panel for the *Journal of Health Administration Education*.

It’s All About Competencies

The new CAHME criteria call for each accredited program to adopt a competency model and use it in the educational process. The SOHA faculty adopted the Healthcare Leadership Alliance (HLA) competency model in 2009. HLA is an alliance of several professional associations including the American College of Healthcare Executives and the Healthcare Financial Management Association.

The HLA model includes five competency domains adopted by the faculty for the MHA degree: communication and relationship management; leadership; professionalism; knowledge of the healthcare environment; and business skills and knowledge. The MHA faculty adopted 22 key competencies that represent the five competency domains and the faculty is in the process of incorporating the competencies into the curriculum.

For instance, the competency domain of professionalism is “the ability to align personal and organizational conduct with ethical and professional standards that include a responsibility to the patient and community, a service orientation, and a commitment to lifelong learning and improvement” as defined by HLA. Competencies supporting professionalism include personal and professional accountability; professional development and lifelong learning; and contributions to the profession and the community. Faculty in all courses will present competencies to students and ensure that students grasp the competencies at three possible levels: knowledge, application, and expert. Students will be assessed throughout the curriculum including the field placement to ensure compliance. Preceptors, as well as students during field placements, will be asked to assess student performance in the competency. Alumni will be asked to assess their performance in the competency related to their job experience.

The MHA program is in its self-study year and will prepare and submit the self-study next fall and expects a CAHME reaccreditation visit in spring, 2013.
2011 Fall Healthcare Conference and Recognition Dinner Reservation Form
Embassy Suites Conference Center—San Marcos
Friday, October 21

Name__________________________________________________________Degree__________Year___

Title__________________________________________________________________________________

Organization___________________________________________________________________________

Guest Name(s)__________________________________________________________________________

$50 per person for Awards Banquet only

please make checks payable to the HA Fund

RSVP by Friday, October 14, 2011

Pin Order Form

Name_________________________________________________________________________________

Address____________________________________City________________________Zip_____________

☑ $15 for HA Lapel Pin

please make checks payable to the HA Fund

Donation Form

Name_________________________________________________________________________________

Address____________________________________City________________________Zip_____________

☐ $____ donation to HA Fund
☐ $____ donation to Herkimer Fund (Outstanding Alumni)
☐ $____ donation to Rappaport Fund (Outstanding Graduate Student)
☐ $____ donation to Noone Fund (Outstanding Undergraduate Student)
☐ $____ 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 – San Marcos
601 University Drive
San Marcos, Texas 78666