



## Editors' Corner

Welcome to the inaugural issue of *HSA Connection* – a newsletter of the Health Services Administration (HSA) department at University of Detroit Mercy.

HSA Program students, faculty and staff are both proud and delighted to launch this new opportunity to share our latest news and celebrate our accomplishments with the entire Detroit Mercy community, HSA alumni, prospective students, Advisory Board members and our community partners.

The newsletter will be published twice a year — in the fall and winter semesters. Please email HSA Administrative Assistant Munai Newwash at [newwashmn@udmercy.edu](mailto:newwashmn@udmercy.edu) to submit a news story or accomplishment for the fall 2019 issue of *HSA Connection*, or if you have any comments/suggestions.

Happy reading! And please stay in touch.

HSA Student Advisory Council	Mustafa Kamalaldin Eric Jakovac Diana Beydoun Rhea Rodgers Molly Wolynski
HSA Faculty	Thomas Fockler Renady Hightower Zigmond Kozicki Maia Platt
HSA Program Support	Munai Newwash

## Upsilon Phi Delta Honor Society Members

### Master of Health Services Administration (MHSA) Program

Silvana Aliaj	Lavina Jabbo
Lauren Aouate	Yvonne King
Cierra Ballenger	Brian Mathew
Rose DeMates	Kezia Turner
Britney Farida	Paula Strussione-Sumner
Anjum Harsolia	

## CHP Dean's Scholar Awards

### Bachelor of Science in Health Services Administration Program

Eduina Basho	Emily Robertson
Katie Kreucher	Kafayat Shinaba
Nella Lumaj	

## Student Spotlight

Emily Robertson, senior student in the HSA program, received the Upsilon Phi Delta Scholarship award from the Association of University Programs in Health Administration (AUPHA) in recognition of academic excellence. The award was presented to Emily at the November 2018 MHSA Advisory Board meeting by Board Chairman Marty Carmody, FACHE, health care account executive at Microsoft Corporation

*Marty Carmody, Emily Robertson*



## Global Connections

Graduate students in the HSA Health Economics course participated in the international video-conferencing project with their peers from the Economics of the Dutch Health Care System course at the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam in the fall of 2018. This special project, "Video Conferencing Across Borders: An International Health Care Systems Conversation," allowed students an opportunity to enjoy face-to-face interaction via web conferencing and converse directly with students from the Netherlands, to compare and contrast their health care systems. In light of very enthusiastic feedback from both sides of the Atlantic, the project is scheduled to run again next Fall.

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Dr. Maia Platt, Department Chair.  
[plattma@udmercy.edu](mailto:plattma@udmercy.edu)  
<http://healthprofessions.udmercy.edu/academics/hsa/index.php>

Health Services Administration Admissions  
4001 W. McNichols Rd., Detroit, MI 48221-3535  
[admissions@udmercy.edu](mailto:admissions@udmercy.edu)  
Phone: 313-993-3373 • Fax: 313-993-1271

## Community Connections

### Judge Linda Davis speaks at the HSA Student Advisory Council event

On Jan. 17, the largest conference room in the College of Health Professions facility was fully packed with Detroit Mercy students, faculty, local media and the public who attended a presentation by Macomb County Court Judge Linda Davis titled “Changing the Stigma of Addiction and Hope not Handcuffs for Addicted People.” This event was sponsored by the HSA Student Advisory Council and the HSA Program.

Davis is a passionate advocate for a public health approach to curbing the opiate epidemic in Michigan. The goal of her presentation was to make more people aware of the opioid crisis and promote the view that it takes a whole community to stop it. Davis cofounded Families Against Narcotics (FAN) and her approach as a judge is to offer treatment first to addicts with drug charges before jail time. She was inspired to work to end the opioid epidemic after her daughter became an addict more than 10 years ago.

At the end of the evening, Davis responded to a seemingly endless line of questions from the audience, sparking a very involved discussion about how newly minted health professionals can contribute to these important efforts. The presentation received rave reviews from the audience. Davis will surely be a returning guest speaker to our program.

### Service Learning Project at the McAuley Health Center

Graduate students in the Theory and Practice of Health Services Management course, led by Professor Zigmund Kozicki, completed a semester-long service-learning project in the McAuley Health Center (MHC) to determine the factors contributing to some patients missing appointments. Multiple patient surveys were conducted by students and MHC staff led by Professor Carla Groh and Director of Operations Raenita Glover. These efforts resulted in a series of customized quality improvement recommendations, as well as directions for the next phase of this research.

*Professor Zigmund Kozicki, Raenita Glover, Gina Diakonov, Michelle Spring, Michelle Trzin and Emily Piatkowski*



## MHSA Students participate in MCACHE Case Competition



*Rick Hillbom, Princy Sharma, David Brooks, Molly Wolynski, Christine Stesney-Ridenour, Eric Jakovac, Mustafa Kamalaldin*

A team of four MHSA students represented Detroit Mercy at the annual Midwest Chapter of the American College of Healthcare Executives (MCACHE) Case Competition at Oakland University

in October 2018. Five student teams representing five graduate health administration programs in Michigan participated in this competition. The panel of judges included Christine Stesney-Ridenour, president of Beaumont Trenton Hospital; David Brooks, director of the Wayne County Department of Health, Veterans and Community Wellness; and Rick Hillbom, former COO of Gift of Life, Michigan. Detroit Mercy team members included Eric Jakovac, Mustafa Kamalaldin, Molly Wolynski and Princy Sharma.

“Overall, this competition was an excellent experience for all of us,” said MHSA student team member Molly Wolynski. “I would certainly encourage anyone from our program to participate in next year’s competition. We were given the chance to take our training from this program and apply that to a practical example of an organizational issue. It was incredibly rewarding to put forward a presentation we could be proud of and receive that positive feedback from established health care executives.”

## Upcoming Events

### MCACHE Job Shadow Day

In February 2019, 10 MHSA students will experience a day in the life of a healthcare executive.

### ACHE Congress

In March 2019, four MHSA students will attend the annual Congress of the American College of Healthcare Executives.