



## Editors' Corner

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

This newsletter is releasing during the very trying and uncertain times of the COVID-19 pandemic. We are so proud of all the accomplishments that HSA/MHSA students, alumni, faculty and staff were able to achieve despite the challenges.

Please email HSA Administrative Assistant Munai Newash at [newashmn@udmercy.edu](mailto:newashmn@udmercy.edu) to submit a news story or accomplishment for the fall 2021 issue of *HSA Connection*, or if you have any comments/suggestions.

Happy reading! And please, stay in touch.

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>HSA Student Advisory Council</b> | Nabata Abubaker<br>Robert Bilsky<br>Mansi Jariwala<br>Meredith Kost<br>Lauren May  |
| <b>HSA Faculty</b>                  | Thomas Fockler<br>Renady Hightower<br>Zigmond Kozicki<br>Mary Mitsch<br>Maia Platt |
| <b>HSA Program Support</b>          | Munai Newash   |

## Upsilon Phi Delta Honor Society Members

### Master of Health Services Administration (MHSA) Program – Current Students

|                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Eric Davis       | Deja Lee          |
| Brianne Jacobson | Deanna Youssef    |
| Eric Jakovac     | Michael Michalski |
| Mansi Jariwala   |                   |

## MCACHE Student Opportunities

### Volunteer with MCACHE

MCACHE committees are seeking interested students to participate in chapter activities and have a few designated positions available in Programming Committee, Communications Committee and Membership Community. To apply, fill out the Willingness to Serve Form, or click [here](#).

### MCACHE Scholarships

Each year the ACHE awards up to 15 scholarships, each with a value of \$5,000. Online applications for the Albert W. Dent and Foster G. McGaw Graduate Student Scholarships will be accepted until March 31, 2021. For more information on eligibility and the application process, go to [ache.org/Scholarships](http://ache.org/Scholarships) or view the [promotional flyer](#).

## Alumni Connections

### Chantal Cornfield '14, MHSA Alumna, Regional Director of Operations at American House Senior Living Communities

Chantal has rapidly established herself in the Detroit Senior Living sector as an accomplished, focused and motivated executive with an early track record of success. In her testimony, she shares, "University of Detroit Mercy was incredibly instrumental for my career. Our University has years of success and is well respected. While Detroit Mercy prepared me with the education I needed to be successful, their partnership with the Midwest Chapter of American College of Healthcare Executives (MCACHE) exposed me to an incredible network after graduation." Click [here](#) to read Chantal's full testimony.

HSA Connection is a publication of the Health Services Administration Program  
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Chantal Cornfield '14

## Student Spotlights

### Research on the impact of COVID-19 on local health systems

MHSA/HSA students Shari Storms and Mari Landis, under the guidance of Dr. Zigmond Kozicki, conducted a survey of local health systems to gather information related to the impact COVID-19 had on their organization. The results indicated that 97% of the organizations needed financial assistance. Additionally, most of the organizations expressed a need to reevaluate their mission statements to align with the COVID-19 pandemic.

The student researchers' collection of information was challenged by the pandemic, but that did not limit their efforts. "I learned how to push through, and that if you continue to put in the effort, you will receive answers," said Mari. "It was incredibly rewarding when we did start to show an increase in the number of completed surveys. Especially knowing that the research will be able to help others in the future." Shari also enjoyed speaking to the healthcare administrators and getting a firsthand account of what was happening in their organizations. "Being a health services administration student, this project allowed me a glimpse into the future before me," said Shari.

Their research will soon be published, and we can't wait to learn more. Kudos to Shari, Mari and Dr. Kozicki!

## Student Ambassador at Michigan Association for Healthcare Quality (MAHQ) – Mansi Jariwala

Mansi is an active and involved MAHQ member who is expecting to complete her MHSA degree in 2021. Being a certified Lean Six Sigma Black Belt holder, Mansi's goal is to become a healthcare quality improvement specialist. She serves on multiple MAHQ committees focusing on a variety of quality improvement aspects.

Through her experiences, Mansi has developed and presented budgets and committee reports, as well as contributed to the development of MAHQ official peer-reviewed journal, launching in spring 2021. Currently, she is working with her mentors to design a quality improvement certification course. Mansi is also a student leader of the Diversity & Inclusion subcommittee, where she is researching undocumented patients and their impact on health systems.

To explore the numerous benefits of student membership in MAHQ, click [here](#).



Shari Storms

Mansi Jariwala

## Program Highlights



Mansi Jariwala, Robert Bilsky, Nabata Abubaker, Shari Storms, and Lauren May

- The MHSA program website has a new look! It now features testimonials from alumni and students, among many other updates that improved the overall visual design and information flow. You can check the latest updates [here](#).
- HSA Student Advisory Council has started a Facebook group where students, faculty, and alumni alike can come

together and share things as a community. To join the HAS Facebook group, click [here](#).

- Starting Fall 2021, the required number of credits in the MHSA Program will be reduced from 47 to 42. The entire curriculum has been streamlined, based on the feedback from multiple stakeholders. Ethics and Law courses will now be combined in one course, and Statistics and Research courses will be merged into one course as well. We are also proud to present a new elective three-credit course: "Foundations of Physician Practice Management."
- Five MHSA students recently took part in developing a promotional video for the graduate program. The video focuses on the program benefits and the value students are receiving from their education at University of Detroit Mercy. Interested undergraduate students are encouraged to reach out to Dr. Kozicki as the HSA Program is planning to make a similar video for the undergraduate program.

## Upcoming Events

### MCACHE Job Shadow Day

In March 2021, one MHSA student will be invited to experience a day in the life of a healthcare executive.

### ACHE Congress

In March 2021, three MHSA students will attend the annual Congress of the American College of Healthcare Executives