Virginia Commonwealth University



Featured Story

Dr. Kenneth White PhD, RN, FACHE, Sentara Healthcare Professor was inducted as a Fellow during the American Academy of Nursing's 39th Annual Meeting and Conference on October 13, 2012 in Washington, DC. Dr. White is one of 176 nurse leaders to have been selected for induction in 2012, and one of only three selected in Virginia. The Academy is composed of the nation's top nurse researchers, policy makers, scholars, executives, educators, and practitioners. Selection criteria include evidence of significant contributions to nursing and health care, and sponsorship by two current Academy Fellows. Applicants are reviewed by a panel comprising elected and appointed Fellows. VCU alumna **Marilyn Tavenner** (MHA '89, BSN '83), Acting Administrator, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, was a keynote speaker during the event.



Student News

- Thanks to our NAHSE team of William Clinton (MHA '15), Gabi Pinto-Coelho (MHA '15), Jimmy Zhou (MHA '14) and Dennis Morales (MHA '14) for a great showing at the NAHSE Annual Conference on October 10th.
- Congratulations to two of our MHA students for their stellar showing at the 2012 VA HIMSS Fall Conference November 7-9. Brian Duggar (MHA '15) won second place in the student poster competition and Nikhil Singal (MHA '14) won the Health Information Technology scholarship for leadership.
- PhD student Albert Liu successfully defended his dissertation entitled "The Effect of Physician Ownership on Quality of Care for Outpatient Procedures." Albert will officially graduate in December and has accepted a position as an assistant professor in the College of Health and Public Affairs, part of the Department of Health Management and Informatics at Central Florida University in Orlando, Florida.
- PhD student Naleef Fareed successfully defended his dissertation proposal entitled "Hospital Electronic Health Record (HER) System Adoption Efforts and their Influences on Preventable Postoperative Sepsis Outcomes." His recent publications include Size Matters: A Meta-

analysis on the Impact of Hospital Size on Patient Mortality," in the *International Journal of Evidence-based Healthcare*, 2012, Vol.10(2), pp.103-11.

- PhD student Patrick Shay successfully defended his dissertation proposal entitled "More Than Just Hospitals: An Examination of Cluster Components and Configurations." Patrick recently published (with Dr. Yasar Ozcan), "Freestanding Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility Performance Following the 60 Percent Rule: A Matter of Fit," in *Medical Care Research Review*, July 2012, doi: 1077558712453206.
- Congratulations to Nick Mendyka (MSHA '13) who is beginning a new position as a Senior Analyst in the Strategic Implementation Office at the University of Virginia Health System.

Faculty News

- Dr. Cindy Watts and Dr. Yasar Ozcan, along with former VCU professor Dr. Lou Rossiter, presented a workshop entitled "Effective Medical Institutions: Recipe for Success," at the Sechenov Medical University in Moscow in September. The event was sponsored by Philips Healthcare, and was initiated by Eric Silfen, MD (MSHA '95), VP and CMO of Philips.
- Dr. Gloria Bazzoli co-authored an article with alumna **Hui-Min Hsieh** (PhD '10) entitled "Medicaid Disproportionate Share Hospital Payment: How Does It Impact Hospitals' Provision of Uncompensated Care?" in *Inquiry Journal Online*, Fall 2012.
- Dr. Kenneth White served as a faculty member for ACHE's Board of Governors Fellow Certification Exam Review Course in Scottsdale, AZ in October. Dr. White also served as moderator for a conference at Harvard's Business School entitled "21st Century Health Care Management Education: Confronting Challenges for Innovation with a Modern Curriculum."

Alumni News

- You will notice a change in our annual fund solicitation this year. While in the past the letter has come directly from the Department with our return address, this year annual fund solicitations are being managed by VCU's Central Development Office. Your support through the annual fund is very important to our operations and our ability to fund the courses taught by our adjunct faculty, to send our students to case competitions and national conferences such as ACHE, and to fund the many activities around the residency experience. We hope you will pay close attention to your mail in the next month as the letter might look like general VCU mail and could be easily overlooked. If you prefer to make your annual donation to the Department online, please visit https://www.support.vcu.edu/give/healthadmin. We appreciate your support.
- With major financial support from the MHA Class of 1977, former Hudgens Award winners, and others, the Department is pleased to announce the creation of the R. Timothy Stack Professorship, an endowment to honor Tim Stack, member of the MHA Class of 1977 and Hudgens Award winner in 1987, who died after a brief illness. Tim's wife, Mary, and son Matt were present for the announcement of the professorship at the 2012 Paul A. Gross Landmarks in Leadership event in October (see below).

- Marilyn Tavenner (MHA '89, BSN '83), Acting Administrator of the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) spoke on October 22nd to a crowd of almost 200 at the VCU Larrick Student Center. She discussed opportunities for improvement in the United States health care system and fielded questions about health care reform and Medicaid from the faculty, staff and students (health administration and nursing) in attendance.
- Congratulations to four of our alumni who have appeared in the premier issue of *Our Health* magazine as part of the Fifteen Richmond Health Care Leaders under Forty. Colin Banas, MD (MSHA '08) is the Chief Medical Information Officer for the VCU School of Medicine, Brett Butler (MHA '09) is the Administrative Director for Planning and Medical Economics for Bon Secours Virginia Health System, Alan Dow, MD (MSHA '05) is the Assistant Dean for Medical Education for the VCU School of Medicine, and Brent Rawlings (MHA/JD '04) is an Associate in the Richmond office of McGuire Woods, LLP.
- Three of our alumni have been named in *Modern Healthcare*'s 100 Most Influential People in Healthcare for 2012: **Marilyn Tavenner** (MHA '89) at #8, **Richard Bracken** (MHA '77) at # 74, and **David Bernd** (MHA '73) at # 96 on the list. You can see the entire list here.
- **Jami DelliFraine**, (PhD '04) was one of the recipients of the Helen Yerger/L. Vann Seawell Best Article Award for outstanding editorial achievement in *Healthcare Financial Management* magazine. "Do EHR Investments Lead to Lower Staffing Levels?" was published in February 2012 in collaboration with several of her colleagues at the University of Texas School of Public Health, Houston.
- **Leigh Taylor Bernard** (MSHA '09) was named as one of Richmond's Top 40 Under 40 in the October 17th edition of Richmond's *Style Weekly*. She was the only healthcare professional to make the list.
- Congratulations to **Kevin Fergusson** (MSHA '95) on his new position as Vice President and Medical Director of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, VA. He will be responsible for the Bank's Health Services department.
- Colin Banas (MSHA '08) and Jon Perlin (MSHA '97) were named to the list of Top 25 Clinical Informaticists for 2012 by Modern Healthcare. You can see the entire list here.
- The Paul A. Gross Landmarks in Leadership fall alumni event was held on October 26th. Dr. Tom Ryan (MSHA '99), Executive VP and CMO, Mary Washington Healthcare, was our featured speaker. The Department honored alumni retirements: George Dawson (MHA '75) and Jeffrey Dorsey (MHA '73). The Outstanding Alumni Award was presented to Jess Judy (MHA '77) and the Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Jeff Dorsey (MHA '73).
- The Department hosted the MHA Class of 2002 for its 10-year reunion during the weekend of September 28th. Four members of the class participated in a panel discussion for current MHA students entitled "Your Residency....How to Find Your Niche." Panel participants were **Verlon Salley**, **Alicia Barfield**, **Emily Towey** and **Faraaz Yousuf**. Members of the Department joined the class members for a reception in the Grant House on Friday afternoon.
- Members of the MHA Class of 1977 held their 35th reunion during the weekend of October 26th. Dr. Cindy Watts hosted a breakfast in the Grant House for the classmates and their families. They also joined the Department for the Landmarks in Leadership alumni event on

Friday night, and attended a dinner at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts with Jerry Norville, former Department faculty member.

• Nate Bushnell (MHA '51 -- our first graduate!) is featured in the latest issue of the MCV Alumni Association magazine, Scarab. Alumni Association members can access the magazine online at http://www.vcu-mcvalumni.org/news/magazines.html.

Announcements & Events

- The School of Allied Health Professions kicked off Allied Health Week on November 5th with the Department of Health Administration chair, Dr. Cindy Watts, presenting a webinar entitled "Looking into the Crystal Ball of Reform: PPACA and the Allied Health Professions." You may view the webinar here.
- Ben Smith, MA, Director of Population Health Initiative for the Office of Health Innovation for the VCU Health System was the speaker for the Experts in the Classroom series on November 13th.
- The Alumni Advisory Council met on November 14th. The new slate of officers was introduced: Terrie Edwards (MHA '84), President; Emily Towey (MHA/JD '01), President-elect; Jenese Camper (MHA '07), Secretary/Treasurer; and Lucien Roberts (MHA '87), past-President. A new constitution and bylaws were adopted by the Council and can be viewed here. The Council will meet again on January 24th.
- The MSHA on-campus session will be held from December 12 18, 2012 in the Grant House.