



College of Public Health
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THE MHA *Messenger*

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA MASTER OF HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

Attention Alumni and Friends: MHA Evening Soiree and Game Day Event *An Alumni and Student Spring Mixer*

The Orange and Blue weekend is shaping up to be a memorable reunion visit you will not want to miss. At Friday evening's cocktail hour, mix with the MHA candidates and faculty. Catch up with old friends and meet some new friends. A tailgate brunch – worth waking early for – starts your day before the Orange and Blue game at Ben Hill Griffin Stadium. Don't miss this fantastic opportunity to connect with alumni, faculty and current students. We look forward to seeing you there!



CLICK HERE TO REGISTER!

The Village C-Suite Tour Enlightens Students on Current Topics of Senior Living

The MHA classes of 2015 and 2016 had the opportunity to tour The Village, located in Gainesville, Florida. The students enjoyed an extensive tour of the property, which offers independent living, assisted living, and memory support. The campus has amazing amenities for their residents including first-class healthcare, recreational activities, cultural events and more. Executive Director Jim Antonucci conducted the tour. The students learned that The Village is one of four Florida retirement communities owned and operated by Gainesville-based SantaFe Senior Living.

SantaFe is dedicated to providing high-quality housing to seniors, enriched lifestyle and health care options designed for their specific needs and interests. Mr. Antonucci provided critical, thought-provoking insight into an entirely different aspect of healthcare administration. The tour was beneficial to all participants and allowed the students to gain another important perspective in healthcare administration.



Above: Students at The Village posing with Executive Director, Jim Antonucci.

Student Tour Hosted at North Florida Regional Medical Center



Pictured above: MHA students pose with the Executive Team at North Florida Regional Medical Center.

During the Fall 2014 semester, students had the opportunity to tour North Florida Regional Medical Center. Organized by the Health Administration Student Association (HASA), C-Suite tours enable students to see how hospitals and other healthcare organizations operate on an administrative level. On top of providing a great opportunity for students to broaden their network, C-Suite tours also allow for hospitals to meet and recruit future interns and employees. If your organization would like to host a tour of your hospital or facility, HASA would be happy to talk with a representative about coordinating a trip. All aspects of the tour are flexible and at the facility's discretion. For inquiries, please contact Erica Tanner, HASA Vice President, at etanner29@ufl.edu or (813) 625-1491.

"...The tournament has raised over \$100,000 and spread to over 15 colleges and universities."

MHA Students Supporting Breast Cancer Research and Awareness



During October, breast cancer awareness month, first and second year students formed a team called the MHAsters to compete in this year's Big Pink Volleyball Tournament organized by UF's Recreational Sports. The Big Pink Volleyball Tournament originated in April of 2002 at Western Illinois University as an opportunity for students to raise money for breast cancer awareness. Since then, the tournament has raised over \$100,000 and spread to over 15 colleges and universities.

Each participant made a donation to play and the proceeds went directly to benefit cancer research. The event was a double elimination style tournament. Students had a great time attempting to get the oversized big pink ball over the net and back and forth between players. This was a great opportunity for students to have fun while raising money for a good cause.

HASA Places 1st at ACORN Clinic Fundraiser



Students came together as two teams on November 20th to support the Alachua County Organization for Rural Needs (ACORN) Clinic at the First Annual Gator Grumble. The event featured a family feud-style competition with dental and Gator themed questions. Members from the Clinic's board of directors attended and played as a team, providing for both a fun game and a wonderful networking opportunity. Both MHA teams placed in the top three; one receiving first place and the other receiving third place recognitions.

The ACORN Clinic provides low-cost medical and dental care to low-income families and qualifying residents living in rural North Central Florida. The fundraiser served as the Clinic's kick-off for a capital acquisition and remodeling initiative that will run through next year. Students not only had fun and dominated the competition; they also made cash donations to the cause and strongly represented the MHA program in helping the community.

Administrative Fellows Lead C-Suite Tour of UF Health

During the fall semester, first and second year MHA students had the opportunity to jointly tour the UF Health Shands facilities in Gainesville, FL. This opportunity exposed students to the ever diverse, constantly changing, and complex environment of a large academic medical center. Students began by learning about ShandsCair and were able to tour the South Tower Helipad where ShandsCair lands the helicopters. Students then made their way to the Emergency Department where they experienced a descriptive tour of the department by the ED director, Dr. Payton. Following this tour, students navigated to the newly opened Pediatric Lobby and were given a tour of the new facilities. Students finished their tour at the Cardiac step-down unit where they learned more about the specifics of providing patient-centered care led by the unit's manager, Harvey Norton. Throughout the duration of the tour, students actively participated in discussion with the tour guides and asked multiple questions as they curiously navigated through the hospital.



Following the extensive tour, current administrative residents, Kevin Bogert and Cameron O'Banion, gave a presentation about academic medical centers and extensive information on UF Health. Kevin and Cameron also took time to answer students' questions about the residency as well as provide advice to students in the program. A panel discussion followed with the executive team which included Interim CEO Ed Jimenez, CMO Dr. Timothy Flynn, CNO Irene Alexaitis, and CQO Randy Harmatz. Students relished the opportunity to direct questions to the executives, learn valuable insights from leaders in the healthcare field, and took away countless lessons learned from the panel. Students learned about the importance of mutual curiosity between administrators and clinicians and being open to opportunities that present themselves throughout the duration of the MHA program. At the end of the tour and panel, students departed with fresh excitement of future opportunities in healthcare and eager to begin their career at The University of Florida.



Light The Night

HASA Raises Funds for Leukemia and Lymphoma Society

On October 23rd, UF MHA students participated in the local “Light the Night Walk”, benefiting the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Funds raised by the participants will help advance further breakthrough therapies for blood cancer patients such as targeted therapies that hone in on and attack cancer cells, and immune-therapies that use a patient’s own immune system to attack the cancer.

In advance of the event, students raised money individually and as a group. Department faculty also contributed to the team, helping them to reach their goal of raising

\$2,000. During opening announcements, the UF MHA team was recognized for placing third overall for fundraising. At the event, students carried various colored lanterns. Each color represented a disease: white for survivors, yellow in memory of a lost loved one, and red for supporters. Inspired by the success of the event, students plan to walk again next year, increasing their fundraising goal. It was an incredible team experience to raise money for an important cause that is close to the hearts of many students.



Students Explore Healthcare at Haven Hospice



The students were unsure of what to expect and wondered how they should prepare emotionally for their visit to Haven Hospice. One student, in particular, was reminded by a family member of hospice’s role: to provide exceptional care in the form of comfort and emotional support. This sentiment was projected throughout the students’ tour of Haven Hospice, ET York Hospice Care Center.

From the moment they entered the facility, instead of dread and discomfort, they sensed peacefulness. Tim Bowen, President of Haven Hospice, presented the employee onboarding video to show the students what Haven Hospice is truly all about. Mr. Bowen conducted a Q&A session, then guided the students on a tour of the facility, including patient rooms, the chapel, community spaces and the beautiful patio garden. Following the tour, Mr. Bowen explained the clinical and administrative levels of Haven Hospice, including nursing-to-patient ratios, financials and the influence of insurance providers on hospice care. Students learned that end-of-life care is not something they should dread or be fearful of, but rather, an opportunity to live out one’s days surrounded by people who are there to fulfill your needs and final desires – the epitome of exceptional patient care.

Pictured above: Jediah Hostetler, Austin Sneed, Meredith Brady, Lauren Raetz, Ashley Tighe, Erica Tanner, Athena Tingberg, Meaghan Mohan and Greg Cotes pose with Tim Bowen at Haven Hospice during the C-Suite tour.