MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Fellow MHA Students,

Now that we are all back from Spring Break I wanted to wish you all good luck on your final projects, papers, and exams. I know that the 2nd years are extremely busy finishing up some great Capstone projects and I know that the first years are getting quite busy as well.

I hope that everything is going well on the job or internship front. The internships serve as a great learning experience so I encourage all of you in summer internships to be actively involved in your new organizations and to seek out as many projects as possible. The summer will go quickly so it’s a good idea to get as much experience as possible. As far as the job hunt goes I hope everyone is finding jobs they think are interesting and will lead to rewarding careers in the future. On that note, our final graduation edition of this newsletter will have a listing of where all of the graduating students are heading after graduation. So if you already know what position you will be taking after your MHA studies are complete send an e-mail to mhasa@iupui.edu and let us know your plans.

In case you have not been keeping up with health care news in the State of Indiana, Eric Wright is leading an Indiana University team to focus on the health care strategy for Indiana. The team will help develop a long term strategy on how health care should be delivered and paid for in the State of Indiana. This is certainly great publicity for the IU Center for Health Policy and the IU MHA program.

In closing, I hope that all of you do well on your finals and hope to see you at graduation!

Sincerely,

Dave Hyatt
President, MHASA

MHA Alumni Profile: Elizabeth Walker, IU MHA ’99

Elizabeth Walker is a 1999 graduate of the Indiana University MHA program, and is currently a Consultant at Health Evolutions in Indianapolis, Indiana. Elizabeth is also an Indianapolis Area Healthcare Executives Network board member, Diplomat in the American College of Healthcare Executives, IU MHA Alumni Board Member, and an active Executive Women in Healthcare member.

1. What is your education/work background?

I was a Biology/Psychology double major at IU-Bloomington for undergrad (graduated 1996), and received my Master of Health Administration and Doctor of Jurisprudence at the same time from IU Indianapolis (graduated 1999). While attending graduate school in Indianapolis, I had the opportunity to work several part-time jobs: I served as a legal Intern with the Office of Medicaid Policy and Planning, as a law clerk for the Indiana State Medical Association, and as a Project Manager of Ambulatory Surgery Centers for Community Hospital/VEI.

See Profile, Page 2
Upcoming Events

April
- Potential MHASA Gathering—TBA
- 5th—Required Internship Meeting, 5:00 PM in BS4032D
- 20th—SPEA Graduation Dinner, 6:00 PM at Union Station
- 30th—Final Examinations Begin

May
- 9th—Summer I Classes Begin
- 13th—IUPUI Commencement, 2:30 PM at RCA Dome
- 13th—SPEA Commencement, 4:45 PM in Hall E
- 16th—IHEN Meeting, 3:30 PM at Methodist Hospital

Be sure to check the IU MHA Student Association Website, SPEA Lounge, and your e-mail for the most updated information on upcoming events.

Profile: IU MHA Alumnus Elizabeth Walker (cont.)

From Page 1

These jobs gave me first hand experience in different aspects of healthcare. In addition to these experiences, I spoke with countless healthcare professionals about their careers: what their jobs entailed, what previous jobs had that led them there, what they enjoyed most about their jobs. All of this guided me to my decision to join Health Evolutions upon graduation and begin my career path as a healthcare consultant.

Although working as a consultant involved constant interaction with hospitals and physicians, I wanted to learn more about the day-to-day operations. In 2004, I joined Henry County Hospital in New Castle, Indiana to serve as Vice President of Planning and Physician Operations. I recently re-joined Health Evolutions as a part-time consultant so that I could be home more with my 2 year old son and 9 month old daughter.

2. Was it your career goal to work in healthcare consulting?

It took me awhile to decide exactly what I wanted to be when I grew up, although I always knew I wanted to work in the healthcare field. My original plan was to attend medical school (I was accepted while in undergrad and deferred to attend law school), but ended up pursuing the business side of medicine instead. Consulting is the perfect fit for my personality: I am constantly challenged, and each client’s unique circumstances requires me to learn something new. I am married to a family medicine physician, so I still get to hear all about practicing medicine every night at the dinner table.

3. How did the IU MHA program help prepare you for your current role as a Consultant in healthcare?

The MHA credential opened a lot of doors in the healthcare industry that my JD alone would not have. It also opened my eyes to the variety of healthcare related jobs that are out there.

4. What is your fondest memory of your time in the IU MHA program?

The adjunct professors that talked about their work lives were priceless: Julie Carmichael, CEO of Suburban Health Organization; John Render, partner at Hall Render law firm; Dan Miesle, Consultant; Penny Davis, Executive Director of Aseracare Hospice. Their discussions about issues that came up in their jobs helped me to see where all my academic studies would eventually be useful. They provided a much needed “light at the end of the tunnel!”

6. What advice do you have for current students?

Network! Talking to professionals that were already established in their careers enabled me to find the job that best suited me.