



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE ADMINISTRATION

Newsletter - Fall 2022

Department Chair's Message:

Dear Colleagues and Friends of the Department of Health Care Administration at CSULB,

Warm greetings to all of you! I am delighted to share our annual newsletter for the Department. Whether you are one of our 4,000 plus Alumni, Advisory Board Member, Internship Preceptor, Faculty Member, Current Student, or Prospective Applicant—we thank you for your support and interest to our AUPHA-certified & CAHME-accredited Programs.

As we settle into the Fall 2022 Semester, we are thrilled to be welcoming students back on campus. We have a very steady admission and proudly welcoming our newly admitted students who are coming from very vibrant and diverse range of background and/or experience, all share the passion to transform healthcare - our Program's vision.

We are also very proud of our Continuing Students, who never cease to impress with their resilience as we navigate disruptive change, first to fully online education over the course of the pandemic, and now steadily back to on-campus instruction. Despite the pandemics, their accomplishment continues to flourish. This year, we won FIRST place in the ACHE So Cal College Bowl competition for both undergraduate and graduate teams. Congratulations to Maryann Tran, Justin Bueno, and Kiely Gode in the graduate team, and to Thi Nguyet Minh Ho, Fariha Faruk, and Binh Ly in the undergraduate team. My immense gratitude to the lead coach, Prof. Knego and to all the coaches. One of our graduate students in Accelerated program, Yazmyne Mendoza, received the CAHME/Judy Baar Topinka Foundation Scholarship – a distinguished award that recognize students who displayed dedication to the public good through volunteerism/ service to the community. One of our undergraduate students, Jose Olivar, was nominated and selected to receive the College Outstanding Graduate Award 2022 – for undergraduate. We did very well this year.

During this tumultuous year, we also like to a special shout out (kudos) to our Internship team. Led by Dr. Freshman, our internship faculty and our amazing Preceptors throughout the Southern California region, we managed to provide our students with rich experiences to build concrete skills and establish their budding careers. We recognize the sacrifices all have made throughout this challenging time to stay present and engaged, to grow and to learn, and we are very grateful to all the supports given to them.

I am also happy to share that we continue maintaining our full certification with AUPHA for our undergraduate program for another seven years! Both CAHME accreditation and AUPHA certification signifies the hard work of the people in the Department. Together with our dedicated Advisory Board, Community Stakeholders, Alumni, and broader Campus Community, we look forward for another amazing year ahead of us.

In closing, I want to deeply thank each and every one of you for your continuing support to the Department. If you a Prospective Applicant and wish to find out more, please reach out to us. I encourage you to visit our website where you can find further information about admissions criteria and information sessions. I look forward to celebrating our future successes with you, and in the meantime, wish you continued success in your endeavors throughout the year and beyond.

Best,

E. Erlyana, PhD
Professor & Chair
Department of Health Care Administration



Department Website



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Program Spotlights:

CSULB won FIRST place in ACHE Western Region College Bowl!

CSULB 2022 both graduate and undergraduate teams finished FIRST Place in the statewide College Bowl Competition sponsored by the Healthcare Executives of Southern California this past May!!! We are very proud of our students' accomplishment, faculty and advisory board members commitment and dedication! Below are students' reflection on their participation to the competition.

"My decision to join the CSULB college bowl team was totally last minute but I could not be happier that I decided to participate. The case study competition was as challenging as it was rewarding, and I learned so much. The case study challenged me to think strategically and put all of the things I had learned in my coursework into a real world situation. Overall, the experience gave me confidence in how this program/education and experiences will prepare me to enter the industry well-equipped to become a leader and make an impact in healthcare." - Kiely Gode

"As an undergraduate student, the College Bowl was an amazing experience. It was a great opportunity for me to reinforce my general knowledge of Health Care Administration, which I learned at CSULB, and to make meaningful connections with health professionals around the state of California. It was an honor for us to be able to compete with so many talented Health Care Administration undergraduate students from CSU Northridge and CSU Chico. Our very intense, emotional, and narrow victory cemented this as an unforgettable experience for everyone who participated. I hope that our 1st place achievement can serve as a clear testament to the great quality of the education that we are getting at the HCA program of CSULB." - Thi Nguyet Minh Ngo

2022 College Bowl Winners!!!



From Left to Right: Justin Bueno, Maryann Tran, Kiely Gode, Binh Ly, Thi Nguyet Minh Ho, Fariha Faruk



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Students Spotlight : Jose Olivar & Yazmyne Melgoza

2022 CHHS OUTSTANDING UNDERGRADUATE AWARDEE!



From Left to Right: Rocky Suarez (Commencement Guest Speaker), Jose Olivar (Outstanding Undergraduate Awardee), Jolae Brocato (Grand Marshal), Lucy Huckabay (Commencement Guest Speaker - 2022 CSU Wang Family Excellence Award for Outstanding Faculty Service), Grace Reynolds-Fisher (CHHS AD), Monica Lounsbury (CHHS Dean), Victoria Davis (Outstanding Graduate Awardee), Tiffanye Vargas (CHHS AD)

Jose Olivar is the 2022 College of Health and Human Services Outstanding Undergraduate Awardee. In addition to his academic excellence, Jose was an active member of the department and on campus socially. During his time at CSULB, he served as the vice-president of the HCA Student Forum, and he also served as the vice-president of the HCA Honor Society, Upsilon Phi Delta, for which he had served as a member in good standing. Furthermore, Jose was active in a number of mentoring programs, including one through CSULB's Student Center for Professional Development and another through the Center for Healthcare Administration. Jose also volunteered extensively with a number of community groups and organizations. Jose's goal is to become a driving force in the local community while developing and honing his skills as a future leader in Health Care Administration. A shining example of CSULB's very best, he is destined to become an inspiration to others.

2022 CAHME/ JUDY BAAR TOPINKA FOUNDATION AWARDEE!



Yazmyne Melgoza is the recipient of the CAHME/Judy Baar Topinka Foundation Scholarship for 2022. She is the first CSULB student who won the CAHME award! She works as a Process Excellence Specialist at Torrance Memorial Medical Center where she and her colleagues were successfully streamlining the procedure for staff members who offered to make face shields when COVID posed a risk to the workforce. The team achieved their goal of 5,000 face shields in three days by establishing standard operating procedures, visuals, and collaboration. Moreover, she was a member of a vaccine leadership team and helped establish a rapid COVID-19 vaccine clinic. Very proud of her!!!

Link to the award winners announcement: <https://cahme.org/healthcare-management-education-accreditation/judy-barr-topinka-award-winners/>

The latest episode of the Master Your Healthcare Career Podcast: Perspectives on Graduate Healthcare Management Education is now available on your favorite podcast app.

Link to the podcast: <https://www.buzzsprout.com/1808131/10546752>

This episode features students from George Washington University (Adam Khan) and Cal State Long Beach (Yazmyne Melgoza), along with GW faculty Leonard Friedman and Torrance Memorial's Jeremiah Hargrave. We discuss how students evaluate their choice of graduate programs, how their programs helped prepare them for their futures in healthcare, and what qualities are important for students to be successful healthcare leaders.

Faculty Highlight : Rus Billimoria



Dr. Rus Billimoria a Physician by background, is retired from his previous full-time position. He continues with consultations in Managed Care and Health Services using his expertise in those fields. Previously he was a Senior Director Health Services Support for Network Medical Management, a managed care company in Los Angeles. He has participated as Executive Faculty for the past 24 years at California State University in Long Beach in the Health Care Administration Department, teaching Health Care Quality Improvement in the Undergraduate and Graduate Programs.

Prior experiences include 7 years as Senior Director Health Services at L.A.Care, Director clinical services at Pfizer Health Solutions; Director of Health Services for Maxicare Health Plan; and Director of Quality Management for Molina Medical Centers. Before joining Molina, he was Director of Quality Management for CalOptima in Orange County, and was manager of Quality Management for CareAmerica Health Plan. He has conducted quality research studies for UniHealth America health systems and served as medical advisor to a multinational pharmaceutical firm in its conduct of drug trials and post-marketing studies.

With extensive experience in Health Care Quality Improvement, his publications and conference presentations encompass a wide range of topics ranging from Medicine, pharmacology to managed care and quality management. Dr. Billimoria received his medical degree from the University of Bombay, India, and also completed a post-graduate Medical degree with a pharmacology major. He holds a Masters degree in Public Health from UCLA and was certified in health care quality (CPHQ).

According to Dr. Billimoria, important factors contributes to his success is perseverance, innovation, empathy, hard work and willingness to make change. To be an aspiring health care administrators, ones should have the following characteristics: Logical, Critical Thinking and Problem-Solving Abilities; Leadership and Management Expertise; Written, Verbal and Nonverbal Communication Skills; Organizational Abilities; Integrity and Personal Responsibility.

His favorite quotes are from IF By Rudyard Kipling & Invictus By Ernest Henley

If you can fill the unforgiving minute With sixty seconds' worth of distance run—Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it, And— which is more—you'll be a Man, my son!

*It matters not how strait the gate,
How charged with punishment the scroll
I am the master of my fate and Captain of my soul!*

2022 CSULB - CHHS HCA Commencement

The 2022 CSULB - College of Health and Human Services commencement ceremony was held at the Angels Stadium in Anaheim. Over 200 HCA students and family members joined us on this day to celebrate the hard work and dedication of our students. Through our students' perseverance and growth throughout their time at the Department, we strongly believe our students are well equipped with the tools and the confidence they need to pursue fulfilling healthcare administration careers. In this College ceremony, Jose Olivar, graduates from the Undergraduate Program was recognized as the 2022 College Outstanding Undergraduate Awardee (see his story below). HCA graduate students has its own hooding ceremony and celebration at Rose Garden in Angels Stadium right after the general commencement. Our keynote speaker, Alfonso Vega, Vice President, Health Services Administration for AltaMed & Vice President of the HCA Advisory Board, spoke to our students on his career path and empowered them to think beyond their circumstances and be innovative. Student Speaker, Nishi Ladhani, graduates from the Accelerated Program spoke on her journey in the Program and encourages all graduates to stay connected through the HCA Alumni Network, HCAAN, and to serve as a resource to our community. As they embark on this new chapter in their lives, we wish them the best.



The Health Care Administration Department (HCA) as well as our alumni have grown and become more diverse. The CSULB Health Care Administration Alumni Network (HCAAN) is a networking group for former students who support the department of health administration at CSULB. In an attempt to enhance and bring together the HCA community, HCAAN offers events, activities, and services to students, alumni, and business professionals. HCAAN is governed by a broad group of alumni who come from acute-care hospitals, managed care companies, and healthcare consulting businesses, as well as the BS and MS degree programs in health care administration at CSULB. The HCAAN Board has monthly online conferences to discuss networking opportunities and academic year events.

MSHCA GRADUATES

JOIN OUR ALUMNI
NETWORK,
HCCAN



The CSULB alumni association and HCAAN are open to anyone who recently earned a degree in Health Care Administration from CSULB.
HCAAN would like to welcome the new 2022 graduates to join!

HCA Speaker Series

Network! Network! Network! Importance of building and expanding connections to the field has been encouraged and developed while students are taking their classes. Exposure to and learning from the experts in the industry is one of the key ingredients that contributes to students success. With the support from highly engaged community partners, the HCA Advisory Board was able to invite and host the Speaker Series events. In these events, students learned about the current health care challenges and were able to ask career-related questions they may have. Some topics we covered in the past range from leadership at times of COVID-19 to regulatory compliance. We have experienced a high level of student interest, with over 100 students attending each meeting.

Speakers in Fall 2021 - Spring 2022:



Karen Sielbeck, R.N.
Chief operating Officer
Kaiser Permanente, South Bay Medical Center



Elizabeth DuBois, DNP, FNP-BC, AAHIVS
Principal & Chief People Officer at
COPE Health Solutions.



Natasha Milatovich
Human Resources Executive with
Adventist Health



Ardel Guillasmas Avelino
Senior Director at St. Mary Medical Center



To learn more about our Speakers and stay in tune with past and future events