



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE ADMINISTRATION

Newsletter - Fall 2021

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 interest and support of our AUPHA & CAHME-accredited Programs.

As we settle into the Fall 2021 Semester, we are thrilled to be welcoming students back on campus. We have a very steady admission, and our numbers nearly doubled from the previous year for the incoming class of Graduate Students in our Traditional track. Our students are composed of a vibrant and diverse range of background and/or experience, all share the passion to transform healthcare—our Program's vision.

We are also particularly 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. During this tumultuous year and a half, additional credit goes to our Internship Director, Dr. Brenda Freshman, and to all of our amazing Preceptors throughout the Southern California region, who, despite it all, 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 grateful.

I am also happy to share that we continue to maintain a strong reputation with our accreditor, CAHME. Thanks to a collective effort among core faculty, our 2020 Progress Report resulted in the lifting of all partially-met criteria in place since our prior Site Visit, re-affirming our full accreditation status until 2026. This is no small achievement, as we are one of only four fully accredited Graduate Programs in California, and one of only six in the Pacific region. In the coming year, we look forward to enhancing our program improvement efforts through collaborations with our Advisory Board, Community Stakeholders, Alumni, and broader Campus Colleagues.

And last, it is with bittersweet feelings to acknowledge the retirement of our center of gravity for over two decades, Ms. Deby McGill. As many of you know, Deby single-handedly held the Department together through times of transition and growth, and we are all still grappling with her decision to move on and spend more time with her grandchildren. She no doubt deserves a relaxing and fulfilling retirement after ceaselessly serving our Program and especially our Students. To say she will be missed is a massive understatement.

In closing, I wish to 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, I encourage you to visit our website where you can find further information about admissions criteria and information sessions.

We 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 wishes,

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



Department Website

Program Spotlights:

New Visiting Faculty:



Jeremy Ramirez

Jeremy is a CSULB alum and has recently joined our department as a lecturer in Health Information Systems. He has more than 15 years of experience working in and leading healthcare operations, from providing bedside patient care, to developing national public health policy. He is a graduate of the US Army Advanced Leadership Course and the UC Berkeley Center for Health Leadership Fellowship program. He incorporates his experience as a critical care nurse/EMT, health operations manager, strategy and operations consultant, and published health research data scientist to overcome complex health system challenges. Jeremy is certified by the American Society for Quality (ASQ) as a Black Belt in Lean Six Sigma (CSSBB), and is a Certified Scrum Master (CSM) through the Scrum Alliance. He is a current doctoral candidate at Johns Hopkins University, where he is trained to identify, synthesize and apply evidence-based public health research and theory from a broad range of disciplines and health related data sources for problem solving to advance programs, policies, and systems promoting population health.

Annual College Bowl:

This past May CSULB 2021 team of Sarah Garah Gad, Andres Woodruff, Layal Temsah and Alexis McDowell finished 3rd Place in the statewide College Bowl Competition sponsored by the Healthcare Executives of Southern California. CSULB intends to send one or more teams to next year's 2022 College Bowl competition. College Bowl is an annual academic contest for graduate students currently enrolled in healthcare programs. The College Bowl began as a Jeopardy style contest with teams answering questions related to healthcare policy and management. The format has now evolved into a case study competition in which teams of 3-4 students are given a Case Study and given a certain amount of time to prepare a PowerPoint slide presentation outlining the team's recommendations in response to the case study. At a later time selected teams are invited to present their findings to a panel of judges in a competition against other universities. The program is primarily for graduate students although undergrads may serve as alternates and support. Students are only allowed to participate for one year. CSULB will sponsor 1 or more teams of interested students to compete in the statewide competition which usually takes place in late April or early May. Team members are required to work independently as a team. However, CSULB's team is coached by Professor Knego and will receive coaching sessions from HCA Advisory Board members and faculty. Participation in events like these is great experience. In addition to enhancing your skills in executive presentations participating provides an opportunity for networking among students and industry executives, and is great material for your resume. Interested? Want to learn more about it? Contact Dr. Erlyana.



AndresWoodruff, AlexisMcDowell, Sarah Garah Gad,Layal Temsah, Prof. Tom Knego

2021 Commencement

The Department of Health Care Administration hosted the second annual virtual commencement ceremony for both undergraduates and graduates through Zoom this May. Over 200 students and family members joined us on this day to celebrate the hard work and dedication of our students. We witness our students persevere and grow throughout their time at the Department and firmly believe they are well equipped with the tools and confidence needed to pursue fulfilling healthcare administration careers. We invited a Keynote Speaker, Kelly Bruno, the president and CEO of the National Health Foundation, to join us and speak to our students on her career path and empower our students to think big and innovate. The Department welcomes all graduates to stay connected through our HCA Alumni Network, HCCAN, and be a resource to our community.

Alumni Spotlights:



DANIELLE IBASCO
BS Graduate



JOIN OUR ALUMNI
NETWORK,
HCCAN



MORE INFO ON
COMMENCEMENT
VIDEO INCLUDED

HCA Speaker Series

The Department actively seeks for ways to expose our students to real world examples in the health care system, and the virtual Speaker Series is one of them. We believe this gives our students an opportunity to ask about the current health care scheme and career-related questions they may have. Some topics we covered in the past range from leadership at times of COVID-19 to regulatory compliance. Many students had shown interest, and over 100 plus students join us every time. The Department also want to take this time to thank and show appreciation to the HCA Advisory Board for sponsoring the Speaker Series.

Past Speakers:



George W. Greene, Esq.
President and CEO at HASC



Norman Y. Mineta
Former U.S. Secretary of
Transportation



Cindy Ehnes, Esq.
CEO of California's Children's
Hospital Association



Cathy Chidester
Director of Los Angeles
County EMS



Jennifer Diehl
Human Performance
Executive, Adventist Health



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