Partners in the New Vision

On November 20, 2000, 140 alumni/ae, faculty, and their guests gathered at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts for a very special alumni/ae event. The evening began with a private tour of the Monet, Renoir, and the Impressionist Landscape Exhibit, followed by dinner, and a brief program. Barbara Jackman, President of the Alumni/ae Executive Committee, served as Mistress of Ceremonies for the evening. Speakers included Dr. Eugene Trani, President, VCU; Sharon Darby, a second-year MSHA student; James Yolch, a second-year MHA student; and Dr. Stephen S. Mick, Chair of the Department.

Dr. Mick officially introduced “Partners in the New Vision,” the Department’s strategic plan and focus for fundraising efforts over the next five years. The goal: to place VCU’s Department of Health Administration at the very top of all (continued on page 4)

HAD Announces New Faculty/Staff

New Faculty

Dr. James L. Zazzali (picture next page) joins the Department as an assistant professor. He received his Ph.D. in Health Services and Policy Analysis, with a concentration in organization behavior, from the University of California, Berkeley and received his M.P.H. degree from John Hopkins University.

Dr. Zazzali specializes in organization behavior and theory as they apply to the analysis of the health care sector. Dr. Zazzali teaches classes relating to organization and management in both of the department’s masters programs as well as the doctoral program.

His previous work experience includes 5 years in various departments of the Medical Director’s Office at the Harvard Community Health Plan, a large Boston-based HMO, where he participated on research teams examining quality of care and health outcomes. (continued on page 2)
Dr. Zazzali is currently researching the relationship between various coordinating mechanisms and beneficial organizational outcomes in VA psychiatric units. He is also involved in a large analysis of the relationship between the culture of medical groups and the implementation of evidence-based medicine and accountability practices.

Karen Wilson joined the Department of Health Administration in August 2000. A 1998 graduate of the Department’s MHA program, Ms. Wilson serves as the Director of External Relations.

Her primary responsibilities will be marketing the Department’s various degree programs and coordination, programmatic, and liaison functions related to alumni/ae relations.

Prior to her VCU appointment, Ms. Wilson was the Assistant Administrator at St. Mary’s Hospital in Richmond, Virginia. Karen’s office number is 804/828 -8662 and her email address is: kjwilson@hsc.vcu.edu.

Steve Lindsey joins the HAD staff as residency coordinator. Steve will monitor the progress of the third year residents. Activities of the residency include periodic visits, a distance learning course, and an on-campus seminar in the spring.

Mr. Lindsey received his masters degree in health administration from Georgia State University and his bachelor of science degree from Louisiana State University.

Mr. Lindsey brings almost thirty years of experience in the healthcare field to the department. He served as Chief Executive Office, Henrico Doctors’ Hospital, Hospital Corporation of America in Richmond from 1979-1995. Presently he serves as President of J.S. Lindsey & Co. in Richmond.

NOTE: Interviews are being conducted to fill the Department’s health economist faculty position.

On October 31, 2000, 16 alumni/ae from the MHA and MSHA programs gathered for lunch at the Shenandoah Club in Roanoke, Virginia. This special event was made possible by two prominent MHA alumni: Bill Reid (’56), host for the event, and E.L. Derring (’58), the Department’s untiring champion and mastermind behind this gathering. Another special guest in attendance was Ham Flannagan, honorary alumnus, given special tribute by several in the room for his influence in the lives and careers of many VCU/MCV alumni/ae. Representing the Department of Health Administration were Steve Harvey, Assistant Dean with the School of Allied Health Professions, Karen Wilson, the Department’s Director of External Relations, and Dr. Stephen S. Mick, Chair of the Department.

Following lunch, Dr. Mick gave a brief report on the Department and introduced “Partners in the New Vision.”

The Alumni/ae Executive Committee held its first Fall meeting on November 7, 2000, in Williamsburg, Virginia. Traditionally, this Committee meets in connection with the ACHE Congress held each March, but with several new alumni/ae initiatives in the works, the Committee agreed that it needed to meet more than once a year.

On the agenda were: Alumni/ae Association Constitution and Bylaws revisions, a class representative system, a curriculum advisory committee, alumni/ae networking, and “Partners in the New Vision.” Changes to the Constitution and Bylaws will be distributed to all alumni/ae for their consideration and approval. In addition, the Committee’s nominating committee will submit names for Executive Committee officers and members-at-large. Ballots will be distributed prior to the ACHE Congress and results announced at the Cardwell Reception. Executive Committee Officers and members for July 1, 2000 through June 30, 2001 are:

Barbara Jackman (MHA ’81), President
David Singley, Jr. (MHA ’83), President-Elect
Warren Brennan (MHA ’74), Secretary/Treasurer
John DiNardi, III (MSHA ’90), Past-President
Kevin Barr (BS ’81)
Karen Cameron (MHA ’87)
Jeffrey Holland (MHA ’76)
Stephen McCary (MHA ’85)
Denise Williams (MHA ’77)
Phyllis Wingate-Jones (MHA ’81)
Alumni/ae Spotlight

Be sure to make frequent visits to the Department’s website (www.had.vcu.edu) to check out the latest Alumni/ae Spotlight. This new addition to our home page gives us the opportunity to “brag” about our alumni/ae and their accomplishments.

At the time this newsletter went to print, the featured alumnus was Michael Zucker. Mr. Zucker, former CEO of the Heart Hospital of Austin, has launched a job recruitment tool for the health care industry. His new business was featured in Austin’s bizjournals.com.

We hope to update our alumni/ae spotlights every few weeks in order to keep you better informed on what your classmates are up to. Of course, your assistance would be very helpful as we strive to make these spotlights fun and current. If you know of an alumnus or alumna that deserves special recognition and attention, please contact Karen Wilson, (804) 828-8662, or kjwilson@hscc.vcu.edu.

Philippe Beaughe (MHA ’84) is chief operating officer for Inova Medical Group in Fairfax, Virginia. . . . John Bowling (MHA ’71) is president and CFO of Hamilton Health Care System, Inc., Dalton, Georgia. . . . Mark Canada (MHA ’90) has been named associate administrator for Inova Fair Oaks Hospital in Fairfax, Virginia. . . . Catherine Canniff (MSHA ’90) married John Hockchst on February 6, 2000 and now has two stepchildren, along with her son Chuck. Catherine is vice president and CIO for Orlando Regional Healthcare. . . . Tad Coker (MHA ’94) is manager of Provider Reporting and Technology at AMERIGROUP Corporation in Virginia Beach, Virginia. . . . Tom Consedine (MHA ’98) serves as director of Logistics & Transportation at Owens & Minor in Glen Allen, Virginia. . . . Alison Croke (MHA ’99) serves as program associate for the Center for Health Care Strategies in Princeton, New Jersey. Alison has been a keynote speaker at the National Pharmaceutical Council’s Executive Fellowship in Medicaid Disease Management Programs hosted by the Department. . . . Leo Dunn, MD, Professor Emeritus, VCU/MCV, (MSHA ’98) was elected chair of the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education. He also serves as president of the American Board of Medical Specialties and has been appointed to the Institutional Review Committee and appointed senior editor for PRECIS a self study program, AMER, College OB - GYN . . . John Fitte (MSHA ’98) serves as executive vice president of Stat Medical Information on Demand in Virginia Beach, Virginia. . . . A. Deo Garlock (MHA ’86) received his Ph.D. in economics from Columbia University. . . . Pam Hagley (MSHA ’99) serves as administrative director of Memorial Regional Medical Center in Mechanicsville, Virginia. . . . Nancy Holland, MD (MSHA ’98) is vice president of medical affairs at Twin County regional Hospital in Galax, Virginia. . . . Yuille Holt, IV (Dusty) (MHA ’99) serves as a general sales representative for Key Pharmaceuticals in Charlotteville, Virginia. . . . Laura Joyner (MSHA ’98) is pleased to announce the birth of a baby girl —Miranda Braswell born May 25. . . . Sherri Lindsey (MHA ’99) is director of clinical utilization services at Virginia Health Quality Center in Richmond. . . . Matt Mendez (MHA ’99) married Melissa Smetta on May 29, 1999. He is site administrator (Pendes Memorial Hospital) for New Hanover Health Network in Burgaw, North Carolina. . . . Douglas Noll (MSHA ’91) is administrative director of Spine Surgery Associates in Chattanooga, Tennessee. . . . Chih- wen Pai’s (Ph.D. ’97) family welcomed a new member —Serena on August 3. . . . Donald Seitz, MD (MSHA ’98) was appointed to the Board of Directors of Bon Secours Health System, Inc., in Marriottsville, Maryland, effective January 2000. . . . Kathy Scott (MHA ’98) recently became administrator for Woodford Memorial Hospital in Versailles, Kentucky. . . . Georgia Suniel (MSHA ’99) is associate administrator for Retreat Hospital in Richmond. . . . Joanna Vickery (MHA ’99) married John A. Herath of Charlottesville, Virginia. She serves as administrative manager for physician compensation at the Private Diagnostic Clinic, PLLC in Durham, North Carolina. . . . Jennine Zumbuhl (MSHA ’99) is clinical research coordinator for Sentara Norfolk General Hospital.

Alumni/ae Updates

The Department wishes to thank five generous MHA alumni, E.L. Derring (’58), Hunter Grumbles (’52), John Harlan (’52), Skip Lamb (’58), and Bill Reid (’56), whose contributions have resulted in the purchase of a plaque honoring Stuart D. Ogren and the Ogren Scholars. Until this time, the Department has not had a tangible means of special recognition and attention, please contact Karen Wilson, (804) 828-8662, or kjwilson@hscc.vcu.edu.

The Stuart D. Ogren Scholarship Fund was established in 1989 by the Virginia Hospital Association, the Virginia Insurance Reciprocal, and friends of Mr. Ogren. Mr. Ogren served as President of the Virginia Hospital Association from 1962-1988. The Fund provides a permanent tribute to Mr. Ogren’s distinguished career and significant contribution to the effective provision and development of health-care services and policy in the Commonwealth and the Nation. Since its inception, 35 MHA students have benefited from this Fund and its generous contributors.

The plaque was unveiled on November 28, 2000, when Mr. Ogren, the plaque’s contributors, and several Ogren Scholars attended a luncheon at the Grant House given in their honor. (pictures on page 5)
Partners in the New Vision

(continued from first page)
nationally ranked health administration programs. In order to meet this goal, the Department believes it must do the following three things:

- Build and maintain a state-of-the-art capacity in educational programming and information dissemination founded on a fully Web-enabled platform, including key links between the practice community and the Department;
- Establish Leadership Scholarships for the recruitment of the most talented students nationally, with an emphasis on leadership capability; and
- Endow a professorship so that an academic leader in Information Systems/Information Technology may be recruited to the faculty.

These three initiatives, combined with the Department’s highly successful emphasis on hands-on, no-nonsense health administration education, will be a reflection of the five words that most aptly describe the Department of Health Administration and its vision: innovation, technology, excellence, tradition, and leadership.

While invitations were sent to all alumni, we hope those of you in the greater-Richmond area were able to join us for this event. Please look for additional information on “Partners in the New Vision” to come your way in the near future. If you did not receive your invitation to this event, please contact Karen Wilson, Director of External Relations, (804) 828-8662, kjwilson@hsc.vcu.edu, to check your address on file.

Pictures taken at Virginia Museum
Left: Left to right Nate Bushnell (MHA ’51), Barbara Jackson (MHA ’81), Skip Lamb (MHA ’58), and Felix Fraraccio (MHA ’68). Right: Seated left to right Terry Blatchley, James Blatchley (MSHA ’98), Betty Dunn, Dr. Leo Dunn (MSHA ’98), Dr. Nan Holland, (MSHA ’98), Tom Consedine, (MSHA ’98) and Linda Consedine.

Program News

Ph.D. News
 Following are the five new students who joined the program in the fall and their areas of interest: Major Nick Coppola (managed care); Jennifer Field (mental health); Pam Spain (health care delivery); Ning Zhang (health care management/health economics); and Mei Zhao (health service and management/health economics).

Kwang-Soo Lee successfully defended his dissertation, The Effects of Clinical Integration on Hospital Efficiency and Patient Outcomes, on November 20, 2000. Yihua Xu successfully defend her dissertation, Factors Associated with Different Hospital Arrangements in Providing Home Health Services, on December 1, 2000. Yihua has accepted a position as a research analyst with the Missouri Patient Care Review Foundation.

Jon M. Thompson (’95), Debra Draper (’00) and Robert E. Hurley’s paper, “Revisiting Employee Benefits Managers,” won first place for the Sodexho Marriott Health Care Division Faculty Publication of the Year. Dr. Thompson accepted the award at the American Academy of Medical Administrators Conference in New Orleans on November 10, 2000.

(continued on page 5)
This fall, the MHA Class of 2003 joined us. It is comprised of 19 students. This diverse class is divided equally between men and women. Ten of the 19 are from out-of-state, having received baccalaureate degrees from 16 different institutions. The MSHA Class of 2002, with 26 members, began in late July. Its members bring experience from many sectors including physical therapy, home health care, hospital management and physician practice.

**Student Activities**
- The ACHE Student Chapter held their semester meeting October 25, 2000. The guest speaker was Dr. Tom Dolan, President of ACHE.
- Several students have received nationally-competitive scholarships: ACHE Foster McGaw, ACHE Dent, AUPHA Foster McGaw, Abbott Labs Fellowship, National Association of Health Services Executives, Ernst and Young Minority Student Scholarship, Phi Kappa Phi Scholarship, Association of Schools of Allied Health Professions Scholarship for Excellence.
- The department has started a student chapter of the Medical Group Management Association. The first meeting was held November 15, with HAD Alumnus Lucien Roberts (MHA ’87) as the guest speaker.

**Alumni/aes Visit Grant House to Interview for Residents**

The ACHE Student Chapter hosted 2 preceptors’ days. Alumni/aes interviewing for administrative residents were:

- **Jeff Holland** (MHA ’76)
- **Caroline Martin** (MHA ’78)
- **Tim Stack** (MHA ’77)
- **Todd Way** (MSHA ’93)
- **George Dawson** (MHA ’75)
- **Steve Fargis** (MHA ’88)
- **Marijo Lecker** (MHA ’93)
- **David Rickelton** (MHA ’72)
- **Marilyn Tavenner** (MHA ’89)
- **Sister Pat Eck, CBS** (MHA ’81)
- **Patrick Farrell** (MHA ’91)
- **Jeff Dorsey** (MHA ’73)
- **Clark Beil** (MHA ’86)
- **Chris Dadlez** (MHA ’79)
- **Gerry Brink** (MHA ’66)
- **Michael Robinson** (MHA ’85)

**Improved Curriculum**

After two years of planning, a new and improved curriculum was introduced for both MHA and MSHA programs. Highlights include:

- Reducing the MSHA program from 24 months to 22 months by reformatting semesters;
- Aligning graduation ceremonies of both programs;
- Introducing an one credit course in both curricula for more instruction on information technology (in the first semester); and
- Updating course titles and content to reflect changes in practice and teaching methods.

**Stuart D. Ogren** (continued from page 3)

From left to right: Stuart Ogren and Dr. Ken White (HAD)
Alumni and Friends Contributing
Gifts to the Department

The Department sincerely appreciates all contributions. Contributions serve as a vital support to our students and in maintaining state-of-the-art technology.

Lisa Barna
Robert Bethke
Stephen Blanchard
David Blankenship
Myra Boles
Gerald Brink
Ursula Butts
Dolores Clement
Philip Comer
James Cotter
Julie Dalton
John Dandridge, Jr.
Hazel Davenport
Hugh Davis
E.L. Derring
E. Thomas DeHaven
Debra Draper
Sheryl Duff
Debra Duke
J. Randolph Edwards
Teresa Edwards
Hazel Elliott

Paul Flanagan
Yolanda Gawlik
Lucile Gayle
Jasmine Geddis
Stanley F. Gumerlock, Jr.
Lawrence Harris
Lori Hunt
Marion Hunter
Ibrahim Ibrahim
Bonnie Jerome-Demilia
Brett Jackson
Mary Johantgen
Robert Konnagan
Tiffany Lange
Janet Lynch
Catherine Mackey
David Manahan
Thomas McCallie
Michelle McCue
Robert Metcalf
Robert Mincemoyer, Jr.
Peter Olden

Yasar Ozcan
Annemarie Pancham
John Pestian
Robert Peterson
Neal Presley
Patricia Randall
Mr. & Mrs. Lucien Roberts, III
Brian Searls
Daniel Seaverns
Katherine Scott
Abraham Segres
John Simpson
Georgia Sumiel
Jon Thompson
James Thweatt, Jr.
Hanh Trinh
Laura Tyler
Kenneth White
Richard White
Shu-Chuan Yeh
John Yoder
Eileen Zorzi

We wish all of you a safe and joyful holiday season.