We are excited to share with you some examples of how Department of Health Services Administration students, faculty, staff, and alumni have been engaged in service activities over the past several months.

In our programs, we have identified professional and community service as key leadership competency. Serving others is a core part of our Department’s culture and is a reflection of “who we are” as individuals and a team. We hope you enjoy reading about the various ways the HSA community has engaged in service in Birmingham and around the globe.

We would love to hear from you about the ways you serve in your personal and professional life. Send us a picture or story so we can share the influence and impact of our ever-growing and global Health Services Administration family.

Christy Harris Lemak, PhD
Chair, UAB Department of Health Services Administration
STORIES OF SERVICE

Serving Across the Globe

**Derrick Miles (MSHA Class 34)** spent several years working as vice president, Business Development and Strategic Partnerships for Family Legacy, where he was able to use his business acumen and healthcare expertise to help change the lives of children in Zambia.

**Mike Williams (MSHA Class 14)** generously helped four UAB students experience Family Legacy’s impact.

**Claire Callaway, Faith Hickenbotham, Cody Smith (all HCM 2017) and Andrew Dees (HCM 2014, MSHA/MSHI student)** all experienced a “once in a lifetime” opportunity in Zambia. Hickenbotham shares what this trip meant to her.

Read: Serving in Zambia

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**MSHA Classic Helps Hope Lodge**

This past April, the UAB MSHA program hosted the 12th Annual MSHA Golf Classic. Thanks to our 15 sponsors, 56 golf participants, and many donors, the MSHA Classic was able to raise $9,000! The funds raised this year go to the American Cancer Society’s Joe Lee Griffin Hope Lodge and to fund student expenses to attend events such as ACHE, HIMSS, MGMA, UAB’s National Symposium for Healthcare Executives, and other educational opportunities.

Read: Classic & Hope Lodge
Rebuilding Haitian Hospital

Oscar R. Aylor (MSHA Class 3), a faculty member of Campbell University School of Osteopathic Medicine, is assessing the organizational and operational needs of Hospital Fermathe - a mission hospital in Haiti - to make it ready for Campbell medical students to do fourth year clinical rotations.

Read: Helping Haiti

Serving Many People, Many Ways
Every week, every month, every year the HSA family serves many people in many ways. We see this across Alabama, across the Southeast, across the U.S. and beyond.

There are so many great stories and images to share and we have compiled many of those to highlight the variety of ways our alumni, students, staff and faculty give back.

See: Service Photos

ALUMNI FEATURE

Sibling Rivalry
Who wanted to be a bassist for the Allman brothers when they grew up?

Who is still late for everything?

Old photos, rivalries see new perspective with our alumni siblings.

Read: Sibling Rivalry

PROGRAM NEWS
Certification Extended
The HCM program was recertified by the Association of University Programs in Health Administration (AUPHA) and earned the longest period available.

Students who recently completed their internships created posters and shared their experiences with other students, faculty and preceptors.

Higher Education Pursuits
Every year we have HCM graduates who are interested in furthering their education by attending graduate school. We send our best wishes to our alumni in their education pursuits.

Read: HCM Alums in Grad School
**Student Workforce Program**
The MSHA program, in collaboration with UAB Health System, launched the third year of its Student Workforce Program. The program provides part-time work for first-year MSHA students.

It is a mutually beneficial program with students participating in a variety of value-added and meaningful projects at UAB Health System.

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**Preceptors’ Conference**
We hosted our annual *Preceptors’ Conference* on September 13 – 15 in Birmingham. This event is one of the trademarks of the MSHA Program and launches the administrative residency process for our 2nd year MSHA students.

We also hosted the *2nd Annual Career Networking Expo* for recent graduates of the Executive-level Programs in Health Administration, Health Informatics and Healthcare Quality and Safety.

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**MS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION (EXECUTIVE)**

- **269 years of combined work experience**
- **60% FEMALE, 40% MALE**
- **25 STUDENTS**
- **INCOMING COHORT: 76% MANAGEMENT, 64% CLINICAL**
International Trips
The 2017 international health system visits took half of class E51 to beautiful Costa Rica, where students enjoyed visiting one of the healthiest countries in Latin America.

Other E51 class members traveled to Berlin, Germany, where students were interested to learn how the German system balances the key principle of solidarity with free choice of insurance companies and providers.

Student Success
Kimberly Hendon (photo, left) received the Department of Health Services Administration’s 50th Anniversary Scholarship Fund Award for the MSHI program and Cameron Ingrum (photo, right) received the first Terrell W. Herzig Endowed Award in Health Informatics. We also saw great success this year with job placements and Capstone projects.

Read: Placements & Capstones
Joy Ptacek Retires
This August, we bid a fond, but bittersweet, farewell to Joy Ptacek, the administrative assistant who served the MSHI program for the past 17 years. To know Joy was to love Joy. She has ushered hundreds of students through the MSHI Program in addition to tending to the needs of faculty across the department. Joy embodied her name in thought, word, and deed.

Read: Ode to Joy

GRADUATE PROGRAMS IN HEALTHCARE QUALITY & SAFETY

Stokes Endowed Scholarship
Chuck Stokes (MSHA Class 17) and his wife Judy recognize the importance of diversity and inclusion in the healthcare field. They recently established the Chuck and Judy Stokes Endowed Scholarship for Diversity and Inclusion that will support students enrolled in our MSHA and MSHQS programs.

See: HSA Endowments

Placements and Capstones
Our MSHQS program incorporates a unique Capstone experience where students, through in-depth research with institutions, practitioners and policy experts, work on solving healthcare problems relevant to their area.

Read: Placements & Capstones
Visit to Munich
In September 2017, second-year Executive DSc students traveled to Munich, Germany, to study the German healthcare system.

Students learned about the German insurance system and the government’s role in regulating and financing the system that provides universal coverage.

New PhD Track
The PhD program now offers a new track in Health Informatics. The curriculum is designed to provide students with the necessary tools to conduct research and contribute to the fields of health administration, health informatics, health policy, strategic management, and/or health services research.

See: PhD - HI Track Flyer
Celebrating 40 Years
On February 13, 2018, we will celebrate the PhD program’s 40 years of improving health administration practice and policy through the generation and conduct of research in the management of health service organizations. Details coming soon!

STUDENTS IN ACTION

Student Placements
For alumni we ask, "Where are they now?"
For our students we ask, "Where are they going?"
The answers are here.

MSHA Class 51

MSHA Class 52

HCM Internships

ALUMNI IN ACTION

HSA alumni have received honors such as Modern Healthcare’s Top 25 COOs, Rising Stars, Top 25 Business Recipients, Health Care Heroes, Alumnus of the Year for the Alumni Association, School of Health Professions and several more.

We are proud of you!

Read: Alumni Awards
The Knoxville News Sentinel recently featured Jim Decker (MSHA Class 11) in an article titled "Health Care Hero: Jim Decker gets creative to find MEDIC volunteers."

The article looks at his efforts to find volunteers to donate blood because they deliver "an estimated 100,000 blood components to 28 hospitals across 23 counties in East Tennessee and Southeast Kentucky."

Read: Decker Hero Article

Since the last issue of Nexus, more than 280 HSA alumni have been promoted!

During that time others have retired, several have married and others have brought new life into the world.

All of these changes are reflected in the Alumni Updates.

Read: Alumni Updates

Alumni Gatherings

Another Nexus means another look at just how much fun we have with our alumni! From a Braves game to the beach - we have it all.

See: Alumni Event Photos

FACULTY IN ACTION
Invitations, elections, presentations and more - see how our faculty were recognized globally for their accomplishments.

Plus, meet our newest faculty member - a former healthcare president and CEO who brings a wealth of industry knowledge to our students and our department.

Read: Faculty in Action

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Upcoming Events

**January 19-20:**
InnoHack
Innovation Depot (Birmingham)

**January 22-26:**
Lean Six Sigma Green Belt Certificate (Sandestin, FL)

**January 25:**
Health Informatics Networking Reception
Good People Brewing Company (Birmingham)

**January 31 –February 2:**
Alabama Performance Excellence Conference
Hilton Birmingham Perimeter Park (Birmingham)

**February 13:**
Van Zile Scott Lecture
Delivered by Julia Adler-Milstein
Director, Clinical Informatics and Improvement Research Center (UCSF)
DoubleTree Hotel (Birmingham)
February 13:
PhD in Administration-Health Services 40th Anniversary
DoubleTree Hotel (Birmingham)

February 28 –March 2:
12th Annual Health Administration Case Competition
Hyatt Regency (Birmingham)

March 2:
13th Annual L.R. (Rush) Jordan Distinguished Lecture
Delivered by Amir Rubin
CEO of One Medical Group
Hyatt Regency (Birmingham)

March 6:
Alumni Luncheon
HIMSS
(Las Vegas, NV)

March 12 –16:
Lean Six Sigma Green Belt Certificate
(Birmingham)

March 27:
Annual Networking Event During ACHE Congress
Buddy Guy's Legends
(Chicago, IL)

April 19:
13th annual MSHA Classic
Bent Brook Golf Club
(Birmingham)

July 25-27:
UAB National Symposium for Healthcare Executives
(Destin, FL)

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