

# **GAHE Student Newsletter September 2016**

## **Upcoming Healthcare Events:**

- October 17th: GAHE Mini-Cluster
  - Location: Edgar H. Wilson Convention Center, Macon Centreplex, Macon, GA
  - Time: 7:45 AM - 4:30 PM
- October 20th: Fall Networking Evening in Atlanta
  - Location: World of Coca-Cola, Atlanta, GA
  - Time: 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM
  - Joint networking with Georgia HIMSS and Georgia HFMA
- October 20th: Low Country Networking Evening in Savannah
  - Location: Moon River Brewing Company, Savannah, GA
  - Time: 6:30 – 8:30 PM
- October 27th: Meeting
  - “Taking the Lead in Revenue Cycle Transformation”
  - Location: Maggiano’s Little Italy in Atlanta/Buckhead, GA
  - Time: 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM
- November 7th: Small-group Lunch with the CEO
  - Featuring Kim Ryan, FACHE - Senior VP, Wellstar Health System and President, WellStar Atlanta Medical Center
  - Location: Wellstar Atlanta Medical Center
  - Time: 12:00-1:30 PM
- November 11th: Joint Breakfast with Georgia Hospital Association
  - Location: Hyatt Regency Savannah, GA
  - Time: 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM
  - Annual Joint Breakfast with GAHE/ACHE/NAHSE
- November 16th: Annual Meeting/Luncheon
  - Location: Maggiano’s Little Italy, Atlanta/Buckhead, GA
  - Time: 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM
- December 5<sup>th</sup>: Small-group Lunch with the CEO
  - Featuring Lance Jones - CEO, Coliseum Medical Center
  - Location: Coliseum Medical Center, Macon, GA
  - Time: 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM
- December 14th: Networking Event
  - Location: College Football Hall of Fame, Atlanta, GA
  - Time: 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM
  - Joint Holiday networking evening with GA HFMA and GA HIMSS

## **GAHE Student Associate Spotlight:**



*Kelsey Ankrom*

*Dual Master of Health Administration & Master of Business Administration Candidate December 2017  
Georgia State University*

### **What sparked your interest to pursue a graduate degree in healthcare administration?**

My interest in healthcare began as a child. My parents are both involved in the healthcare field, and they always talked about all of the opportunities the field offered. Growing up in that environment, I knew it was a field I wanted to get into when I was older. After volunteering in the hospital throughout high school and college, I gained interest in the administrative side, and the flow of hospital operations. I was intrigued by how intricate the connections between the different areas and flows of the hospital system were. I was also compelled by how many different factors can influence the system, and I believed that I would be able to understand these factors and help facilitate the best healthcare for patients by pursuing a degree to further my knowledge of the healthcare system.

### **What do you hope to accomplish after you graduate?**

After graduation I would like to earn a managerial position in a healthcare system. I would like to focus on process improvement and operations. My goal is to eventually become a director and be able to initiate various programs to improve the delivery of care to patients. I care deeply about patient satisfaction, and I aim to design programs and practices that can enrich the patient experience.

### **Tell us about a great experience or opportunity you have had in this program.**

One of the greatest experiences I have had in this program is getting to know my peers and professors. Many of the students who entered the program with me represent diverse career backgrounds, and it has been a great opportunity to be able to hear different points of views on the topics and cases discussed in the classroom. They challenge me to consider ideas that I typically

would not think of. Additionally, our professors are incredibly knowledgeable and experienced. The professors are always willing to work with students and meet with them to share their experiences and ideas. I feel that with my peers and professors, I have been able to learn and think in different ways that I hadn't before I entered the program.

**Why did you join ACHE and how have you benefited as an ACHE Student Associate?**

The importance of ACHE was emphasized to my classmates and I as soon as we had started the program. I knew immediately that it was an organization that I wanted to join because of the various events and opportunities that membership offered. One event that I benefitted from specifically was the annual GAHE meeting in November of last year. There were members of ACHE from all over the state of Georgia. It was a great opportunity to meet and talk with people who are highly experienced in the healthcare administration field, and be able to listen to their advice. In addition, there was a career clinic offered, which allowed me to speak to leaders in different areas of healthcare. This was a more personal setting, which provided great insights into different career areas for early and mid-careerists to get involved in.

**GAHE Student Experience Spotlight:**



*Kristen Macleod  
Master of Health Services Administration Candidate December 2016  
Armstrong State University*

**Tell us about your experience within the healthcare industry(internship and/or work).  
What has been your major takeaway?**

I began my career in the healthcare industry as an Emergency Medical Technician and Dispatcher. The job was thrilling. While friends my age were out dancing, I was speeding through town in an ambulance, coming to the aid of those in distress. It was an intrinsically rewarding experience and gave me my first insight into the world of medicine. I spent almost ten years in clinical medicine

while completing my education and there was never a dull moment, but I wanted to do more. I was immersed in a field that was complex and innovative with a goal of improving the lives of my family, friends and neighbors, but I also had direct insight into broken process and the challenges that my colleagues and superiors faced. I decided that I wanted to participate in the process of improving the system and indirectly, the patient experience.

**Tell us about your involvement with Armstrong's MHA program.**

I started the Masters of Health Services Administration Program at Armstrong State University in January of 2015. Since then, I have joined the MHA Leadership Team, participated in community events such as Relay for Life and the Special Olympics, joined two of my local Chambers and completed an internship with the Director of Operations for Primary Care at Memorial Health University Medical Center. The program has prepared me for my current position as a Practice Manager and provided mentors and relationships with local professionals that is invaluable.

**Where do you see yourself in 5 years?**

Experience is everything, so I see myself continuing in my current position, growing with the company and possibly taking on another practice. I would like to pursue a few certifications to enhance my education; possibly in strategic planning or even informatics. I consider myself a novice when it comes to such a vast, ever-evolving industry and I do not really know where it will take me, but I am ready for the journey.

**What interested you in joining ACHE and what have you gained from your membership?**

I joined ACHE for the opportunity to connect with fellow leaders and have access to resources that are relevant and current to the field. ACHE has proved to be valuable educational and networking tool.

**What's going on in healthcare today?**

**Microhospitals**

A relatively new concept within the healthcare industry; microhospitals aim to treat low-acuity patients and provide ambulatory and emergency services to patients in certain markets. While a typical microhospital only has eight to twelve beds, they still meet all federal and state licensing and regulatory requirements. Larger health systems have created microhospitals as a way to spread their presence while also bringing health care to communities where patients may not have easy access to acute or emergent care. A byproduct of value-based care, microhospitals can be built in a shorter amount of time and for much cheaper than a traditional hospital and allow for increased focus on providing care at the right time and place. Due to their long-term survivability, it is certain

that microhospitals will continue to arise in markets where they can provide a connection for patients between a large health system and different levels of care when needed.[1]

### **Health Insurance Gains Slowing**

About 1.3 million fewer people were uninsured the first three months of 2016, making the uninsured rate hit a record low of 8.6 percent according to a survey project through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. However, this is only a fraction of the progress seen in 2014 when the healthcare law took on major expansion. Back then, the number of uninsured people went down by nearly 9 million. The report also noted that the share of working age people and dependents with high-deductible health insurance has increased. The trend toward high-deductible plans was initiated before the Obama administration but has advanced since the President has been in office due to employers seeking to limit their costs. Some experts believe the findings of this survey suggest that the healthcare law is approaching its limits, absent a change.[2]

[1] Punke, H. (2016, Septemer). The Rise of the 'Microhospital': 7 Things to Know. *Becker's Hospital Review*, 2016(9), p33. Retrieved from <http://beckershealthcare.uberflip.com/i/717576-september-2016-hospital-review/51>

[2] Associated Press;. (2016, September 7). *Government survey shows health insurance gains slowing*. Retrieved from Modern Healthcare: <http://www.modernhealthcare.com/article/20160907/NEWS/309079997/government-survey-shows-health-insurance-gains-slowing>

### **Advice from the authors:**

- Check out the GAHE LinkedIn page: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/1121747>
- Attend as many ACHE & GAHE events as possible. This will allow for increased exposure via networking and learn about micro and macro trends in the industry.
- Application Deadlines for Postgraduate Fellowships are this Fall. Be sure to check out ACHE's Directory of Postgraduate Fellowships for more information about Administrative Fellowships at <http://www.ache.org/postgrad/splash.cfm>.

### **GAHE Student Newsletter Authors:**



*Meeta Gandhi*  
*Master of Health Services Administration Candidate May 2017*  
*Armstrong State University*



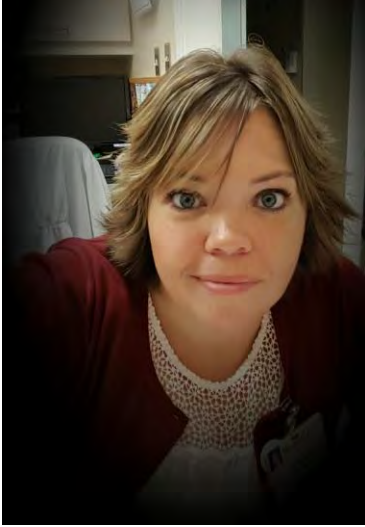
*Kelsey Ankrom*  
*Dual Master in Health Administration & Master in Business Administration Candidate December 2017*  
*Georgia State University*



*Kathryn Drezelo*  
*Master of Health Services Administration Candidate December 2016*  
*Armstrong State University*



*Brittney Phillips*  
*Master of Health Services Administration Candidate December 2016*  
*Armstrong State University*



*Christine Widmer*  
*Master of Health Services Administration Candidate December 2016*  
*Armstrong State University*