



Eighth Annual Banquet set for April 19, 2007

Mark your calendar - Next year's Health Care Administration/Center for Health and Aging Services Spring Banquet is scheduled for Thursday, April 19, 2007. Our keynote speaker will be Ms. Marianna Kern Grachek, MSN, CNHA, CALA, and President and CEO of the American College of Health Care Administrators (ACHCA).

This banquet provides a meaningful way to bring together current students (and sometimes their

parents), alumni, practicum site administrators, CHASE board members and other business associates and friends of the Health Care Administration program for an evening of fun, recognition and, as always, a nationally recognized speaker. More than 230 people attended the 2006 banquet! The event will again be held at the Plaza Hotel and Conference Center in Eau Claire and is set to begin at 6 p.m. Watch for further details in the spring edition of CHASE News.



Ms. Marianna Kern Grachek, MSN, CNHA, CALA, and President and CEO of the American College of Health Care Administrators (ACHCA) will be the keynote speaker at the spring banquet on April 19, 2007.

HCAD program embraces changes

As you are well aware, the impending boom of the elderly population in this country is no secret. The demand for quality senior health care environments and services will parallel this change — or boom — in demographics. As a result, tomorrow's seniors will expect (and deserve) residential and health care choices that are diverse, attractive, appropriate and affordable. In order to meet these demands in the future, the health care administration program at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire is continuing to embrace changes. Specifically, we are implementing changes to our program to enable graduating students to transition from a learning environment to a working environment so they are prepared and tooled for one of the biggest demographic changes our country has ever seen. What an awesome opportunity our graduates have to anticipate!

Also, positive change would not be possible without assistance from the Center for Health and Aging Services Excellence. One example of this relationship is the fact that the number of student research and scholarship opportunities has tripled over the past 10 years. Additionally, the practicum experience has been reinvented, with a positive reception from the practitioner field, and the resulting student success is exciting. Annually, CHASE publishes the "Best Student Leadership Projects," which has seen its dissemination expand each year. Paralleling some of these advances, we've also seen tremendous growth in both the number and quality of our students.

You may recall that recently we met the national standards of accreditation within our field through the National Boards of Examiners of Long Term Care Administrators. The review team pointed to

our program as an educational model producing students with critical thinking skills and the ability to solve problems. They also encouraged us to continue rising to meet tomorrow's challenges, both in the field and within academic institutions. Furthermore, Faculty and the CHASE Board of Advisors recently began developing ideas and resources to "Reach New Heights" in coming years. We are excited about the possibilities and are looking forward to them.

Lastly, we are exploring a realignment of our program with the College of Business, and are optimistic about fresh perspectives and new academic relationships. Already, we have begun conversations about new resources and approaches for offering graduate education options. We will continue to value and depend upon our interdisciplinary connections on campus in order to maintain the strengths of our program. The energy and spirit of this reorganization will be an asset for both students and faculty.

CHASE stands ready to continue asking the right questions and to seek the resources necessary to educate our future health care administration leadership. The Center is a model of partnership and encourages that same type of approach and thinking both locally and beyond. This is an opportune time to take a second look at how universities, organizations and associations function, both independently and together. We need to feel confident and inspired to "Reach New Heights." At times this may require new or different sets of partners and perspectives. Standing still is not an option for strong, viable programs and true leaders in this field. — Douglas Olson, Ph.D.



Douglas M. Olson, Ph.D.
"We have the privilege and responsibility to provide a platform for student success."



Over 230 attend 2006 HCADE/CHASE Spring Banquet!

Special thanks to our 2006 Spring Banquet sponsors!

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The annual Health Care Administration/CHASE Spring Banquet, "Reaching New Heights," was held April 20 at the Plaza Hotel & Suites in Eau Claire. Dr. Robyn Stone, Executive Director of the Institute for the Future of Aging Services at the American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging in Washington, D.C., was the guest speaker.

The following individuals received 2006 Distinguished Service Awards at the Spring Banquet:

Mr. Mike Schanke, owner/administrator of Oakridge Gardens and Grandview Assisted Living in Menasha was the recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award for his support of the health care administration program at UW-Eau Claire. Schanke served in a leadership role to create the Gene Decker Scholarship Fund and has held various leadership positions with the Wisconsin Health Care Association.

Mr. Robert Armitage was the 2006 recipient of the Distinguished Service Award. Armitage's com-

mitment to the advancement of the health care administration program at UW-Eau Claire has been evident through his success at steering the creation



Standing left to right are Robert Armitage, Laura Weiss and Mike Schanke.

of the Center for Health and Aging Services Excellence. In addition to serving as a member of the CHASE board of advisors, he also has been a guest lecturer for the health care administration program.

Ms. Laura Weiss, a senior health care administration major from Plum City, received the program's Distinguished Student Award, recognizing her exceptional performance and contri-

butions to the health care administration program. Weiss has been an active member of the student organization, ACHCA, and also has worked as a research assistant with Dr. Douglas Olson, associate professor, chair of the public health professions department and coordinator of the health care administration program; and Dr. Mary Zwygart-Stauffacher, professor in nursing systems and associate dean of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences.

2006 scholarship winners announced at banquet

Senior **Jody Cyr** and freshman **Rebekah Streit** received Beverly Healthcare Scholarships, and freshman **Kelsy Koch** received the Extendicare Foundation Scholarship. Seniors **Lucas Schubert**, **Laura Weiss**, **Sarah Lokken** and **Morgan Peters** were awarded John and Mary Gerberich Scholarships, and senior **Alesha Gillitzer** received

a Gene Decker Scholarship. Sophomore **Jessica Remington** received a scholarship from the Wisconsin Association of Homes and Services for the Aging, and junior **Kendall Duffy** and sophomore **Laura Hudack** received scholarships from the Wisconsin Health Care Association.

Young Leadership Summit to be held July 2007

Plans are under way for a Young Leadership Summit to be held two weeks next July 18-19. The goal is to bring together new leaders in the field of health care administration or health and aging services to gain perspectives on factors and forces important to the next generation of leaders. Faculty have already started conducting focus groups to determine the right format for the summit. We want to be sure to allow for a sharing and exchange of ideas, to begin to chart a course of leadership development which thoroughly considers the perspectives of

those new to this field. The event's location will be in Wisconsin and will offer recreational and family-friendly activities. We are excited about the prospect of helping new health care leaders to continue to develop professionally. We are beginning to assemble names of individuals for this invitation-only event. If you would like more information about this Summit or would like to have individuals from your organization invited, please contact Meredith Wolf at 715-836-3543. Stay tuned!!

2006 Aging Summit

"Person-directed care across the continuum"

More than 150 people gathered to attend the seventh annual Aging Summit, "Person-Directed Care Across the Continuum: Making Choices Available to Seniors and Families" in Eau Claire May 19. The summit, designed for long-term care and health and aging services professionals, providers of assisted living and retirement communities, advocates, policy makers and community leaders, covered creative new options through which individuals can get their health care and quality of life needs met.

Keynote speaker **John George**, Administrator

of Saint John's on the Lake in Milwaukee, spoke about the ongoing process of effecting change in nursing home care from a medical to a social model. Saint John's on the Lake is featured in the recent PBS film, "Almost Home." Using clips from the film, George described his vision of culture change and the obstacles he encountered in realizing it.

To learn more about person-directed care and keynote speaker John George, go to www.almosthomedoc.org. You may also call 715-836-3543 to request a copy of the summit's report.



John George, Administrator of Saint John's on the Lake, Milwaukee, presented the keynote address for the 2006 Aging Summit.

Students have choice of five states and 57 facilities for practicum experience

Choices have expanded for students going into their 52-week practicum experience. We now have sites available in Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Illinois and Upper Michigan. These health care organizations offer a wide variety of services, corporate structures and ownership arrangements, giving students the opportunity to interview for practicum experiences that meet their individual strengths and interests. Thanks to all of our practicum sites and preceptors for partnering with us in educating tomorrow's health care leaders.

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Bradley Health & Rehab
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Clement Manor
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White Community Hospital & Nursing Facility

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Ames

Illinois:

ManorCare Health Services - Hinsdale
Rest Haven West

Hinsdale
Downers Grove

Michigan (Upper):

Manor Care Health Services-Kingsford

Kingsford

CHASE news is edited by Meredith Wolf and published semi-annually. Questions or comments, contact Meredith at 715-836-3543 or wolfm@uwec.edu.



Support the CHASE Advancement Fund

The Center for Health and Aging Services Excellence welcomes and invites your support. Private gifts and grants from individuals, organizations and foundations are welcome as CHASE pursues its goals to enhance learning opportunities for UW-Eau Claire health care administration students. Additionally, this fund encourages an applied research agenda, markets the health and aging services field as a noble profession, promotes alternative regional educational programs for adult learners, and bridges the gap between associations and university programs.

Your contribution to the CHASE Advancement Fund will be gratefully accepted by the UW-Eau Claire Foundation. You will receive a receipt for tax purposes and be recognized in the Foundation's annual honor roll of donors. Most important, your gift will enable the department to continue to build upon its reputation for excellence and to provide future generations the same quality education you received.

Please use this form to send in your contribution and know that you are making a difference in the future of health and aging services.

UW-Eau Claire Foundation Inc.
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