

Minnesota Network

November 1998 • Issue 1

The Leadership Tradition Continues

This year continues to be filled with exciting landmarks and milestones. The move to the Carlson School in January started the year off in a big, exciting way. In May, we celebrated the 50th anniversary of the first graduating class and honored Bright Dornblaser on his retirement.

Two months later, Jim Begun became the new Program Director, following George Johnson who stepped down after leading the Program for 17 years. Johnson will continue as Chair of the Department of Healthcare Management.

During Johnson's era, the fields of practice for MHA graduates began to expand dramatically. This necessitated expanding the Program to a two-year curriculum with a summer residency in between and renaming the MHA degree itself to Master of Healthcare Administration. Johnson also inspired MHA alumni to contribute

\$1 million towards establishing the James A. Hamilton Chair and persuaded the U of M to contribute the second \$1 million. This year the Hamilton Chair became a reality.

"These past 17 years have been a wonderful part of my life," Johnson said. "What great satisfaction it has been to watch hundreds of students move through our Program and go on to become leaders in so many areas of healthcare."

Echoing this feeling, Begun said, "This is a very exciting time. I feel fortunate to have come here at a time when the Program moved to such a beautiful, state-of-the-art learning environment."

Begun joined the Program last year after serving 14 years with the Healthcare Administration Program at the Medical College of Virginia. He also taught at Cornell University and the University of North Carolina's School of Medicine. He received his doctorate in Sociology from the University of North Carolina.

"A major strategy for the years ahead," Begun explained, "will be to differentiate the MHA Program from a growing number of strong competitors. We'll do that with our long history of high ranking, strong alumni and endow-

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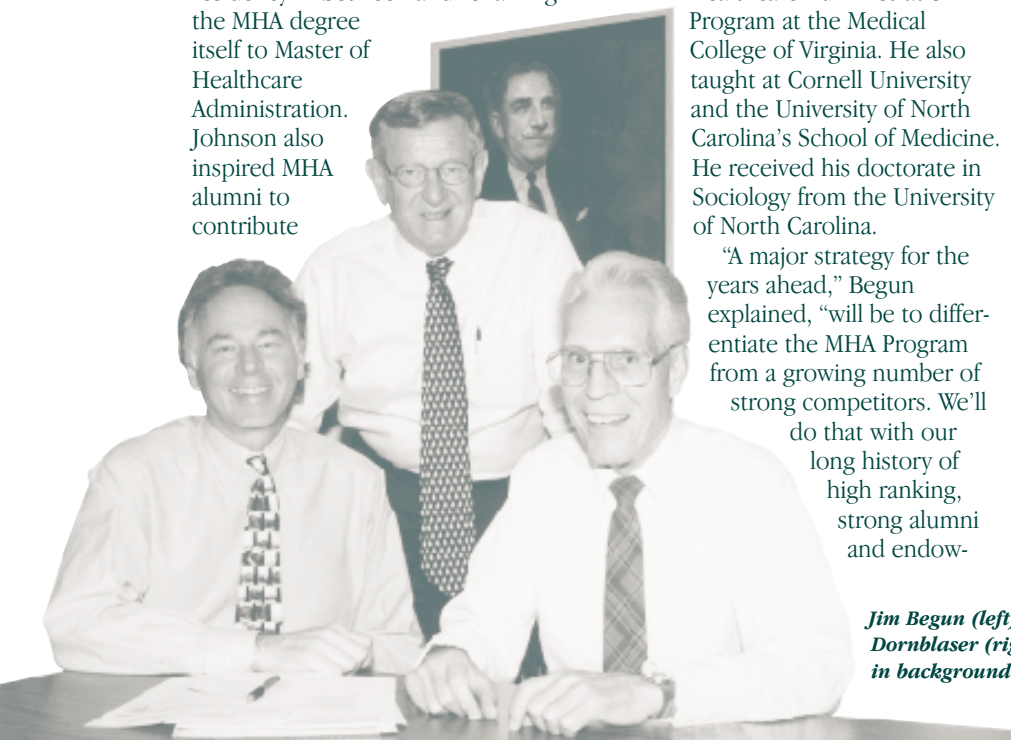


CARLSON SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

ment support, superb faculty and staff, and our placement record with new graduates.

"Another long term issue is how we serve working professionals and whether the MHA day school and ISP Program can work in concert to better serve both day students and working professionals," Begun continued. "A related issue will be our ability to balance our generalist approach with the need for highly specialized knowledge, so our graduates can take advantage of the growing diversity in the marketplace. Being a part of the Carlson School will be an enormous help."

Jim Begun (left), George Johnson (center), Bright Dornblaser (right) and painting of James Hamilton in background.



Welcome to Minnesota Network

By George Johnson, Chair
Department of Healthcare Management

Welcome to *Minnesota Network*, a brand new newsletter that we created specifically to help keep alumni and friends informed on a regular basis about activities in the Department of Healthcare Management in our new location in the Carlson School. Our plan is to publish the newsletter three times during the school year and possibly during the summer.

Because our location in the Carlson School is new and we have incredible new opportunities, we are making important internal changes in our leadership structure to meet the challenges of the next era. We thought you would appreciate staying more closely in touch with what's happening here.

Moving In The Right Direction

We couldn't be more pleased with how well we have been received by Dean Kidwell and the faculty at the Carlson School of Management. The new physical space is the best we've had in the 50 years of the Program, and the classroom and lecture areas are excellent.

More importantly, the move was the right thing to do, both strategically and programmatically. Healthcare is a major strategy for the Carlson School. Our Department will

provide a major leadership component for that effort, which will run the gamut of coursework to our proposed new Center for Healthcare Management Studies.

In return, MHA and ISP students have access to faculty and classes at the Carlson School that provide broader knowledge and skills development in business management, marketing, information systems, human resources and other disciplines. As anyone who has been involved in healthcare management knows, such areas of learning are absolutely necessary to augment the excellent training from MHA and ISP faculties. We're also beginning to see benefits from the synergies of all the faculties involved, along with easier recruiting of distinguished faculty for MHA programs because we are now part of the Carlson School.

Other Information

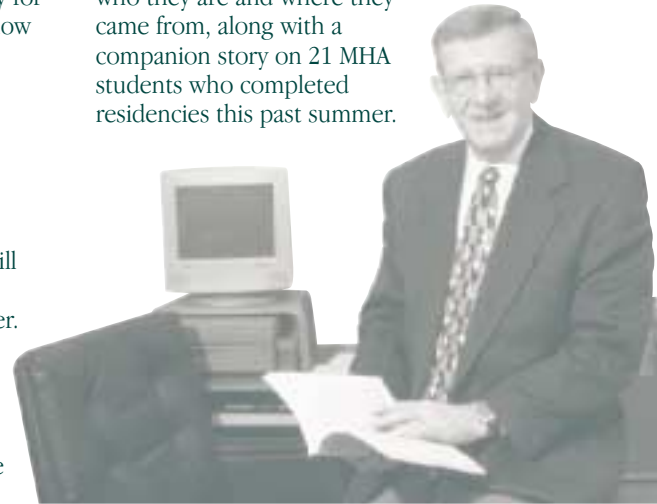
This first issue of *Minnesota Network* contains a number of articles of interest to alumni, including information about two distinguished MHA alums who will be honored with Outstanding Achievement Awards in November. They are the highest non-degree awards given to alumni by the University of Minnesota.

Our cover article focuses on the changing of the guard for the MHA Program with Jim Begun

succeeding me as Program Director. Jim is a great choice, yet many of you may not have had the pleasure of getting to know him. Read more about his background and his strategies for the future in the cover article.

This past summer we also chose Jon B. Christianson as the first James A. Hamilton Chair. You may have already met him, since he has been on our faculty for 10 years. Learn more about what he brings to our Program in this issue.

The MHA Class of the Year 2000 is well underway. They are indeed a milestone class for the Program as they prepare to lead healthcare management into the next millennium. Check out the report on who they are and where they came from, along with a companion story on 21 MHA students who completed residencies this past summer.



Christianson Named to Hamilton Chair



Dr. Jon B. Christianson is a marvelous choice for the first James A. Hamilton Chair in Health Policy and Management. For one thing, he's a native Minnesotan, born and raised in Austin. More importantly, he has earned a reputation as one of the nation's foremost

scholars in healthcare policy and management.

He's well acquainted with the MHA Program here, having taught the Managed Care sequence for the past 10 years, as well as being a professor with the Division of Health Services Research and Policy in the School of Public Health for the past 12 years.

"This is one of the top schools of its kind in the country and it's great to be a part of it," Christianson said.

"I enjoy interacting with MHA students and the outstanding faculty here."

His current research focuses on three areas: evaluation of the Buyers Health Care Action Group in the Twin Cities, assessing organizational efforts to redesign care delivery, and analyzing the impact of market structure and competitiveness on the strategies and performance of managed care organizations.

(Complete profile in next issue.)

MHA Launches CY2K

No, we're not referring to some joint venture with NASA. Or a breakthrough MHA problem-solving formula. These aren't even close. What we are talking about is a very unique MHA class – the Class of the Year 2000. There are 27 bright, energetic students in all, 11 women and 16 men. Eight out of this total hail from Minnesota and five come from other countries – Canada, Iceland, India, Switzerland and West Africa. Here are the CY2K healthcare management leaders who will lead us into the next millennium:

NAME	HOME	DEGREES
Travis Anderson	Minnetonka, MN	BA in Psych. Gustavus Adolphus College
Matt Burkhart	Rochester, MN	BS in Biology, S. Dakota State
John Dao	Roseville, MN	BS in Biology, Univ. of Minn.
Kevin Davidson	Redding, CA	BS in Biology, Univ. of California at San Diego
Craig Deao	New Orleans, LA	BS in Animal Science, Louisiana State
Stephen Filler	Chicago, IL	BA in Psychology/Economics, Lawrence Univ.
Pauline Fofana	Ivory Coast, W. Africa	BBA, ESCA School of Mgmt.
Michael Gibbs	Minot, ND	BA, Speech Communication, Univ. of N. Dakota
Jennifer Hallatt	Pardeeville, WI	BS, Biochem/Molecular Biology, Univ. of Wisc. - Eau Claire
Kristi Holtquist-Nelson	Brookings, SD	BS, Psychology, minor in Business, S. Dakota State
Rahul Joglekar	Mumbai, India	BS, Medicine and Surgery, Univ. of Pune
Bryan Mueller	Winnipeg, Canada	BS, Chemistry, BS, Nursing, Univ. of Manitoba
Megha Mungekar	New Milford, NJ	BA, Psychology, Columbia Univ.
Thor Nelson	White Bear Lake, MN	BA, Econ. and Healthcare Mgmt., St. Olaf College
Erik Olson	Dodgeville, WI	BS, Healthcare Admin., Univ. of Wisc. - Eau Claire
Jodi Peterson	Arden Hills, MN	BA, French and International Mgmt., Gustavus Adolphus College
Jennifer Plush	Glenham, SD	BS, Health Services Admin., Univ. of S. Dakota
Greg Raymond	Logan, UT	BS, Biology w/emph. in Chemistry, Utah State Univ.
Brian Rice	Plymouth, MN	BA, Mgmt., St. John's Univ.
Michelle Roers	Alexandria, MN	BS, Bus. Mgmt./Public Health, Univ. of Minn.
Paul Rooprai	Wausau, WI	BS, Genetics & Cell Biology, Univ. of Minn.
Brad Schipper	Lemars, IA	BS, Health Services Admin., Univ. of S. Dakota
Lilja Stefansdottir	Reykjavik, Iceland	BS, Nursing, Univ. of Iceland
Alexandra Stillman	Geneva, Switzerland	BA, Russian Studies and Political Science, Wellesley College
Cari Stremick	Walhalla, ND	BS, Business Admin., N. Dakota State w/certification in Healthcare Admin., Concordia College
Elizabeth Stuller	Lubbock, TX	BBA w/concentrations in Finance & Mgmt., Trinity Univ.
Chris Thomes	Little Falls, MN	BA in Healthcare Admin., Concordia College

21 Return From Residencies

This summer 21 MHA students participated in summer residency programs in 10 states. The Department of Healthcare Management is very grateful to all of the following preceptors, many of whom are MHA alumni. The time, energy and enthusiasm these people and their organizations gave to our residency program helps make it one of the best in the nation.

MHA STUDENT	PRECEPTOR	ORGANIZATION
Matt Bell	Douglas R. Fannesbeck, CEO/Administrator	Cottonwood Hospital & The Orthopedic Specialty Hospital, Murray, Utah
Dylan Carroll	Michael P. Halter, SVP/COO	Rhode Island Hospital, Providence, Rhode Island
Nicole Carter	Ken Paulus '83, COO	Partners Community Healthcare, Inc., Boston, Massachusetts
Annelize Grobler	Greg Hart '76, Director, HC Consult.	Larson, Allen & Weishair, Inc. LLP, Minneapolis, Minnesota
Josh Halverson	Terry Finzen '73, President & CEO	Regions Hospital, St. Paul, Minnesota
Brian Kelly	Marlowe Senske '72, EVP	VHA Inc., Irving, Texas
Ryan Kennedy	Russell R. Rein, Director, Clinical Support Services	Mayo Management Services, Inc., Mayo Health Plan, Rochester, Minnesota
Ronit Kulick	Mark Dixon '84, Lead Administrator	Abbott-Northwester Hospital, Minneapolis, Minnesota
Chris Lemme	Bill Schneider, CEO	Northwest Hospital, Seattle, Washington
Megan Lundgren	Marvin L. Dehne '80, Executive Officer	Mercy and Unity Hospitals, Coon Rapids, Minnesota
Moha Mehta	Laurence Johnson '60, Administrator	Shriners Hospital for Children, Minneapolis, Minnesota
Emily Miller	Mark Eustis '79, President	Missouri Baptist Medical Center, St. Louis, Missouri
Martin Pacanovsky	Mark Enger '76, SVP & Administrator	Fairview Southdale Hospital, Edina, Minnesota
Jeff Roberts	Doug Cropper '78, VP, Hospital & Outpatient Operations	St. John's Hospital - HealthEast, Maplewood, Minnesota
Monica Sapre	Scott Goodspeed '80, President & CEO	Parkland Medical Center, Derry, New Hampshire
Kristin Shemick	Mark Wordelman, President & CEO	Fairview/RedWing Health Services, Red Wing, Minnesota
Jane Shin	Jan Lieder, Human Resources	Mayo Foundation, Rochester, Minnesota
Shawna Solid	Jerry Spicer '83, President & CEO	Hazelden Foundation, Center City, Minnesota
Christopher Swanson	Ed Cucci '74, President	Swedish Covenant Hospital, Chicago, Illinois
Mamoon Syed	Michael Muenzbeig '75, VP Ancillary Services	North Memorial Health Care, Robbinsdale, Minnesota
Heather Williams	Robert A. Newberry '83, President	Peninsula Regional Medical Center, Salisbury, Maryland

Candidates Sought for Weckwerth Professorship

Applicants are needed for the first Vernon E. Weckwerth Professorship of Healthcare Executive Studies, says Jim Begun, who is heading up the Search Committee. Begun himself was recently named MHA Program Director (Article on pg. 1).

The Committee's goal is to appoint the new Weckwerth Professor by July 1999. Other members of the Committee are: Ted Litman, MHA Faculty; Mary Jane Madden, ISP Faculty; Bill Henry, President of Foresight Strategy Associates; and Kathy Hansen, Executive Director of Aspen Integrated Care.

A prime responsibility for the new faculty person will be to lead and develop offerings of executive studies in healthcare management, including the ISP Executive Studies Program and international programs. Applicants need to meet the following criteria:

- An earned doctorate degree.
- Experience in the health services sector.
- Demonstrated excellence in teaching.

- Experience in adult teaching.
- International and cross-cultural experience.
- Demonstrated ability to implement teaching programs.

George Johnson, Department Chair, said "The Department needs to grow its continuing education and part time degree offerings. This is a key position for continued growth and it is appropriate that Dr. Weckwerth's name will be honored because of his 30 years of outstanding leadership in executive education."

Persons interested in applying should send a letter of intent, the names of three references, and a curriculum vitae to: Chair, Vernon E. Weckwerth Professor Search Committee, 3-140 Carlson School of Management, 321 19th Ave. So., Minneapolis, MN 55455-9940. Interviews will begin after the first of the year.



Vernon E. Weckwerth

Minnesota Network

Minnesota Network is published by the Department of Healthcare Management for its alumni, students, faculty, staff and friends. The Department is part of the Carlson School of Management at the University of Minnesota. Inquiries may be sent to the Department at 3-140 Carlson School of Management, 321 - 19th Avenue South, Mpls. 55455-9940.



Carl Platou



Gordon Sprenger

Platou & Sprenger To Be Honored

U of M President Mark Yudoff will present Outstanding Achievement Awards to Carl Platou '51 and Gordon Sprenger '61 on November 24 at a special ceremony and reception at Eastcliff, the President's home.

Outstanding Achievement Awards are the highest non-degree awards conferred by the U of M upon distinguished alumni and recognizes graduates or former students who have attained unusual distinction in their chosen fields or in public service. The Awards began in 1948 and have recognized more than 500 distinguished alumni.

Platou and Sprenger will be the first alumni to receive the award since the Department of Healthcare Management moved to the Carlson School. Walter McNerney MHA '50 and Gary Filerman Ph.D. '70 received the high award in 1970 and 1982, respectively.



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