Welcome to Our New Faculty Member: Dr. Eileen Alexander

_How long and where you have been teaching:_ Since 1990, and all over the Tristate! I was a TA for field biology, A&P and helped set up the first computer stats lab during my MS in biology at UC. I taught A&P and tried to make the non-majors bio courses fun at Thomas More. At Deaconess Hospital, I trained techs and RNs in surgery, oriented new employees and doctors to infection control practices, coordinated and taught in the citywide consortia for critical care, EKG, CPR and bioterrorism preparedness. Lately, I was the TA for Epidemiology for grad students at UC's College of Medicine.

_Your PhD, why you decided to pursue it:_ To test my hypotheses and communicate my findings. We had so much exciting original data on hospital quality. I was pretty sure that our orthopedics program had the best patient results but we couldn’t publicize that to our community without studies to show it. I had a burning desire to write and publish!

_Why you chose to become faculty in the BSHSA program:_ The BSHSA class of 2014! They were awesome and I remembered how much I love teaching! As an adjunct at Xavier, I found the community and values that I was missing since I left Deaconess Hospital. After Fr. Graham's talk about Xavier's mission: "Men and Women for Others," I wrote: "My mission is to promote health for families and communities at risk for diseases caused by genetic and environmental conditions. My daily goal is to model teamwork, driven by community need and evidence-based leadership, and to educate our next generation."

_Interesting Tidbit:_ My research focuses on diseases that run in families and are caused by both genes and environment, like food allergies. I study the "epigenetic" chemical changes on twins' DNA that allow genes to function differently, even in identical twins. For fun, I cycle, swim and curl, and windsurf whenever I can.

_Congratulations to Our BSHSA ’14 Graduates!_

More details to follow, but note that all 8 of them are gainfully employed, and in healthcare! We told you that this is a field that won’t leave you all unemployed!
ACADEMICS

University Core Transition

As you are aware, the university is completing a Core Transition that is in effect for this fall 2014 semester. More information concerning the core is available at [http://www.xavier.edu/core-transition/](http://www.xavier.edu/core-transition/) for students and academic advisors. Also included on this website are line-by-line breakdowns to assist in a better understanding of how the curriculum is changing. Any questions or concerns you may have may be discussed during Academic Advising sessions in October.

Academic Advising Fall 2014

You will be assigned an academic advisor from Health Services Administration whom you will be required to meet with for academic advising per departmental policy. This will be the individual you will meet with each semester prior to the selection of your courses in order to keep you on track for graduation. Your advisor is of course available to meet with you more often, and we encourage you to get to know them well. They can help with many things outside of course selection. We will be in contact with you later in the semester when it is closer to Academic Advising to notify you the assigned advisor’s name.

EVENTS

Speaker visit:

Mr. Stuart Solomon, Executive Director, Senior Lifestyle Corporation, Cincinnati, Ohio, will be on campus to present the licensure process to those students whose concentration is Long Term Care.

- Thursday, September 11, 2014 at 8:30 – 9:30 a.m.
- Schott Hall Conference room 407
- If you are not able to attend and would like information, please contact Mary Grace Driscoll at Driscollm@xavier.edu for any handouts or information she may be able to provide after the event.

GET INVOLVED

HSA “Student Connections” Program:

We will be kicking off the “HSA Student Connections” program in early October. This is a mentoring program where students in the Master of Health Services Administration Program will serve as mentors for students in BSHSA. This program is voluntary, but your Director highly encourages you to participate. Our MHSA students are a step ahead of where you all are and can help you navigate this step better than just about anyone else! Mentors can help you with professional development advice, information about graduate studies in HSA or other fields, and lots more. Application materials (very brief) are available now; please let us know if you need them.
Health Services Club Meeting:

Xavier’s Health Services Club is an outstanding organization that all BSHSA students should join. This organization hosts speakers and networking events, takes trips to healthcare organizations, participates and organizes charity events, and much more. It is open to all undergraduates, but focuses on careers in health administration.

The first meeting for Health Services Club takes place Monday, September 15th at 8:00 p.m. The location is yet to be determined so interested students can join us on OrgSync at https://orgsync.com/login/xavier-university to get updates on the location. This will be a general information meeting about the club and future events. This will be an opportunity for students to express what they hope to get out of the club this year and what events they would like to see take place.

Crossroads Hospice

Volunteer Managers Matthew Dunn and Gretchen Eagle from Crossroads Hospice visited Dr. Browne over the summer to discuss volunteer opportunities within their organization. Volunteers will create Life Journals of a patient’s life which is published into a book for their loved ones. Orientation and screening are required. See the flyer that accompanies this month’s newsletter for more information.