Message from Your New Director:

Welcome to BSHSA! I am Dr. Rick Browne, your new Director for the BSHSA program at Xavier. I am pleased to be working with you all as you pursue your future career as a healthcare administrator. I come to Xavier from... Xavier! I served for the last two years as Director of Xavier’s Career Services Center. I came to Xavier two years ago having had a career as a health practitioner and university administrator. In terms of healthcare, I’m a licensed psychologist and have worked in virtually every kind of setting you could think of – from college counseling centers to inpatient hospitals to correctional facilities. I have a Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology from Indiana University. I live in Wyoming, Ohio (about 6 miles from Xavier within Cincinnati) with my wife and two boys.

I am thrilled to be working with you all, and eager to get to know you. Please come by and introduce yourself if you are not taking one of my two courses this semester, my office is Schott Hall 405.

GET INVOLVED

HSA “Student Connections” Program:

We will be starting the “HSA Student Connections” program in 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. Mentors can help you with information about careers in health services administration, professional development advice, information about graduate studies in HSA, and lots more. Application materials (very brief) will be sent to you at the beginning of October.

HASPS Meeting:

The Health Administration Student Professional Society or “HASPS” will be holding an interest meeting on October 4, 2012 at 6pm in Library 130 specifically for undergraduate students. This is the professional society for MHSA students, and it connects them with professional organizations in healthcare administration (i.e.ACHE). We want undergraduate students to have this same opportunity. What exactly that looks like – that will be up to the students! We’ll be looking for undergraduate students to assist in getting this up and running as well as students who want to simply be a part of it. If you’re interested in a “club” type experience for BSHSA, this is an event you should attend!

Volunteer Opportunities:

Volunteering is a great networking opportunity in health administration, and a great way to show you care about health related issues (think about your resume!) The following opportunities are upcoming, contact Chelsea Holland (one of our MHSA students) if interested (hollandc@xavier.edu).
• **Pink Ribbon Luncheon Event - September 25 and 26** – Assist with the set up for this important fundraising event.

• **Mercy Neighborhood Ministries Taste of the Neighborhood - Sunday, October 28** – Assist during this event to help make sure things run well. This is another fundraising event (lots of these in healthcare).

**ACADEMICS**

Declare Your Major, Minor, Concentration:

If you are planning to major in BSHSA and have yet to formally declare your major, minor (all students must have a business minor), or concentration (long-term care or information management), it is recommended that you do so soon. This will make your fall advising experience easier, as you’ll have an advisor in HSA who knows exactly what track you are on.

Attention Juniors (and Seniors)!

BSHSA has a required internship that takes place in the summer before your final year at Xavier as an undergraduate. Your Director and other faculty in the HSA Department will help you in securing an internship, but know that you will not be “placed”. Two things that will help to prepare you: 1) you’ll take a one-credit hour “pre-internship” course in the spring, HESA 370; 2) I recommend you begin talking with me this semester about your interests. My office hours are Wednesdays from 11:30-1:30, and I’m also glad to set up an appointment with you. Having declared your track in the program will help in advising you regarding internships.

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

BSHSA Rules and Culture:

As you begin/continue your education to be a healthcare administrator, the HSA Department will work hard to help you be prepared for your future plans. However, becoming a professional doesn’t happen overnight. It must be practiced. Therefore, here are some policies and guidelines I ask that you follow in relation to our program:

- **Addressing faculty** – please address faculty as “Dr. ___” or “Professor __”. Healthcare is a conservative culture, and this is what is done in the field. First names are only used among peers in many healthcare settings.

- **Dress code** – while there is not a dress code for class, come to class clean, presentable, and ready to engage. Rolling out of bed and into class is not acceptable. Think about the impression you make when you come to class disheveled. Would you recommend you for an internship if you were the professor?

- **Programs and Guest Speakers (in class too)** – dress is business casual for programs and in class guest speakers. This is for your benefit and the benefit of the program. Today’s guest speaker could be your internship or full-time job employer tomorrow, so always make a good impression. If you aren’t sure if something is “business casual”, ask! We’re here to help.

- **Get involved** – the time to start building your professional resume is now. We’ll have lots of professional development opportunities for you, take advantage of them. If you’re not sure what to do, ask your faculty members or Director. We’ll help you figure that out.

- **Make BSHSA your job** – treat BSHSA as your first professional job. Be on time, do quality work, carry yourself professionally. Do this now, you’ll do well in the program and be ready for your next step.