The Robbins Institute is making a major investment to improve transition planning for children and youth with special healthcare needs. The Institute recently bestowed a generous grant to help underwrite the 13th Annual Chronic Illness and Disability Conference, set for October 18-19 at MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston. Robbins is co-sponsoring the international conference with the Baylor College of Medicine and Texas Children’s Hospital.

This year’s conference – designed for physicians, healthcare professionals and families – addresses the great need for transitioning from pediatric to adult-based care. Nationwide, less than 50 percent of families whose children have a chronic illness or disability say they receive the services necessary to make appropriate transitions to adult healthcare, work and independence. The conference aims to strengthen collaborative relationships between families and providers, and to ensure a physician workforce trained in providing necessary transition services.

In addition to Robbins’ financial support, students from the Class of 2014 will attend and provide logistical support to the conference.
Our popular Robbins MBA Healthcare Program is growing and we’re excited to announce an expansion that will strengthen our success. The new Robbins Institute suite, located in the Hankamer School of Business, was completed over the summer and features offices for core healthcare faculty and administrators, a healthcare library, student study space and gathering area. Most popular with the students is an area where they can congregate and recharge with coffee, cold beverages and snacks.

The opening of the suite coincides with the entrance of the Class of 2014, which is the tenth entering class for the MBA healthcare specialization. With eighteen students — nine men and nine women with an average work experience of 19 months and an average GMAT score of 617 — this is the largest entering class in our history.

The 17 students of the Class of 2013 are currently serving in residencies from Boston to Los Angeles. When they return to campus, with 35 students enjoying the tremendous enhancement to our program provided by the new Robbins Institute suite.

The members of the Class of 2013 began their administrative residencies in June and are fully engaged in the operations of their organizations. We are grateful to the preceptors at the hospitals, health systems and other organizations listed here for creating rich learning environments. We are also proud of our students who are making long-lasting and meaningful contributions at their residency sites.
REAL-WORLD CHALLENGE

The Robbins Institute for Health Policy and Leadership is dedicated to improving lives through health policy and leadership. One example of our approach is the Robbins Administration Case Competition, sponsored each year by the Norman Family Endowed Scholarship. The competition gives students the chance to prepare and analyze a real case scenario and present recommendations to a panel of judges comprised of senior healthcare executives.

This year’s Robbins MBA team – Sara Sommers, Noah Dunlap and Chiamaka Acho – assumed the role of an external healthcare consulting firm. Their task: develop a plan to help the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center respond to market changes following an affiliation by two dominant healthcare providers in western Pennsylvania.

While the Robbins team did not claim victory, the contest was invaluable for professional growth. “It was a great learning experience and offered an opportunity for our students to meet and network with students and faculty from healthcare administration programs across the country,” said Thomas S. Haines, Preceptor Coordinator at the Robbins Institute.

The Robbins team was among 38 teams from CAHME-accredited graduate programs in healthcare administration that were invited to enter the case competition.

Robbins MBAs Confront Real-World Challenge

NURTURING ACADEMIC PROMISE

Robbins MBA Candidates Win Scholarships

Experiential learning outside the classroom distinguishes the Robbins MBA Healthcare Program. One example is our students’ role in the national Health Administration Case Competition, sponsored each year by the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) School of Business.

The contest gives students the chance to prepare and analyze a real case scenario and present recommendations to a panel of judges comprised of senior healthcare executives. This year’s Robbins MBA team – Sara Sommers, Noah Dunlap and Chiamaka Acho – assumed the role of an external healthcare consulting firm. Their task: develop a plan to help the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center respond to market changes following an affiliation by two dominant healthcare providers in western Pennsylvania.

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LEADING EDGE: Robbins Faculty Focus


JAMES HENDERSON, Academic Director and Ben Williams Professor in Economics, presented “Affordable Care Act: The End of Federalism,” at the April 2012 annual meeting of the Association of Private Enterprise Education in Las Vegas. He also participated in the submission of two briefs of Amici Curiae to the Supreme Court of the United States (concerning the individual mandate and severability) in the case addressing the constitutionality of the Affordable Care Act.

ANN MIRABITO, Assistant Professor of Marketing, co-authored two papers: “On the Road to Addiction: Can Marketing Cues Block or Facilitate the Path?” forthcoming in the Journal of Business Research and “From Use to Abuse: When Everyday Consumption Behaviors Morph into Addiction,” in the Journal of Research for Consumers.

PATRICIA NORMAN, Associate Professor of Management, published “Resources Matter: Examining the Effects of Resources on the State of Firms Following Downsizing,” in the February 2012 issue of Journal of Management.

CLASS OF 2014

Diverse, accomplished and well-prepared – these attributes describe the Robbins MBA Class of 2014. The 18 students arrived in August with an average GMAT score of 617, ready for the academic rigors of the program. The class is especially diverse, with 50 percent female and 25 percent minority students. They also have, on average, more than a year and a half of real-world, professional experience and bold degrees from prestigious undergraduate programs in seven states.

Leading Albright, Marlee Van Pelt, Melissa Nichols, Ashley Anderson, Bryant Doeng, Zahra Kavzer, Sara Young

Jeffrey K. and Leslie S. Norman Family Endowed Scholarship

This Norman Family Scholarship was awarded to Ashley May. Ashley is completing her residency at HealthBridges Children’s Hospital in Orange, California. Ashley received a Bachelor in Business Administration, majoring in Management from Baylor University. She is from Kansas City, Missouri.

Bill and Donna Baker Endowed Scholarship

Josh Standard, the recipient of the Baker Scholarship, is completing his residency at Scott & White Health System in Temple. Josh earned a Bachelor of Science in Speech Communications and Political Science from the University of Utah and is a native of Saratoga Springs, Utah.

Jim and Debbie Greenwood Endowed Scholarship

This Greenwood Scholarship was awarded to Hilary Griffin. Hilary is completing her residency at Texas Children’s Hospital in Houston. A native of Sealy, Hilary received a Bachelor of Science in Finance from Texas A&M University and is a graduate of their Business Honors program.

J. Wiley Green Scholarship

Shannon Evans is the recipient of the scholarship established by the family of J. Wiley Green. Shannon is originally from Kansas City, Missouri, but now calls Dallas home. Shannon received a Bachelor of Science in Business Management from Emporia (KS) State University and is completing her residency at Scottish Rite Children’s Hospital in Dallas.

ANNE GRINOLS, Assistant Dean for Faculty Development and College Initiatives and Lecturer in Information Systems, published “My Favorite Assignment: Let the Speaker Beware,” in April 2012 Business Communications Quarterly.
Umaan Ahmad brings a decade of business acumen to his MBA in Healthcare Administration studies. He’s increased revenues as a marketing manager for California-based Gen X Global and Magellan Navigation, worked for a biomedical device company and enjoyed success as a restaurant entrepreneur.

The son of a physician and dietitian, Usman holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University of San Francisco. As a child he grew up playing soccer, which was a perfect segway into a punter’s position on a football team in high school. Derek was recruited as a junior in high school to join the Baylor University football team and obtained a full athletic scholarship to attend.

Derek entered Baylor as a pre-med student and as the starting punter on the football team. After a year, he had a change of heart and decided to change his major to business, focusing on management information systems. This new career path offered him more flexibility and was enjoyable and challenging.

Derek graduated after just three years, then chose to enhance his career path with Baylor’s Robbins MBA Healthcare program. As a former pre-med and business school graduate, he found the program to be a perfect fit.

During his first year of graduate school, Derek took a reduced course-load to enable him to prepare for the NFL draft. Derek signed with the NFL's Arizona Cardinals but after a few games, he decided instead to pursue his studies, given the uncertainty of professional football.

Derek is completing his residency at Scott and White Hospital, Round Rock, by Paloma Pearson, Class of 2014.

Great Expectations
Class of 2013 Profiles

Susie Ahn
Nurse Practitioner/Office Manager Integrative Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation Dallas
Joanna Ku
Surgical Technologist Baylor Medical Center Frisco
Craig Butters
Revenue Cycle Manager Accretive Health Harlingen
Doug Loudenlager
Director, Sales Technology McKesson Pharmaceutical Euless
Sarah Lundeen
Clinical Exercise Physiologist Johnson & Johnson Plano
Bryan Grossman
Spine Sales Consultant Hooper Holmes Dallas
Carlos Ramirez, MD Chief Medical Officer Valley Baptist Health Plans Mission
Charles Toulson, MD Orthopedic Surgeon Alpha Orthopedics McKinney
Jay Wendt
Senior Vice President Hanger Orthopedic Group Colleyville

They are healthcare managers and executives, physician leaders and technology pros: the 10 members of the new Robbins Executive MBA Healthcare Program, Class of 2014. After a week of “boot camp” on Baylor’s main campus in Waco, the inaugural EMBA candidates began their first weekend of classes Aug. 24 at the Cooper Center in Dallas. We are excited to have these experienced healthcare industry professionals as part of the Robbins family.

Susie Ahn
Nurse Practitioner/Office Manager Integrative Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation Dallas

Average GMAT score * 617
Completion rate for MBA ** 100%
Average class size 16
Employment at 90 days after graduation 88%
Completion rate for healthcare specialization ** 94%
Employment at 180 days after graduation 100%
Average starting salary 63,300

High Marks

Program Stats

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FOR INFORMATION OR TO SUPPORT THE PROGRAM CONTACT US:

+ **General Program Information:** Shannon Johansen, Office Manager  
  254-710-1447 or Shannon_Johansen@baylor.edu

+ **Program support, Admissions, Curriculum or Careers in Healthcare Administration Information:** Scott Garner, Administrative Director  
  254-710-3072 or Scott_H_Garner@baylor.edu

+ **Residency Preceptor Information:** Tom Haines, Preceptor Coordinator  
  254-710-4151 or Thomas_Haines@baylor.edu

+ **For other information or to support the Program, visit our website at**  
  www.baylor.edu/business/healthpolicy