

Spring 2012



# Newsletter



## Alumni President's Corner

Fellow Bears,

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as the president of your Army-Baylor Alumni Association. On behalf of the membership, I want to extend sincerest thanks to the members of our Alumni Board for their consistent dedication – MAJ Tammie Jones (Immediate Past President), LTC Joe Edger (1st VP), MAJ Forest Kim (2nd VP) and Ms. Jetta Elliott (3rd VP). Also thanks to our Baylor Faculty representatives – LTC Lee Bewley (Program Director) and LTC Cynthia Childress (Treasurer). That said, this is not the board's Alumni Association...it's yours! Without the members, there's no reason for us to exist...so please serve an active role in setting our strategic azimuth.

The annual Baylor Alumni Dinner, held March 20<sup>th</sup> at Fulton's on the River in Chicago, was a great success with over 125 alumni, families and guests in attendance. We plan to keep the same venue for the 2013 Dinner and look forward to an even greater turnout.

Congratulations to this year's award winners: LTC(R) Nicholas Coppola for earning the Distinguished Alumni Award, and MAJ Chris Sloan for earning both the Boone Powell Award for Best Graduate Management Portfolio and the COL Richard Harder Award for best practice. Also, thank you to COL Kyle D. Campbell, FACHE for his keynote address highlighting the importance of being "on-parade" 24/7 and ensuring we always exude the professionalism and competence expected of today's healthcare executives.



COL Kyle Campbell, FACHE addresses the Baylor Dinner attendees as the Keynote Speaker

**Thanks for all you do for Baylor University and our Army-Baylor Alumni Association...Sic 'em Bears!**

LTC Rob Letizio, FACHE  
Alumni President  
Class of '99

## Army-Baylor Alumni Association Board

**President:** LTC Robert Letizio ([robert.letizio@us.army.mil](mailto:robert.letizio@us.army.mil))

**1st Vice President:** LTC Joseph (Joe) P. Edger ([joe.edger@us.army.mil](mailto:joe.edger@us.army.mil))

**2nd Vice President:** MAJ Forest Kim ([forest.kim@amedd.army.mil](mailto:forest.kim@amedd.army.mil))

**3rd Vice President:** Ms. Jetta Elliott ([jetta.elliott@us.army.mil](mailto:jetta.elliott@us.army.mil))

**Immediate Past President:** MAJ Tammie M. Jones ([tammie.jones@us.army.mil](mailto:tammie.jones@us.army.mil))



Outgoing Alumni President, MAJ Tammie Jones, FACHE is presented her ceremonial gavel by incoming President, LTC Rob Letizio, FACHE



### Online Networking:

There are several online networking groups available to connect with our alum. We are really excited about the reconnecting opportunity that these tools provide. Join us:

**LinkedIn:** [www.linkedin.com](http://www.linkedin.com) **Group Name:** Army-Baylor Alumni

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) **Group Name:** U.S. Army-Baylor University Healthcare Administration Master's Program

## President's Call to Action

The coming year will be critical for the board and the general membership. As stated up front, without the input and support of our membership our Association will never reach its full potential.

1. Non-Profit Organization: the board will submit to obtain 501(c)3 federal non-profit organization status, which will allow us to reach a broader base of potential benefactors and provide tax incentives for charitable donations to our Association. This new status will require a much more intense administrative effort, including active management, formalized meeting structure and annual tax filing. If you want to assist in developing and sustaining our new status, please let me know and we will maximize your talents.

2. Army-Baylor Program Recruitment: the 2012 freshman class will consist of 55+ students - a superb effort that must be sustained. One of the numerous reasons why our program vaulted from #20 to #11 in the national MHA program rankings is the strict selection criteria of our incoming classes. A larger pool of qualified candidates = a higher caliber of students in the program = a higher caliber of graduates who venture out into the DoD, VA and beyond to excel and increase the positive reputation of our program. This upward cycle stems from the continued mentorship, coaching and teaching of the next generation of professional healthcare leaders. We are all customers of the very healthcare system we protect – it's reassuring to know the future CEOs, COOs and department chiefs of our hospitals will be highly-skilled provider, nurse and administrator Baylor graduates. I hereby charge each Alumnus with recruiting (at least) one qualified officer or civilian to be accepted into the 2013 starting class. The board is developing an annual incentive award for whoever encourages the most candidates to be accepted into the program. This is a grass roots effort that can't succeed without your support.

3. Sponsorship Charter: the board will formalize the process for our continued sponsorship of civic and academic endeavors across the nation. If you know of a worthwhile endeavor that could benefit from our support, please contact me. Our 2011 sponsored events included:

- J. Dewey Lutes Student Research Conference
- Academy Health Sciences Graduate School Research Day
- Army-Baylor Distinguished Lecture Series
- Army-Baylor Alumni Association Reception for the Incoming and Outgoing Class (featuring guest speaker Judge Ken Starr)

We also continued our corporate partnership effort. RadNet, Inc. donated \$1,500 again this year, in addition to \$1,500 last year. Please visit them at: <http://www.radnet.com/index.php>

We also have a commitment from The Fisher Foundation for \$3,000.00 to assist with the Orals Reception. Please visit them at: <http://www.fisher-foundation.com>

## President's Call to Action (continued)

Also thank you to a private sponsor, Larry Leahy (Class of '84), who will generously donate \$1,000 per year to support Army-Baylor Student Annual Awards such as the Boone Powell and J. Dewey Lutes. Please take Larry's lead and remember the Association when you decide to donate to a worthy cause.

4. Distinguished Alumni Award Nominations: Please take note if you witness a fellow Alumni doing great things in the DoD, VA or civilian healthcare sectors. We will officially call for award nominations this winter, but it's never too early to begin your nomination write-ups.

## Our Newest Lifetime Members

Thanks and congratulations for all those who made the lifetime commitment in support our Association. I know it can be difficult to make a long-term commitment, but if you plan to pay \$25 annual dues for 10 years or longer, it makes fiscal sense to simply join the \$250 lifetime member club now. As a lifetime member, you'll also have your name listed in perpetuity on the website.

The Class of 2012 broke all previous residency class records with 32 of its 52 alumni becoming lifetime members:

Lisa Dennis	Richard Haemmerle	Ian Lee
Brandye Mize	Mark Green	Lisa Bohler
Jetta Elliott	Joshua Elliott	Sara Lindsay
William Spruill	Andrew Gregory	Calvin Carter
John Evans	Joel Grant	Matthew Kip Marsh
Jennifer Staples	Lavirta Jones	Erica Chabalko
Seth French	Brian Allen	Brandon McCarter
Justin Stewart	Charlynn King	R. Clint Cobb
Robert Gomez	Jeffrey Allerding	Denise Miranda
Melissa Thomas	Kija Korowicki	Dennis Curtis
Michelle Gradnigo	Katie Bessler	

Our other new (April 2011 to March 2012) lifetime members:

Sharon Blondeau	Class of 2002
James Cahill	Class of 2004
Steven Hale	Class of 1997
Pete Lehning	Class of 2003
Noel Pace	Class of 2001
Chris Sloan	Class of 2011
Barbara Wright	Class of 1986

## Continuing Education Opportunities

**National Seminars Group**, a Division of Rockhurst University Continuing Education Center, Inc. is one of the nation's leading providers of continuing education. Each year, they provide more than 7,000 seminars and conferences in the United States and Canada. One or two day seminars are offered in many cities throughout the United States. I have taken many of the seminars and highly recommend them. Seminars are offered on Computer Skills, Thinking and Strategy Skills, Marketing and Social Media, Interpersonal and Workplace Relationship Skills, Management & Leadership Skills, Time, Priority, and Project Management, Communication, Grammar & Writing Skills, Compliance, Human Resources, and Accounting. The full course catalog can be accessed at: <http://images.ruceci.com/pdfs/catalog.pdf>

**The Healthcare Businesswomen's Association** executes its mission to further the advancement and impact of women in healthcare worldwide in part by providing educational opportunities to develop cutting-edge industry knowledge and leadership skills. This is accomplished via over 300 chapter events, flagship events including the HBA Leadership Conference and Woman of the Year, and cutting edge programming including Leadership in Practice.

On April 11, 2012, The San Antonio chapter of the Healthcare Businesswomen's Association is sponsoring the "Women in Science" spring event, which will focus on military medical innovations and research by women scientists at the US Army Institute of Surgical Research (USAISR). The USAISR is part of the Army Medical Research and Materiel Command co-located with Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio. The institute is the US Army's lead research laboratory for improving the care and successful outcomes of combat casualties. It is dedicated to medical solutions to provide state-of-the-art trauma, burn, and critical care. Many of the military innovations have been successfully applied to the civilian trauma arena.

Please visit each chapter or affiliate section of the website to get updates and register for other events near you. There are both national and international chapters. For more information go to: <http://www.hbanet.org/>

## A-B Program Director's Corner (1 of 3)

Hello, Bears! I hope this newsletter finds you and your families enjoying a great Spring! I have recently returned from a deployment with “America’s CSH”, the 47<sup>th</sup> Combat Support Hospital, commanded by Colonel Scott Avery. I was honored to serve as the Deputy Commander for Administrative of the Medical Task Force and Officer-in-Charge of the hospital facility at Contingency Operating Base Adder in Southern Iraq. Our facility was the last combat support hospital in Iraq supporting Operation New Dawn and the Soldiers performed with excellence through the blistering summer heat and into the last cold days of convoys and flights back to Kuwait. One interesting element of our deployment was that our hospital was unofficially dubbed “Task Force Baylor” as the DCA, Hospital Chief Nurse (MAJ Josh Paul), S-1 (MAJ Gene Fine) were Army-Baylor MHA\MBA alums in addition to the Company Commander (CPT Scott McCrum) and Physical Therapists (CPT Alisha Harvey, CPT Tim Eckard) having graduated from the Army-Baylor DSci Physician Assistant Program and Doctoral Program in Physical Therapy respectively. In fact, I conducted “Left Seat\Right Seat” battlehandoff duties from my own Army-Baylor classmate and our current Alumni Club President, LTC Rob Letizio, serving as the DCA of the 86<sup>th</sup> CSH. A few observations from the deployment: in a contemporary operating environment, there are no “taking a knee” assignments in either the TDA or TOE worlds; the battlefield is a great place to recruit future healthcare executives and Army-Baylor MHA\MBA students; and the application of competent healthcare management is absolutely relevant and critical in both



LTC Bewley (left) and LTC Letizio (right)



“Task Force Baylor”

## A-B Program Director's Corner (2 of 3)

traditional institutional settings (MEDCENS, MEDDACs) and combat health support units as healthcare executives lead their organizations and serve beneficiaries\patients by effectively and efficiently using the resources provided to yield value.

Your Army-Baylor program was very well-represented by a team of students from the Army-Baylor Class of 2013 (MAJ Matt Fandre, CAPT Chris Ogren, and Ms. Kelly Roy) at the annual University of Alabama-Birmingham (UAB) Case Competition. Our student team finished as National Runner-ups among 34 teams of CAHME-accredited, nationally-ranked programs.

The Army-Baylor Class of 2012, led by Dr. Delicia McLean, earned national recognition during the recent ACHE Congress as the 2012 Higher Education Network Award Winners among all the AUPHA and CAHME-accredited graduate programs within ACHE's higher education network. The class earned this honor through their participation in professional and community development and by achieving a near 100% member and/or advancement rate within ACHE during the year.

The Program is planning to conduct the annual Preceptor's Conference and Comprehensive Oral Examinations 14 – 15 June. In addition, to the portfolio of high-quality MTFs, LTC Brad Beauvais, our Administrative Residency Director, has developed Administrative Residency opportunities at all of the Top 5 U.S. News Honor Roll Hospitals: Johns Hopkins, Mayo Clinic, Massachusetts General, Cleveland Clinic, and UCLA Medical Center.



## A-B Program Director's Corner (3 of 3)

Our residency program is developing a number of network resources and opportunities for collaboration. In March, Ms. Patti Harvey, Senior Vice President for Quality at Kaiser Permanente, and Preceptor for CAPT Angel Vargas, recently visited Brooke Army Medical Center and the Program with a team of quality experts to provide presentations and seek opportunities for knowledge sharing and collaboration.



Ms. Patti Harvey, SVP Quality, Kaiser Permanente speaks to the Army-Baylor Class of 2013

In closing, I want to take the opportunity to thank LTCOL Matt Krauchunas, our Deputy Program Director (Air Force), for serving as Interim Program Director during my deployment. His leadership and administration of the Program was superb. Additionally, on behalf of our faculty and students, I want to thank the Army-Baylor Alumni Association for the truly splendid support of the Program during the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of affiliation with Baylor University which made many activities positively distinctive and befitting a top-tier graduate program that seeks to educate the next generation of federal healthcare executives.

Respectfully and with deepest appreciation,

Lee '99

### Photo Submissions for [www.armybaylor.com](http://www.armybaylor.com)

Send new and "classic" Army Baylor Alumni photos to [lee.bewley@amedd.army.mil](mailto:lee.bewley@amedd.army.mil) so that we can keep [www.armybaylor.com](http://www.armybaylor.com) refreshed.



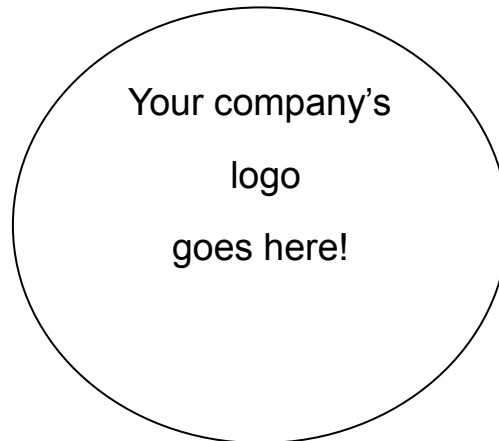
# Annual Dinner Picture Board



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## Army-Baylor Pursues Corporate Sponsorship

We'd love to hear from you if you or your company are interested in sponsoring:

- Academic research
- Alumni activities and networking
- Marketing of the Army Baylor Program
- Academic activities
- Events to improve program standing

Donate at <http://armybaylor.com/index.php/event/article/3>