

Aging and YOUR Major: A Networking Event

On Monday, April 23, 2012, The Erickson School hosted a networking event entitled “Aging and YOUR Major: A Networking Event.” This event drew in over 60 undergraduate students interested in meeting and networking with local leaders in aging services organizations and learning more about the Management of Aging Services (MAgS) Undergraduate Program.



The event started with a wonderful keynote address by Dr. Judah Ronch, Dean of the Erickson School. Following Dr. Ronch was Dr. Ken Baron, Director of Academic and Pre-Professional Advising at UMBC. In his speech, Dr. Baron encouraged students not currently affiliated with the Erickson School to “considering joining [us] in some fashion either through declaring a second major, declaring a minor, or just taking some topical courses.” More specifically, Dr. Baron urged those students on the pre-med or pre-health track to take Aging courses as they are the prevailing patient demographic in healthcare currently and heading into the future.



One of the highlights of the networking luncheon was the impromptu speech by UMBC President Dr. Freeman Hrabowski who spoke for several minutes on the importance of students taking MAgS courses to address the rising needs of the aging population.

Over a catered lunch, students were able to meet with various leaders in local aging services organization including Marilyn Duker, President of Brightview Senior Living, Sandra Cobb, Chief of HR at the Maryland Department of Aging, and Matthew Rosewag, Administrator at Oak Crest Village. Additionally, recruiters were present from four local aging



services organizations to meet with interested students in regards to open job and internship opportunities.

This MAgS Networking Event, the first of its kind, was very well received by both MAgS and other majors. Janet Magruder, a current MAgS undergraduate major, thought the networking event as a huge success and felt she was “able to connect with various companies and express [her] field of interest and solicit advice on how to achieve her goals.” Other positive remarks from students included that it was nice to meet actual leaders in aging services organizations, hear where these professionals started right out of college, and go on interviews for positions that were as a direct result of meeting recruiters at the event.

