Greetings to new students, continuing students, alumni, and friends of USPA! You may notice that this edition of the Newsletter is coming out a little late in the semester. That could have been the result of procrastination, but it wasn’t! In truth we were in the middle of making some significant changes to the curriculum of the MPA Program. I am pleased to report that these changes have now gone through the University’s approval process. Details of the curriculum changes are reported elsewhere in the Newsletter and you will also note a change to the MPA Program Core Course Matrix, which now reflects the Program changes. USPA faculty worked long and hard to develop the new curriculum and I would like to thank them for their efforts. I think students will be very pleased with the relevancy of the new curriculum. The transition to the new MPA course structure will begin in Fall 2006. More details on the transition are included in this Newsletter.

Last April 18th the College of Business and Public Administration held its annual College Awards Ceremony. Cynthia Cooper was recognized as the Outstanding Doctoral Student (its now Dr. Cooper), Connie Merriman was recognized as the Outstanding MPA student and Steve Chenault was recognized as the Outstanding MUS student. For the first time the USPA Department faculty awarded the Wolfgang Pindur Best Student Paper Prize (250 dollars and plaque) to Keith German. The prize check was presented by Ms. Nancy Pindur. We are hopeful that the department will soon be able to award the Wolfgang Pindur Scholarship to a deserving student – the scholarship endowment is now fully funded! We will continue to raise money for the Pindur Prize and Scholarship fund in the hope that in the future we may have two endowed scholarships – so please consider a contribution to this worthy cause!

If you were with us last year you may recall that we began the spring semester with a great kickoff reception for students and alumni in the new ODU Alumni Center followed by the men’s basketball game. It was a very nice event and we are doing it again this year! The date will be Saturday, February 4th, beginning with the reception at 5:30pm and followed by the ODU men’s basketball game against JMU. More announcements will follow later, but please plan to attend with friends and family if you can!
Greetings Alumni, Students, and Faculty!!!

It’s that time of year again - basketball season!!!

You are invited to attend the second annual USPA Alumni/Student Reception followed by the ODU Men’s Basketball game!!!

It gets better every year!!

The event will be on February 4, 2006. The ODU Men’s Basketball team will take on James Madison University.

The reception will be held at 5:30 pm in the beautiful new Kornblau Alumni Center on the corner of 49th Street and Hampton Blvd.

After enjoying great food and great friends we will head over to the game which starts at 7 pm.

The tickets are $15 per person and includes your food and a game ticket.

More information on obtaining tickets will be emailed in early January.
MUS Students Plan Ahead

Professor Ruchelman urges all Master of Urban Studies Students to check in with him either through scheduling an appointment or emailing him regarding what courses they intend to enroll in for the spring semester. He advises that wherever possible, students should take required core course early in the program in order to avoid complications at the end of their course work. Sometimes, graduation is delayed because a required core course is not on the schedule. He also advises non-degree seeking students that only 12 credit hours can be transferred into the MUS program. Therefore, they should move early in the program to attain regular degree status.

Dr. Mengistu is the Ph.D. Program Director and teaches Ph.D. courses along with Public Budgeting and Conflict Resolution courses for the MPA Program.

New Information for Students

We have completed two new booklets to assist students in the program. We encourage you to pick up your copies of the new Ph.D. Student Handbook and the Comprehensive Examination Study Guide from Marjorie Wills in the department office.

Doctoral Program in Public Administration and Urban Policy

In our Fall 2004 newsletter we shared with you that we were in the process of changing the content and name of the Ph.D. program in Urban Services to the Ph.D. in Public Management and Urban Policy. We are happy to report the program has been approved by the Board of Visitors and the State Council on Higher Education for Virginia. The approved program name is Ph.D. in Public Administration and Urban Policy. Beginning in Fall 2006, the new program name will be reflected in course names, as well. Courses in public administration and urban studies will be listed as Public Administration and Urban Policy (PAUP) in the 2006 University Catalog, where you will also find detailed descriptions of each course. All the relevant Ph.D. courses will be located in one section of the catalog.

Welcome New Doctoral Students

We would like to share with you our pleasure in welcoming new students admitted to the new Public Administration and Urban Policy Ph.D. program.

Jayson Bautista returns to Old Dominion University after earning a Master’s degree in Engineering Management. His background is in systems design and electrical engineering.

Madeleine McNamara returns to Old Dominion University after receiving her MBA in 2004. Madeleine is currently working for the United States Coast Guard as a civilian.

Thomas Musumeci returns to Old Dominion University after receiving an MPA in 2003. He currently serves as the Deputy Treasurer for the City of Virginia Beach.

Nathaniel Worley has a background in Social Work and will focus on the effective delivery of public services in his studies.

Dr. Mengistu is the Ph.D. Program Director and teaches Ph.D. courses along with Public Budgeting and Conflict Resolution courses for the MPA Program.
or almost a year the faculty has been studying changes in the MPA curriculum to improve it and to stay current with developments in the field. Recently the new curriculum was accepted and approved by the University. It maintains the present 39 credit hour requirement necessary for the degree, but changes the balance between the core courses everyone takes and the elective courses you select as your individual emphasis area. Instead of nine core courses and four electives, the new program will have seven core courses that all must take, and six electives (an expanded individual emphasis area). You will have more flexibility under the new curriculum.

The new curriculum will be in place by Fall 2006, and all new students entering the program that semester will be fully under the new requirements. All current students, including students taking their first classes this Spring, will be able to meet the requirements of the new program as described below. No one currently in the program will be delayed or required to take additional courses to complete your Master’s requirements. Some of the course titles have changed, but I, and rest of the faculty will be glad to advise you on completing your requirements.

The New MPA includes the following CORE COURSES that everyone must complete.

- PADM 651 Administrative Theory I: The Context of Public Administration
- PADM 652 Administrative Theory II: The Process of Public Administration (Pre-requisite: Administrative Theory I)
- PADM 753 Research Methods for Public Administrators*
- PADM 671 Public Budgeting and Financial Management
- PADM 733 Legal and Ethical Foundations of Public Administration
- PADM 704 Public Policy and Evaluation
- PADM 746 Capstone Seminar in Public Administration

*For new enrollees, Research Methods will have as a prerequisite- either completion of a new 1.5 credit course (PADM 410) in basic statistics and spreadsheets, or demonstrated capabilities in these requirements.

We’ve reduced the number of required core courses by two from nine to seven, and increased your electives, the courses that make up your individual emphasis areas, from four to six courses. The individual emphasis areas are now a more significant part of your graduate experience. Consequently, where previously many of you simply decided without consultation which electives to take, beginning in the Fall semester all students will schedule meetings with the Graduate Program Director (Dr. Richman) or other faculty to develop the six course emphasis area you will take. You’ll have a wide variety of courses to choose from.

If you have already completed or are taking any of the following core courses in Spring 06, they will all be accepted in the new curriculum as follows:

**FOR CURRENT STUDENTS: CHANGING FROM THE CURRENT TO THE NEW MPA CURRICULUM**

- PADM 651, Introduction to Public Administration, will substitute in the new curriculum for PADM 651, Administrative Theory I: The Context of Public Admin.
- PADM 655, Organizational Theory, will substitute in the new curriculum for PADM 652 Administrative Theory II: The Process of Public Administration.
- PADM 753, Research Methods, will substitute in the new curriculum for PADM 753 Research Methods for Public Administrators.
- PADM 720, Public Personnel Administration will be accepted in the new curriculum as an elective.
- PADM 733, Legal Foundations of Public Administration will substitute in the new curriculum for the new core course, PADM 733, Legal and Ethical Foundations of Public Administration
- PADM 671, Public Budgeting, will substitute in the new curriculum for the new core course, PADM 671, Public Budgeting and Finance.
- PADM 701, Public Policy Analysis, will substitute in the new curriculum for the new core course, PADM 701, Public Policy and Evaluation.
The Old Dominion University E.V. Williams Center for Real Estate and Economic Development (CREED) will host the 11th annual Hampton Roads Real Estate Market Review and Forecast on Wednesday, February 22, 2006. This event attracts over 600 members of the real estate and development communities throughout Virginia. Presentations highlight market activities in the residential, multi-family, retail, office and industrial real estate from the previous year and forecast for the year ahead. This market information is compiled into a Market Review Survey book that is distributed to the event attendees. This event is the premier event for networking in this dynamic and important sector of Hampton Road’s economy. You are more than welcome to attend.

Funding Goals Almost Reached

The College has been very successful in almost reaching its goal of $4.5 million dollars to fund the Robert M. Stanton Chair in Real Estate and CREED. To date we have reached 96% of our $4.5 million funding goal. We have been very fortunate to receive a $1 million donation from E.V. Williams, the founder of E. V. Williams Inc., a general contracting firm; a $1.5 million planned gift from Robert M. Stanton to endow the Robert M. Stanton Chair of Real Estate; and $1.5 million gift from the Batten family; and numerous donations and gifts from other individuals and businesses. These dollars will provide ongoing support for the Center and allow the College to attract a prominent scholar in real estate. These donations will enable CREED to further its efforts towards being a regional resource for the real estate and economic development communities of Hampton Roads.

As Director of the Center I am always looking for students interested in the fields of real estate and economic development. The Center has paid positions and internships available for interested individuals. Please see CREED’s website http://www.odu.edu/CREED or please contact Dr. John R. Lombard at 683-4809, or jlombard@odu.edu.

Career Center Connection

The Career Management Center (CMC) at Old Dominion University offers a full array of free career services to graduate students, including those working toward an MPA. These services include:

Professional seminars on all aspects of the job search, including resume and cover letter writing, job search techniques, interview skills, and evaluating a job offer. These are available live at a variety of times, including evenings, pre-recorded on the web site, and are also live on the web.

Job Fairs, which are held every Spring and Fall and generally each event draws over 100 employers. This fall over twenty federal, state and municipal government employers participated.

Our eRecruiting system is used to post internship, entry level and professional level positions. It also stores resumes and cover letters and is searchable by job or employer type.

Instant career messaging allows you to ask a quick career question and get a live answer from 10 am until 9 pm Monday through Thursday.

Continued on Page 10
Too many students only make an appointment to see their professors once the big term paper is due, the withdrawal date has passed, or there is a clear indication from graded assignments and class performance that they are in trouble. They are wanting all academic policies waived, allowing special consideration for the fact they waited past the last minute to address a problem. They enter the room and ask the professor to determine if they should withdraw from the class/program, change their paper topic or begin the meeting with a general “I don’t know what to do.” They have hope that the personal trauma of illness, death, evil employer or twin 2 year olds will exempt them from the standards set forth in the syllabus and applicable to everyone else in the class. Eternal optimism, denial, and ignorance of academic policies do not lead to success in the program or, interestingly, to any other aspect of your life.

Taking responsibility for your actions, educating yourself as to the policies of the university and department and coming to the appointment with assignments in hand and specific questions geared toward assisting you to make a decision only you can make will result in a productive meeting.

Review the syllabus for the professor’s office hours and then drop by. If your schedule doesn’t allow you to make the specified hours, phone, e-mail, or talk to the professor before or after class and ask for an appointment. Include in your request dates and times you cannot meet (to avoid back and forth messages) and a general idea as to what you’d like to discuss with the professor. Come to the meeting with a clear idea as to what you are asking from the professor and state your request.

A much better approach to encountering your professors is to make an appointment to meet with them outside the class before you have an academic problem to solve. Faculty can review your resume, discuss internships, review employment trends in public administration, offer guidance from class topics on work-related issues and talk about recent research in public administration that will broaden your knowledge of the field beyond the confines of the course syllabus. They can recommend reading materials, websites and particular organizations to contact regarding your stated areas of interest. Don’t limit yourself or the resources of the faculty by just calling on them in times of academic crisis.

Old Dominion University’s Graduate Writing Assistance Program is provided by the University as a service to graduate students seeking to improve their writing skills. Should any of the students within the graduate program feel their writing could benefit from a bit of “fine tuning” they are encouraged to make an appointment with Andrea Murphy through email at: amurphy@odu.edu or by phone at 683-4330.
Distinguished Alumni of MPA Program Honored

Dr. Vickie Sutton, a 1986 graduate from our MPA program, was awarded the 2005 prestigious Distinguished Alumni Award for the College of Business and Public Administration. Dr. Sutton was given the presidential appointment of Chief Counsel for the Research and Innovative Technology Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation in Washington, DC. Her appointment began this past September 1.

Her credentials are quite impressive. She has a Ph.D. in Environmental Sciences from the University of Texas at Dallas, a J.D. from American University, where she graduated magna cum laude, a Master’s in Public Administration from ODU, and two Bachelor of Science degrees in Zoology and Animal Science, cum laude, from North Carolina State University.

Dr. Sutton has served as Assistant Director in the Office of Science and Technology Policy in the White House Science Office. Prior to that, she served in the United States Environmental Protection Agency in the Office of Policy, Planning and Evaluation. She also served as the Executive Director of the Ronald Reagan Institute for Emergency Medicine at George Washington University.

In her home institution of Texas Tech University School of Law, she was director of the Center for Biodefense, Law and Public Policy and the Robert H. Bean Professor of Law. At Texas Tech, Dr. Sutton has taught Constitutional Law, Law and Science, Law and Bioterrorism and American Indian Law.

Dr. Sutton is also a member of the District of Columbia Bar and U.S. Federal Circuit Bar. She has served as a consultant to a number of federal agencies in the area of biodefense.

On top of all of her other accomplishments, Dr. Sutton was a visiting lecturer at the Yale Law School and Yale Epidemiology and Public Health School in the Fall of 2004.

On the 21 of October, Dr. Sutton visited with the MPA program’s faculty and research assistants to tell us about her accomplishments and her future as a United States Government appointee. We greatly appreciated her visit and are extremely proud to have her as a member of our ODU MPA Alumni.

New MPA Curriculum Continued:

PADM 704, Methods of Program Evaluation, will be accepted in the new curriculum as an elective.

PADM 746, Capstone, will substitute in the new curriculum for the new core course, PADM 746, Capstone Seminar in Public Administration.

Two courses that were formerly in the core curriculum, Public Personnel Administration and Program Evaluation, will now be credited as electives. They will continue to be regularly offered.

As we have new materials printed we will share with you detailed descriptions for the new courses. We’re incorporating new emphases on ethics in the public sector, and the use of information technology in our courses. In all, we believe the new curriculum will improve our MPA, making it current and better, and will provide you additional flexibility in designing your own specialization areas.

Professor Richman
Graduate Program Director, MPA
Profile of our Adjunct Professor
Meet: Celeste Greene, Ph.D.

Success in Balancing

Dr. Celeste Greene, adjunct faculty member in the Department of Urban Studies and Public Administration, grew up in San Francisco, CA and received her B.A. in History from UCLA. After graduation, she went to work in Public Affairs on Capital Hill. Utilizing the experience gained in our nation’s capital, Dr. Green decided her true professional passion lay within teaching, whereupon she decided to pursue her M.P.A. from George Washington University before garnering her PhD. from Florida Atlantic University. Why did she choose FAU, “because I could teach as part of the PhD. process”, of course!

Dr. Greene urges students to join ASPA as a helpful means of keeping up to date on the ever-changing field of Public Administration, “It is important to keep up on the issues and stay current on the literature.” says Greene. However, Dr. Greene also recognizes the need to stay balanced in one’s life and offers wisdom from the great UCLA basketball coach John Wooden as words to live by, “Don’t let making a living get in the way of making a life”.

While always passionately involved in her scholarly research, community involvement, and classroom duties, Dr. Greene has still managed to find the time to balance personal priorities with professional excellence; she cites her fourteen month old son, William, as the greatest joy in her life. On behalf of everyone in the Department of Urban Studies and Public Administration, CONGRATULATIONS Dr. Greene for everything you have done, are doing, and will do for ODU, your family, and yourself.

USPA Ph.D. Association News:
David Chapman

First… welcome to the new students this semester. I met two of you at the August orientation and saw a lot of enthusiasm even before the first night of class… I know all of you will integrate easily into the revised program (and all of us “elders” will adapt!). The changes will most certainly prove to be beneficial for all of us (and a lot of fun). For the few of you who are unaware, the “Urban Services” name has been retired and the degree program now has the name of “Public Administration and Urban Policy”; this is pretty much reflective of what we have all been studying all along anyway.

Later this semester (after the November comprehensive examinations), I have invited a retired member of the Senior Executive Service talk to us about "Public Policy in the Real World". He's a local Norfolk resident and is a former employee at the Department of Agriculture in DC as well as the Navy here in Norfolk, with Labor Relations and Human Resources as his area of expertise. Date/time/location is TBD, but will likely be on a Sunday.

If you are not receiving Email from us, please send a message to dchap011@odu.edu and I can add you to the list; this is open to all students, faculty, graduates, and friends. (We would prefer that current students/faculty provide ODU email accounts, though.)

See you soon!

David Chapman
USPA PhD Association Coordinator
dchap011@odu.edu
The Wolfgang Pindur Award in Applied Research is a monetary award that will support the scholarship of outstanding MPA students in applied research. We are extremely happy to report that the initial $25,000 goal for the Pindur Memorial Scholarship Fund has been reached. However, with the continuous support of all of you, we are hoping to reach far beyond this goal so that additional awards may be given to future outstanding students. Every generous gift will help us honor the memory of our colleague, mentor, and wonderful friend. As a small perk for you, every gift is tax deductible as allowed by the law.

The fund accepts payments of cash, personal checks, and credit card payments as well as gifts of security. For more information about how you can contribute, please contact the Office of Development at (757) 683-3090, or send checks payable to Old Dominion University Foundations, to: Old Dominion University Educational Foundation, 129 Koch Hall, Norfolk, VA. 23529. Please make sure to have a notation stating that the donation is for the Pindur Fund. We are grateful for your interest and support, and we appreciate and look forward to your help honoring the legacy of our esteemed colleague, Dr. Wolfgang Pindur.

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**DATES OF INTEREST**

- **November 14th**: Registration for Spring 2006 Semester
- **November 23-27th**: Thanksgiving Holiday
- **December 9th**: Fall Classes End (Friday)

**2006**

- **January 5th**: Tuition Deadline
- **January 7th**: Classes Begin
- **February 4th**: USPA Reception and Men’s Basketball Night
- **March 6th—11th**: Spring Break
- **April 10th**: Registration for Summer/Fall classes begins
### Two Semester Course Matrix

*Minimum Guaranteed Core and Capstone Offerings – Additional Selections May Be Offered. Electives are not included.*

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Spring 2006</th>
<th>Fall 2006</th>
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| PADM 651  
Introduction to Public Admin    | C           | P         |
| PADM 655  
Theories of Public Admin     | C           | P         |
| PADM 671  
Public Budgeting Systems        | P           | C         |
| PADM/URBN 701  
Public Policy Analysis  | VB         | P         |
| PADM 704  
Program Evaluation           | C           | VB        |
| PADM 720/820  
Public Personnel Admin  | P           | Not Offered |
| PADM 733  
Legal Foundations            | VB         | P         |
| PADM 753/URBN 607  
Research Methods  | VB         | C         |
| PADM 746  
Capstone                | P           | C         |

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**Career Center Connection (Continued from pg 5)**

**Internship assistance** is provided to those seeking to gain practical experience.

A variety of **job search tools**, including CareerSearch®, are available.

**Personal career consultations** are recommended to all job seekers. The CMC’s Liaison to CBPA, Judy White, has over 20 years experience as a career coach, including several years working specifically with mid-life career changers. Whether you are an experienced job seeker who simply wants another pair of eyes to look over your resume or someone who needs guidance throughout the entire job search process you are welcome in her office. To make an appointment to discuss any career issues you have, please call 683-5777 or drop by the CMC Satellite Office in Constant Hall 1011. For your convenience, late afternoon appointments are available.

*Details concerning all of the above, as well as a wealth of additional career information, can be found at the CMC’s virtual career center at [www.odu.edu/cmc](http://www.odu.edu/cmc).*
### USPA Spring 2006 Schedule of Classes

- Core Course on Guaranteed Campus

800 level courses are for Ph.D.

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All graduates must complete the online Graduate Student Satisfaction Survey before graduating. Diplomas and transcripts will be withheld until this survey is completed. It takes about 15-20 minutes to complete.

You can access the survey at http://www.odu.edu/webroot/orgs/ao/assessment.nsf/pages/homepage.