Greetings! I am particularly pleased to write to you as your Department Chair and on behalf of the departmental faculty, staff, and graduate research assistants I welcome you to the first issue of our biannual newsletter. I encourage you to read through this newsletter to get a sense of all the wonderful and exciting activities taking place within our Department and College.

Wow, September 2009 is already behind us. While many of you were taking time off over the summer from classes to rest or vacation with your family the department was busy wrapping up its self study report for the National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration (NASPAA) accreditation. This is no small feat. In fact the final report is over 200 pages and represents nearly a year’s worth of data collection and analysis about the MPA program. This document squarely presents our MPA program strengths and weaknesses as expressed by students, alumni, faculty and other stakeholders. The report demonstrates the quality of our MPA program and offers the department several avenues for continuous improvement.

Another bit of good news is that our enrollments for this Fall are much higher than in past years. This bodes well for a relatively small department in a time when state allocations to public universities are at near record lows. I dare say that most of us have been touched by the economic turndown in some fashion and the department is no different. However, we are actively recruiting for a replacement for Dr. Gibson and hope to begin interviewing in October. The fact that an unfilled position has not been cut by the Dean or Provost is indicative of the importance of public administration and the value that our department brings to the College and the University. Your participation in candidate interviews is appreciated.

Dr. Alkadry has graciously accepted additional responsibilities for coordinating student internships. As our enrollments have grown, so too have the number of pre-service students that are required to participate in internships. On September 23rd, 2009, the department, in conjunction with the ODU Career Management Center and the MPA Association, held a career workshop with a focus on networking. The department also released its 2009-2010 career guide for MPA students. The guide has about 100 post-graduation fellowships and in-school internships. It also provides information about search pages and job sites. The Career Guide and the Internship Guidelines are posted on the Career/Internships website on the USPA homepage. If you are an alumnus interested in hosting an intern, or if you are a student looking to do an internship, please contact Dr. Alkadry.

Continued on Page 2
Hello again to MPA students and Alumni! It is my pleasure to welcome a large group of new students this Fall to our accredited MPA program at Old Dominion University. One of our new MPA students, Jason Fuller, is actually playing for the ODU football team this Fall – go Monarchs!

Registration for the Spring semester 2010 will begin on November 16th. Please register early for Spring courses to ensure that you get the courses you want to take. The updated Two Year Core Course Matrix also appears in this Newsletter so plan your courses based on your preferred location. In terms of advising, Dr. Alkadry and I are splitting the advising duties for MPA students. If you are required to complete an internship as part of your course of study, Dr. Alkadry will serve as your advisor for both your program of study and your internship. All other MPA students should contact me for advising. If you are in doubt about whether you are required to complete an internship, please contact Meg Jones, our Program Manager by email (mmjones@odu.edu) and she will let you know. Appointments with me or Dr. Alkadry can be scheduled by calling the USPA office at 683-3961.

As you read through the newsletter you will be amazed at the department wide efforts toward improving and enhancing our already distinguished programs. Or, if you are in the office by all means please stop by and say hello. Lastly, if you have any suggestions or comments please feel free to send me an email (jlombard@odu.edu) or telephone 683-4809.
During the summer, I interned with the Government Accountability Office (GAO) at the Norfolk Field Office. As the investigative arm of Congress, GAO evaluates the federal government’s performance in different areas and offers recommendations for improvement. This is an invaluable service to citizens, and having the opportunity to see and be a part of that process was a great educational experience. Because of its proximity to the military bases, the Norfolk Field Office deals primarily with issues that involve the Department of Defense (DOD). During my time there I had the opportunity to work with a team of GAO employees on a congressional mandate that dealt with DOD’s weapons and equipment stock. We conducted interviews with several military personnel and wrote reports on our findings. We traveled to Washington, DC several times to meet our project goals.

The GAO internship is a wonderful experience! Interns are given the chance to work on important projects, are paid well, have the opportunity to travel, and are treated professionally. I would definitely recommend the internship to anyone who is interested in public administration and thinking about working in the public sector.

### MPA Core Course Matrix

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PAUP PROGRAM UPDATES
Dr. John. C. Morris, Program Director

Well, another busy semester is off and running! I am excited that both of our most recent faculty hires, Drs. Alkadry and Yusuf, are each teaching courses in our Ph.D. program. Both came to ODU in part because of our Ph.D. program, and because of the opportunities to work with Ph.D. students. I am pleased we have been able to schedule both into our course rotation.

We also have a significant number of new Ph.D. students in the program this fall, including Sebawit Bishu, Rob Kenter, Matt Loesch, Jenise Leaser, and Allyzabethe Ramsey. In addition, two more students, Steve Wright and Nasser Aldossari, have deferred admission until the Spring semester. Please be sure to welcome these new folks to the program when you meet them.

This semester promises to be particularly exciting in the Ph.D. program, as we are beginning our process to revise our program curriculum. As you may know, the program currently in place was designed some years ago, and while we think it is working well, there are elements we think need to be improved upon. I am very pleased with the feedback and ideas received in the two meetings held with Ph.D. students earlier this semester, and you can be sure that several of those ideas will be incorporated into the proposal that goes to the faculty. If all goes according to schedule, we hope the new curriculum will be in place for the Fall 2010 semester.

For those of you that might be concerned, please note that you will not be required to adopt any new curriculum. Under university rules, you have the right to graduate under the catalog in place at the time of your matriculation. All of you will have the option to choose to switch to the updated curriculum, but no one will be required to change. As the updated curriculum is finalized and advertised, I will meet with each of you as part of the advising process to help you decide which curriculum makes the most sense in your case.

On another front, the department is in the process of creating an undergraduate minor in Public Service. While the concept of the minor is interdisciplinary in nature and will include existing courses from other departments across campus, we are proposing four courses to be taught in USPA. Our goal is to secure several Graduate Teaching Assistantships to provide our Ph.D. students with the opportunity to gain valuable teaching experience. While the state budget outlook is bleak in the near term, we hope that these resources eventually will be made available. As opportunities for these (or other) teaching resources become available, I will be sending out emails with the pertinent details.

Finally, the department, dean, and provost have awarded me with a faculty sabbatical for the Spring 2010 semester. Although I will not be quite as available as I normally am, I will still be involved with comprehensive exams, registration, and the other administrative duties of a GPD. If you need to get in touch with me, please do not hesitate to do so! Have a safe and productive semester!
Did you know that half of the MPA students who we admitted in 2009 were required to do an internship? The internship experience provides a great opportunity for students who do not have enough work experience. It also provides an opportunity for experienced public servants who are seeking a career change. The internship includes a minimum of 300 hours of approved work experience, a series of reports, and a reflection. The intern and his or her supervisor evaluate the experience.

In 2009, the MPA program is grateful to the Commonwealth of Virginia Legislature, Tidewater Community College, United States joint Forces Command, Government Accountability Office (3 Students), Office of Civilian Human Resources/Navy, the Virginia Beach Police Department, ODU Purchasing Department, the City of Norfolk, and the ODU Human Resources Division.

In 2010, we anticipate a demand for about 30 internships. If you are a student who is considering an internship or who is required to do one, please contact the internship coordinator, Dr. Mohamad Alkadry at malkadry@odu.edu, as soon as possible. If you are alumnus who is looking for an intern, contact Dr. Alkadry and he will direct you to many excellent and promising MPA students.

**WELCOME DR. DAVID CHAPMAN**

Some of you have seen him over the last few years as a PhD student, an adjunct instructor, or a research associate for CREED and now... for the 2009-2010 Academic Year, David Chapman is a Visiting Assistant Professor in the department. The department is in the process of recruiting a full-time, tenure-track faculty member and David was happy to work for USPA while the search is underway.

David has a long background in public service with several years each in local and state government and then almost a quarter of a century in the federal government in information systems as both a manager and a computer specialist. In the early 2000’s (while still working full time), David caught the academic bug, got his Masters in the Management of Information Systems from the University of Virginia and then entered our department’s PhD program in 2002.

This Fall, he is teaching Administrative Theory I, Digital Government, and Research Methods (at the Peninsula Center, the Tri-cities Center, and Constant Hall, respectively). In the Spring, he will teach Administrative Theory I and Digital Government.

In his spare time, David attempts to learn and play the classical guitar (and practices 30 to 60 minutes/day) and referees rugby.
Greetings alumni, new, and returning students of the Department of Urban Studies and Public Administration! As a new semester is unfolding, the Master of Public Administration Association has been re-created, with the hope that it will be successful long after I, and each of you, all graduate. My hope for the MPAA is that it will enhance the MPA program as well as the department for students, faculty, staff, and alumni by offering both academic and social events throughout each school year for many years to come.

The Fall 2009 Career Fair was a success! This event highlighted the Department’s 2009 Career Guide, full of Career and Internship Opportunities for both Pre-Service and In-Service Students; a big thank you to Dr. Alkadry and Graduate Assistants Kylie Lee and Samra Safdar!

**Highlights of the Fall 2009 Semester:**

ASPA Wine and Cheese Networking Event at the Chrysler Museum of Art; October 16th, 6-9 p.m.

MPAA Fall Gathering: We will have an election of the officers for the 2009-2010 year, as well as good food and fun times! Time and date will be determined and information will be sent by e-mail to MPAA members!

Membership rates for current students and alumni is just $20.00; this grants you access to all MPAA events and a free t-shirt.

I encourage each of you to join the ODU MPAA as well as the Hampton Roads Chapter of ASPA. Membership in both organizations will enrich your time in the MPA program for both pre-service and in-service students, as well as being a “resume booster.”

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**PAUPers**

By Adale Martin

The PAUPers PhD group has kicked off the fall semester with engaging events for new and returning students. From a BBQ party to the Scholarly Café, PAUPers has provided opportunities for academic and social networking and participation in refining the PhD curriculum, and has encouraged public service. Members are particularly happy with the introduction of the Scholarly Café as a fresh way for students to facilitate open discussion that bridges public administration theory to current events and practice; share their research and ideas with peers; and to build confidence in scholarly discourse that will help to prepare students for the comprehensive exam. The PAUPers group meets monthly in the ODU USPA library. Get informed about upcoming public service events, a Port of Virginia tour, and calls for papers at the PAUPers website: www.orgs.odu.edu/paupers.
Save The Date!
January 28, 2010

Meyera Oberndorf, former mayor of Virginia Beach will present at the Landmark Executive-in-Residence speaker series.

Please RSVP by calling 683-6548.

Meyera Oberndorf is the former mayor of Virginia Beach, Va. Elected to the City Council in 1976, she was the first woman ever elected to public office in Virginia Beach. In 1988, she again made history when she was the first woman elected mayor in the city’s first direct election for that office. She held that office for 20 years.

As mayor, Oberndorf was recognized nationwide. She served on the executive committee of the U.S. Conference of Mayors and was past president of the Virginia Municipal League. She also served as vice chairwoman of the National League of Cities International Task Force and as past chairwoman of the Hampton Roads Mayors and Chairs and the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission.

Newsweek magazine selected Oberndorf as one of the nation’s 25 most dynamic mayors. She was chosen Newsmaker of the Year by the Virginia Press Women. In tribute to her long career of public service, the city’s central library was renamed the “Meyera E. Oberndorf Central Library.”

An Old Dominion alumna, Oberndorf earned a bachelor’s degree in elementary education. In 1998, she was presented with an honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters.
USPA T-SHIRTS AVAILABLE

Show your department spirit and purchase your USPA T-Shirt!
T-Shirts are available for purchase for $8.00.

Please send a check made payable to ODU - USPA to
ODU - USPA Department
Attention: M. Jones
2084 Constant Hall
Norfolk, VA 23529

Don’t forget to include the size shirt you would like (S, M, L, XL, XXL).

E.V. Williams Center for Real Estate and Economic Development
Kyllie Brinkley, CREED Program Manager

Fall brings exciting new opportunities for Old Dominion University real estate and finance students to meet with leading industry leaders and to learn first hand about industry trends and performance. The E.V. Williams Center for Real Estate and Economic Development (CREED), with the support of its advisory board, Industry Professional Advisors to the Center (IPAC), is delighted to sponsor several programs during the 2009 - 2010 academic year to link the College of Business and Public Administration's real estate student community with the real estate and development industry here in Hampton Roads.

On Wednesday, October 28, CREED will sponsor a networking reception, Building Connections in Real Estate, on the University campus bringing together real estate and finance students and members of IPAC to discuss the state of the Industry and to jump start students' initiatives to competitively position themselves for future internship and employment opportunities.

IPAC member, Deborah Stearns, Senior Vice President, Office, General Commercial Sales and Leasing, Harvey Lindsay Commercial Real Estate, will visit Constant Hall on Thursday, October 29, to meet with CBPA students to discuss current trends in commercial real estate and the forecast for the year ahead.

In August, CREED was delighted to welcome to campus premiere home builder Jeff Ainslie, President, Sales, Operations, and Finance, Ainslie Group, and IPAC member, to participate as a panelist at the Career Management Center's student employment forum.

Looking ahead, please mark your calendars for the 2010 Hampton Roads Real Estate Market Review and Forecast to be held on Wednesday, March 10, at the Ted C. Constant Convocation Center, in Norfolk, Virginia. CREED is pleased to announce the addition of Christine Bullard, MPA Candidate and Graduate Assistant to the Center. Christine is assisting in research analysis and presentations to be developed in conjunction with the 2010 Market Review event.
November 19

Alternative Energy Investment
Fueling Economic Development in Hampton Roads

George M. Hagerman, Jr.
Director of Research
Virginia Coastal Energy Research Consortium
Senior Research Associate
Virginia Tech Advanced Research Institute

Research Areas: Renewable Energy, Ocean Engineering, Energy Education

SAVE THE DATES

October 16
Wine Tasting & Internship Connections Event (TBD)

November 19
Alternative Energy Fueling Economic Development in Hampton Roads, Program Luncheon*

January 21
Program Dinner on the Peninsula (TBD)

February 19
Membership Mixer in Chesapeake

March 18
Annual Symposium-The Public Sector's Role in the Private Sector*

May 6
Public Service Awards & Scholarship Luncheon at ODU Constant Center

* 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM; The Holiday Inn Executive Center, 5655 Greenwich Road, Virginia Beach
Old Dominion University is an independent, state assisted university. Founded in 1930, the University has grown to educate more than 18,500 students. The Department of Urban Studies and Public Administration is housed in the College of Business and Public Administration. The College of Business and Public Administration is one of 315 schools in the United States and Canada accredited at both the undergraduate and graduate levels by the American Assembly of Collegiate Schools of Business.

The Department of Urban Studies and Public Administration offers the Master of Public Administration and a Ph.D. in Public Administration and Urban Policy. The MPA program is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration, the national certifying organization for public administration programs.

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**Quick Reference Campus Phone Numbers**

**Main Campus Numbers**

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<td>Office of Financial Aid</td>
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<td>Office of Graduate Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Office of Registrar</td>
<td>(757) 683-4425</td>
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<td>Tri-Cities Center</td>
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