



Department of Urban Studies & Public Administration

Spring 2011 Newsletter

Message from the Department Chair

Dr. John Lombard

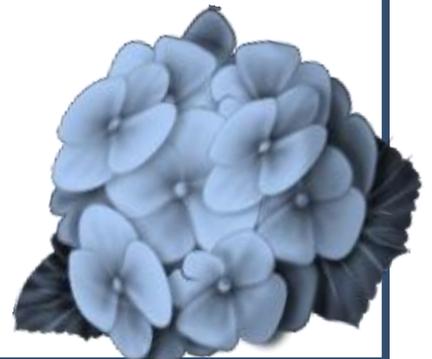


Greetings! I am pleased to welcome you to the Spring 2011 semester. Many exciting things are happening this semester and I encourage you to read this newsletter thoroughly so that you can join us in the events and activities planned this semester.

I am also pleased to welcome our new faculty member to the department, Dr. Stephen Gordon. He will manage the Graduate Certificate Program in Public Procurement and will teach beginning this fall.

The undergraduate minor program in public service continues to be a success. Classes offered this semester include: PAS 300 Foundations of Public Service, PAS 301 Accountability Governance Ethics, PAS 395 Leadership in Public Service and PAS 410 Public & Nonprofit Organizations. The public service minor complements any area of major study for undergraduate students. Student profiles in the public service minor can be viewed in this newsletter.

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).



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PhD Program Director Message

Dr. John Morris

This has been an eventful year so far in the PhD program. In addition to one of our largest-ever incoming classes beginning this fall, we also held the department's inaugural Public Service Week in early November. Among others, the featured events included a Roundtable on Women in Public Service, a Keynote Address by Robert O'Neill (Executive Director of ICMA), and a Dean's research Seminar led by Dr. James Perry, Distinguished Professor at Indiana University. The PAUPers played an important role in the planning and execution of the events that week, and your work is much appreciated. We have gotten a lot of very favorable attention from the Dean, the Provost, and the President, as well as the greater University and Hampton Roads communities. We have already begun the planning for Public Service week 2011; if you'd like to volunteer to help, please let me know!

This has been a great year in terms of PhD student research. So far this year we have had students present papers at SECOPA, ARNOVA, the Southern Political Science Association, and ABFM. In addition, we have students scheduled to present at ASPA, the Midwest Political Science Association, the Hampton Roads ASPA Symposium, and PAT/Net this spring. This is a remarkable amount of participation, and it speaks well of both our students and our department. If you are interested in presenting a paper at a conference, watch for email announcements containing the Calls for Papers, and/or talk to your faculty about opportunities.

Beginning with Spring registration in April, we will fully implement our new advising system for pre-dissertation students. By the end of March, each student should have identified two faculty members to serve as the student's pre-dissertation advisory committee. Students should plan to meet with their committee prior to the registration period to determine appropriate courses for summer and/or fall. Please remember to see me and complete the committee assignment form so we have a record of the committees. This policy applies to all students admitted in Fall 2010, and all other students who have opted to adopt the March 2010 Handbook. Please see the Handbook (available on the department's website) for further details.

I hope all of you have a very productive Spring and Summer!

College Ranks 100 In Graduate Programs

U.S. News analyzes approximately more than 1,200 graduate programs each year when ranking schools in education. This year, Old Dominion University's College of Business and Public Administration was ranked 100 in public affairs education! Congratulations to the College Faculty and Staff for their hard work and dedication to becoming one of the best programs in the country!! See it online [here](#).



Graduate Program Director Message

Dr. William Leavitt

Greetings to all MPA students and alumni! I hope the semester has been a productive one for you so far!

As I noted in the Fall Newsletter, we are continuing to provide advising to all MPA students. Drs. Alkadry, Mengistu, Morris and Yusuf are advising pre-service students who require internships and I continue to advise in-service students who do not require internships. Registration for the Summer and Fall semesters begins April 16th; if you haven't received advising within the past academic year please plan on doing so soon. If you do not receive advising you may find that there is an Advisor Hold which will prevent you from registering for classes. Advising can be done in person or over the phone so please call our office at 683-3961 to schedule your appointment with me if you are an in-service student.

CONGRATULATIONS to Brittni McCrimmon who is the MPA recipient of The Wolfgang Pindur Endowed Scholarship in Applied Research.

Also, I would like to recognize the 2011 Pi Alpha Alpha Honor Society Inductees: Fred Crayton, Luisa Diaz-Kope, Arlana Fautleroy, Janis Miller, Rhonda Myers, Lynn Noel, Amy Rhodes and Laura Smith.

Enjoy the rest of the semester. Best wishes to our Spring 2011 Graduates!

USPA PhD Candidate Presents at VCGS

The USPA Department's own PhD candidate, Michael Brown (second from right), was selected along with seven other ODU students out of 17 applicants to present at the Sixth Annual Virginia Council of Graduate Schools (VCGS), hosted at the Library of Virginia in Richmond. His presentation was titled "Social Networking and Individual Perception: Examining Predictors of Participation."

Attendees included legislators, educators, and business leaders throughout Virginia. The goal of the forum was to show Virginia policy-makers and administrators the value of graduate education. The idea is that they will recall this value when making decisions about funding. The forum also included a series of ten short videos that highlight the value of graduate student research; it is also a great networking opportunity for graduate students.



PAUPERS Place

The PAUPers PhD student association continues to provide social events and scholarly fellowship for the public administration students. The monthly Scholarly Café meetings provide an informal setting for students to engage in a lively discussion about various topics, share current research and ideas, as well as, build confidence in scholarly discourse. At the next meeting we will debate the public vs. private sector correlation; “are public officials overselling privatization ideals?” Also, the comprehensive exam preparation study group will resume meetings this Saturday, February 19. All PhD students are welcome to attend.

Submit your nominations! PAUPers is currently accepting nominations for the offices of President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer for the 2011-12 academic year.

Most importantly, we want to extend a special thanks to our Advisor, Dr. John Morris for your continued support and guidance. Thanks to our 2010-11 officers for volunteering your time and creativity over the past school year.

Stay informed about upcoming events, meetings, and calls for papers at the PAUPers website: www.orgs.odu.edu/paupers.

Meet the Adjunct

Celeste Murphy Greene, Ph.D.

In January 2005 I started teaching as an Adjunct Faculty member in the Public Administration Program at ODU. I came to ODU from San Diego State University, where I taught as an Assistant Professor of Public Administration for five and a half years. During the past six years I have taught nine different courses at all three ODU campuses including: Environmental Justice, Research Methods, Public Policy Analysis, Digital Government, Environmental Policy and Planning, Organizational Behavior, Environmental Policy and Planning and Intergovernmental Relations. This summer I will be teaching Environmental Justice at the Tri City Center Campus. Aside from teaching at ODU, I work as Program Coordinator and Adjunct Professor for the University of Virginia.

My research focuses mainly on environmental and quality of life issues. Recently, I had a book chapter published titled “Environmental Justice and Farm Workers” in the book *Speaking Green With a Southern Accent Exceptionalism and Environmental Innovation in the South*.

Currently, I serve as a Council Member for the Hampton Roads Chapter of the American Society for Public Administration. Aside from work, my husband and I have two sons, six and four years old. In my spare time, I enjoy scuba diving, tennis, swimming and gardening.



MPA's @ Work

Greetings! I am a 2010 graduate of the outstanding Master of Public Administration Program at ODU. Upon graduating I was very much open to job opportunities within local, state, and federal government. Through my in depth understanding of the Public Sector and knowledge of HR principles gained through the MPA program, I was able to convince my now employer that I was the most qualified candidate for the position based on my education and ability to produce exceptional work. I started my new position in December of 2010. I am responsible for posting announcements and vacancies, training and consulting with other federal agencies' internal HR departments, applying veterans' preference to those eligible, among other things. I am still very new in my position and receive additional responsibilities as time passes. I am forever grateful for the experience and the knowledge gained through the MPA program. I encourage all MPA's desiring to work in the federal government to keep applying and not get discouraged; it takes a while but is well worth the wait!

Kylie Lee, MPA
HR Specialist
US Office of Personnel Management

Internship Corner

Dr. Mohamad Alkadry

On December 27, 2010, President Obama signed an executive order entitled "Recruiting and Hiring Students and Recent Graduates." The President's Order states, "To compete effectively for students and recent graduates, the Federal Government must improve its recruiting efforts; offer clear paths to Federal internships for students from high school through post-graduate school; offer clear paths to civil service careers for recent graduates; and provide meaningful training, mentoring, and career-development opportunities." Further, exposing students and recent graduates to Federal jobs through internships and similar programs attracts them to careers in the Federal Government and enables agency employers to evaluate them on the job to determine whether they are likely to have successful careers in Government.

This Executive Order was a welcome focus from the President and his administration on internships as a path into the federal government. The National Association of Schools of Public Administration and Affairs (NASPAA) participated in the deliberation that preceded this Order. NASPAA's member schools, including your own Department, provided much of the data to support NASPAA's strong argument for more graduate level internships.

The news from the White House, were met with unfortunate news from several federal agencies that they were either suspending or freezing their internship programs due to federal budget uncertainty. I am keeping a close eye on what is going on at the federal scene and will keep you informed of any new developments.

In our Master of Public Administration Program, more than sixty current MPA students are 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 internship may well be the best thing that you will do to have a better career future.

In 2010-2011, we anticipate a demand for about 40 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. I have already started to search for internships for those who have submitted a request for an internship for the summer 2011 semester. Finding an internship is ultimately the responsibility of the student. However, your faculty members, especially the internship coordinator, are important resources for you to get the right internship.

If you are looking for an intern, please contact Dr. Alkadry and he will direct you to many excellent and promising MPA students.

Livable Future: Local Solutions

In the summer of 2010, WHRO, through its Center for Regional Citizenship, joined ten PBS partner stations to support the BLUEPRINT AMERICA's "Livable Future: Local Solutions" project, reporting on local, state and federal efforts to use transportation and transportation policy to create more equitable, convenient, greener, cleaner and healthier communities.

In 2008, WNET launched BLUEPRINT AMERICA (<http://www.pbs.org/wnet/blueprintamerica/>), a unique and major national broadcast initiative focusing on the nation's decaying, neglected and under-funded infrastructure. Now more than ever, it is crucial to understand how decisions about money spent on infrastructure can affect our ways of life, our economic growth and energy security, and our ability to deal with climate change.



The Hampton Roads Chapter of ASPA

Cordially invites you to our 2010 Symposium:
"Public Service in 2011
& Beyond: Issues & Challenges"

Friday - March 25, 2010
Webb Center, Old Dominion University
Norfolk, Virginia 23529

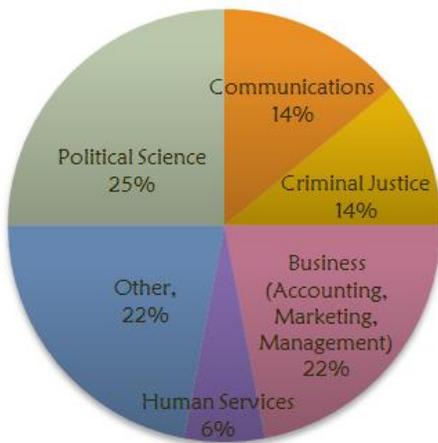
For more information and to register, visit www.aspahr.org



Summer 2011 Course Offering

Course: PAUP696/895: Transportation (Highway) Policy and Planning

This course is a seminar course that discusses key topics relevant to surface transportation policy and planning, and highways and roads in particular. The course provides a non-technical overview of important issues critical to transportation policy and planning at the current crossroads that emerges due to (1) aging of the infrastructure, (2) deliberations on the next federal transportation legislation, (3) devolution of transportation decision making to lower levels of government, (4) challenges in generating revenues and paying for transportation, and (5) changing citizen demands for transportation. The course will address the following topics: actors and their roles; public involvement in transportation planning; transportation and highway finance (fuel taxes, tolls and user charges, debt financing); innovative finance and the future of highway finance; public-private partnerships; and planning and environmental issues.



Public Service Minor Student Profiles

USPA introduced the undergraduate Public Service Minor in Summer 2010. By February 2011, 34 students declared the minor, and 10 students are graduating in May 2011 with a minor in Public Service.

62% of public service minor students perform community or volunteer service regularly
 They average 14 hours of community or volunteer service a month
 59% are actively involved with on-campus student organizations
 19% have some form of military affiliation

MPA Course Matrix

Course & Title	Spring 2011	Fall 2011	Spring 2012	Fall 2012
PADM 651	Peninsula	VBHEC	Norfolk	Peninsula
PADM 652	VBHEC	Norfolk	Peninsula	VBHEC
PADM 671	Norfolk	Peninsula	VBHEC	Norfolk
PADM 701	Peninsula	VBHEC	Norfolk	Peninsula
PADM 733	Peninsula	Norfolk	VBHEC	Peninsula
PADM 753	Norfolk	VBHEC	Peninsula	Norfolk
PADM 746	VBHEC	Peninsula	Norfolk	VBHEC

