

## **Message from the MPA Director**

Dear Prospective MPA student:

Thank you for your interest in the WKU, Master of Public Administration degree program. The NASPAA accredited MPA program prepares graduate students from diverse backgrounds to be productive leaders and managers in the public service by sharing knowledge, encouraging excellence in research and practice, and fostering an environment of professionalism within the communities we serve.

We have a 40 year history of providing quality education and practical experience to our students through community partnerships with organizations such as Kentucky's area development districts, the Legislative Research Commission, and the Center for Local Governments. Graduates go on to serve in a variety of local, state, federal, and nonprofit organizations, and many have successfully pursued doctoral degrees upon graduation from the MPA program. Many graduates of the MPA program are willing to serve as mentors to new students. We have an active Advisory Committee comprised of alumni and area employers who take part in many aspects of the governance of the MPA program.

The MPA faculty are dedicated to helping all students meet their educational and career goals. Classes are offered in the evening to meet the demands of busy and productive graduate students, many of whom are working professionals. We enroll about 60 MPA students per semester, but we are not so big that we don't know who each student is and what his or her specific needs and interests are. Classes are kept small so that students can develop one-on-one relationships with faculty and classmates. Courses are offered via interactive television at Owensboro, Fort Knox, Elizabethtown, Glasgow and Bowling Green.

We welcome questions about the program and the requirements for admission into the MPA program, and would be happy to forward application materials to you. If you have specific questions, please contact me via telephone or by email. If you are interested in applying, please visit the Office of Graduate Studies website at

http://www.wku.edu/graduate/prospective\_students/admission/degree\_instructions.php. I would also welcome the opportunity to visit with you in person at a date and time of your convenience. I can be contacted at <a href="mailto:victoria.gordon@wku.edu">victoria.gordon@wku.edu</a> or at 270-745-6192.

Sincerely,

Associate Professor Director, MPA Program

Victoria Gordon