



MPA Newsletter

Summer 2015

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Photos on pages 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6 are courtesy of Gary Gordon.

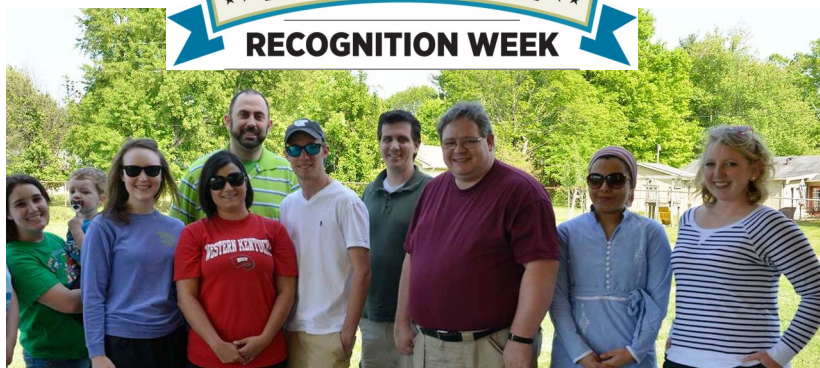
Celebrating Public Service Recognition Week

On May 3, 2015, faculty, students, alumni and friends of the WKU MPA program gathered at the "Bark" Park in Bowling Green to celebrate Public Service Recognition Week. In addition to the annual picnic, the MPA program and the Metro Louisville chapter of ASPA joined together to honor

Rodney Kirtley, Executive Director of BRADD, as the Distinguished Public Servant for 2015. Rodney was presented with a plaque at the March meeting of the MPA advisory committee.



Pictured below are some of the current and incoming MPA students and faculty members that were in attendance at the picnic.



RETURNING AND INCOMING GRADUATE ASSISTANTS

JOANNA BAILEY

ASHLEIGH BARKER

LAURA BRIGMAN

DAJANA CROCKETT

KENNEDY PRATHER

SIMONE SMITH



News from Fort Knox/Elizabethtown Campus

Submitted by Nicole Todd—MPA Student

On April 29th Dr. Gordon and Dr. Boden joined the Fort Knox Campus personnel, and Dr. Evelyn Ellis, Regional Chancellor, to set up a recruiting booth at the United States Human Resource Command (HRC) located at Fort Knox. While at the HRC Building, the team worked on handing out information and answering questions about the WKU MPA Program to employees and individuals passing by the booth. The team also worked on surveying the levels of interest in offering classes within the HRC building during the day or on a week-end option in the future. The HRC is also conducting a survey of employees and will share information collected.

Exciting news for the Elizabethtown and Fort Knox Campus, a Student Body Association is currently in the works of being formed and established. In an interview with Anthony Paganelli he shared, "We are very excited to begin the process for a student organization at the WKU Elizabethtown/Ft. Knox Campus. The students have worked diligently to create an organization to represent the regional campus and provide new activities for the students. If approved by the WKU Student Government Association in Bowling Green, the first WKU Elizabethtown/Ft. Knox Student Body Association will be established. The student body association has been created to specifically meet the needs of our regional campus. The organization will make a significant impact on the campus in giving regional students a more traditional college experience. The interim president is thrilled to be able to offer the students the opportunity to represent our campus and to organize student events throughout the upcoming year. Currently, the Student Body Association is planning new events, working with faculty and staff for guidance, and creating a foundation for future student council officers." More information will become available as further developments are accomplished. For more information or

questions, please contact:

Anthony Paganelli, Librarian

Email: anthony.paganelli@wku.edu Office Tel: 270.706.8596

2015 Alumni Survey Results Available

The Alumni Survey was sent to 43 **recent** MPA grads on April 6th, with a 28% response rate. The survey was sent to gather info on 1) the mission statement; 2) the learning outcomes; 3) where our alum are employed; and 4) the satisfaction levels of our former students. 100% of respondents think the MPA Mission Statement reflects the MPA program as each experienced it. 60% of the respondents stated that they believed the MPA program prepared them to 1) lead and manage in public

governance; 2) participate in and contribute to the policy process; and 70% of the respondents stated that they believed the MPA program prepared them to 1) analyze, synthesize, think critically, solve problems and make decisions; 2) articulate and apply a public service perspective; 3) communicate and interact productively with a diverse and changing workforce and citizenry.

73% of respondents were very satisfied with the education they received in the MPA program. An additional 27% were satisfied. 100% would recommend the program to a colleague or friend. Complete survey results will be available on the WKU MPA program website shortly. Thank you to all that returned the survey.

WKU MPA Program Mission Statement

The MPA program prepares graduate students from diverse backgrounds to be productive leaders and managers in public service by sharing knowledge, encouraging excellence in research and practice, and fostering an environment of professionalism within the communities we serve.

Faculty Notes

Along with Dr. Jeff Osgood (MPA graduate), Dr. Gordon and Dr. Boden are writing a book on participatory budgeting. The book will be published by Taylor and Francis, CRC Press. Watch for further announcements for publication date in summer of 2016.

WATCH FOR UPCOMING ISSUE OF JPAE. Dr. Shannon Vaughan and Dr. Shelly Arsneault (former faculty member at WKU) served as co-editors of a symposium focusing on nonprofits for the Journal of Public Affairs Education.



MPA Students Travel to North Carolina

MPA students from the UAE, along with MPA student Richard Green, and faculty member Shannon Vaughan, traveled to North Carolina in May 2015 to visit with local government officials including law enforcement officers and members of the judiciary. Many cities were visited in North Carolina and informative programs were presented at each location. Pictured below is the group with representatives from Winston-Salem.



Alumni News

Dr. Jeremy Phillips, MPA alum, pictured below, and faculty member of West Chester University, presented his research at the ASPA conference in Chicago, Illinois in March 2015.



Dr. Jeff Osgood, Jr., West Chester University, will be promoted to full professor effective August 1, 2015.

Recent MPA grad, Drew Martin, has been appointed President of Junior Achievement of South Central Kentucky in Bowling Green, KY.

Lindsey Gilmore has accepted the position of Assistant Director of Residence Life at Bellarmine University in Louisville. WKU will miss you. Congrats to all!

RECENT INTERNSHIP PLACEMENTS

Light of Chance

City of Frisco, TX

Allison Grimes Political Campaign

Barren River Area Development District

Barren River District Health Department

WKU Legal Services

Celebrating public service! Pictured below are Kelsey Luttrell and her son (left) and Elizabeth Griffith (right).



The MPA Program would like to hear from you. Please email Dr. Gordon and tell her your news— both personal and professional.



Mark Your Calendars!

Saturday, July 25, 2015

Comp Exam in Bowling Green!

September 30-Oct 3rd —SECOPA annual conference in Charleston, South Carolina.

October 14-16—NASPAA annual conference in Brooklyn, NY.

Spring 2016—NASPAA site visit.

Fall 2014 and Spring 2015 Graduates

Vicki Ellis
Erin Hager
Pavadee Kaew-
chiengtai
Drew Martin
Nicole Nacey
Ploypraewa Supak-
kawanich

Cathy Thomas-
Pickrell
Nick Conder
Jason Owen
Ayaz Sadal
Abdul Samad*
Jason Stewart
Susan Taylor*

Susan Taylor was awarded the Outstanding MPA Student award for 2015. Abdul Samad received an award for best paper.



MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM

1906 College Heights Blvd
Bowling Green, KY 42101

Phone: 270-745-6192

Fax: 270-745-2945

E-mail:

victoria.gordon@wku.edu