



# MPA Newsletter

Summer 2014

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## Truly An International Reach...

On April 10th, 2014, DELO and the Department of Political Science, MPA Program hosted a "welcome dinner" to bring together local law enforcement officers from the WKU Police department, the City of Bowling Green Police department and new students from the United Arab Emirates. Six

students who work in law enforcement in the UAE will be joining the MPA



program this summer. Both Chief Bob Deane of the WKU Police department and Chief Doug Hawkins of

the City of Bowling Green Police department have graciously agreed to partner with the MPA program to enrich the learning experience of these students. As part of their training and education, these students will work closely with local law enforcement personnel over the next two years.



### **Senator-Student Government Association: MPA Student Abdul Samad**

I had the honor to participate in the recent spring 2014 WKU Student Government Association's elections. I was asked by many international students to take part in the election process and represent the voice of all the International students in the SGA. I was the only international student who took part in the election process. I re-

ceived an overwhelming response from the students, and was able to secure the seat of a Senator. I am thankful to all my American and International friends and colleagues for their support. I am grateful to my MPA department, my Advisor and professors who supported and encouraged me to take part in different activities at WKU.



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### **International Student Ambassador: MPA Student Abdul Samad**

The office of the International Enrollment management invited International students to apply for the new International Student Ambassador Program. The new International Student Ambassador Program intends to welcome and integrate WKU's prospective and enrolled international students. The selection process was very competitive; many international students applied for the position and after carefully evaluating and interviewing all the applicants, the International Enrollment management office selected seven International Student Ambassadors. As an International Ambassador, I will receive various benefits, including, scholarships, improve cross-cultural communication skills, and valuable administrative experience in an office setting.

On Monday April 14, 2014, I was invited to attend the dinner and award ceremony hosted by the International Enrollment Management office in the WKU Augenstein Alumni Center. It was a great opportunity to meet the President of WKU Dr. Gary Ransdell and receive the Scholarship award.

## MPA Student —Major Stephen Trotter Receives Award at PCAL Banquet



*MPA Graduate, Shima Alessa, carries the flag of her country, Saudia Arabia, at the 2014 Graduation Ceremony.*

## Faculty Notes

Congrats to Dr. Scott Lasley on his promotion to full professor effective fall 2014! Enjoy your accomplishment!

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Dr. Gordon served as co-editor for *Public Voices* journal issue published in April 2014. The symposium focused on Women in Public Service. Dr. Shannon Vaughan contributed to the symposium by reviewing book entitled: Women, Wealth and Giving: The Virtuous

Legacy of the Boom Generation.

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Dr. Gordon was awarded a research stipend by The IBM Center for the Business of Government for her research project on the use of social media in the participatory budgeting process. Dr. Gordon will spend part of her summer exploring this topic in Chicago, Boston, New York and St. Louis.

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## Students Celebrate Public Service at the Annual MPA Cookout

MPA students and faculty gathered at Kereiakes Park on Sunday April 27th for the second annual MPA Cookout. There was good food, great company, and a little rain. Students also celebrated Public Service Recognition Week by stating why they love public service! We look forward to seeing everyone again next year!



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## Graduate Assistants Appointed for Academic Year 2014/2015

Nick Conder                      Nate Dalrymple                      Elizabeth Griffith

Abdul Samad                      Richard Green

## Recent Internship Placements

Susan Taylor is serving at the Barren River Health Department.

Simone Smith and Abdul Samad are serving at the BRADD.

Nick Conder is serving his internship out on the campaign trail.



## Faculty News

Dr. Victoria Gordon was one of ten women honored at this year's "Hats Off to Women" luncheon. The WKU Office for Institutional Diversity and Inclusion sponsored the luncheon and served as host for the 4<sup>th</sup> annual event held at the Faculty House on March 28, 2014. Dr. Gordon was nominated for this "Unsung Heroine" award by Amber Scott, staff member in Human Resources and a graduate of the MPA program.

March is Women's History Month and a time to celebrate the achievement of women both nationally and locally. This WKU event focuses on the accomplishments of women at WKU and within the community. The keynote speaker for this event was MPA alum Michele Tolbert who spoke about the importance of women and the many "hats" they wear in their personal and professional lives. Michele is the Director of Human Resources for the Warren County Board of Education and also serves as an adjunct in the MPA program, Political Science department.

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## Alumni News

Dr. Jeff Osgood was promoted to the rank of associate professor and achieved tenure at West Chester University in Pennsylvania effective fall 2014. Congrats!!

Ashley Lawrence-Simpson has been hired as Assistant Director of the Office of Budget and Research for the City of Savannah, GA. Ashley has served at the BRADD as Public Administration Specialist for several years. We will miss you!



Celebrating 40 years of public service!



## Mark Your Calendars and Save the Dates!

**Saturday, July 26, 2014** Comp Exam in Bowling Green!

**Saturday, August 23, 2014** New and Returning Student Orientation at WKU —Time and location to be announced.

**September 17-20, 2014** SECOPA conference in Atlanta, GA.

**November 4-6, 2014** NASPAA conference in Albuquerque, NM.

**November 7-9, 2014 WKU HOMECOMING WEEKEND**  
MPA student and alumni events  
MPA program will celebrate 40th anniversary!!!  
More info to follow.....

## List of MPA Graduates Spring 2014

## Shima Alessa

# Carissa Lovvorn

Scott Wolfe

# Charnise Gettridge

# Darrel Raville

**\*Note: Jackie and Diane received the MPA Spirit Makes the Master award for their contribution to dept activities over the past two years. Stephen won the Outstanding MPA Graduate award.**

## Becky Gibas

Jaclyn Stewart\*

Diane Kelley\*

Stephen Trotter\*

The MPA Program would like to hear from you. Please email Dr. Gordon and tell her your news— both personal and professional. If you are interested in helping to plan the MPA 40th anniversary celebration please contact her.



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