

Public SPAAce

A Newsletter for Friends of the School of Public Affairs & Administration

M.P.A. Graduate Runs for Congress

Mark Schauer's commitment to public service led him to pursue elected office, but his attention to policy specifics is what has helped him be

"I utilize my public policy skills honed by Western's excellent M.P.A. program each day in Lansing."

—Mark Schauer M.P.A. '86

effective at the local and state levels. The self-professed "policy wonk" has a reputation with colleagues and staff of asking the difficult questions about how each proposal impacts the people he represents and making sure he grasps all of the options available to him and his caucus before acting. Schauer's interest and ability to navigate complex legislative proposals was developed and sharpened by his involvement in Western Michigan University's Masters of Public Administration program.

"I utilize my public policy skills honed by Western's excellent M.P.A. program each day in Lansing," said Schauer. "Being able to draw on the experience I had with the program is an invaluable resource, whether we were grappling with an unprecedented state budget crisis or the

minutiae of a bill to help create jobs in my district."

As State Senate Democratic Leader, Schauer of Battle Creek is the only legislator from West Michigan holding the position of leading one of the four caucuses in Lansing. While he has represented the 19th district since 2002, his commitment to public service goes back to earlier elected and administrative roles. Prior to the Senate, Schauer served as a State Representative, Battle Creek City Commissioner, and the Executive Director of the Community Action Agency for South Central Michigan.

His ability to get the job done legislatively has resulted in a number of awards, including being recognized as the Michigan Agri-Business Association Agriculture Advocate, Habitat for Humanity's Public Official of the Year, and the Michigan Association of After School Programs Legislator of the Year.

Schauer's dedication to creating a positive change for his neighbors led to his announcement last August that he would pursue a seat in Congress from Michigan's 7th District. The race is already



considered to be one of the most hotly contested in Michigan and is being monitored by national observers as one of the best chances for Democrats to take back

a Republican-held district.

Defeating an incumbent Congressman is always an uphill battle, but Schauer is confident. "Though it helps, you don't need a master's degree to know that the policies coming out of Washington for the last several years have not benefited Michigan or our economy," said Schauer. "I'm ready to put what I've learned through WMU and as a legislator to fight for new policies that put Michigan jobs and middle-class families first."

We should note that SPAA graduates who have entered politics are involved in numerous political parties. They include Jerry Zandstra (Ph.D. '07) who ran for the U.S. Senate as a Republican, Nancy Quarles (Ph.D. '01) who served three terms as a Democrat in the Michigan House of Representatives, Cameron Brown (M.P.A. '80) who currently serves alongside Schauer as a republican in the Michigan Senate, and numerous local officials.

Message from the Director



Matthew S. Mingus
SPAA Director

The School of Public Affairs and Administration is making a difference one student at a time. Profiles in this issue of Public SPAAce include State Senator Mark Schauer, an M.P.A. graduate currently running for Congress; Mark Reece, a Ph.D. graduate who is training the Iraqi Police Service in Sadr City, Iraq, and Megan Russell, an M.P.A. student with a 4.00 GPA who has helped increase youth participation in her organization's programs by 50% in 18 months. Each of these is simply an example showing the power of our School's philosophy. Simply expressed, we are "developing Michigan's public serving organizations...one student at a time." Along the way we are also raising the level of discussion on key policy issues and hope to make this discussion more objective and more data driven.

To be honest we face continual challenges for resources within the university because of the professional nature of our mission and goals. While our doctoral program is Michigan's only Ph.D. program in public administration, it is not always viewed as "academic enough." To this end we are currently assessing the outcomes of this program by seeking direct feedback from all 98

doctoral graduates since Shyu-tu Lee in August, 1985. This survey will be in the mail about the same time as this issue of the Public SPAAce, and I would encourage all our graduates to respond. A good sense of how the doctoral program has and has not helped them over the years will help us maintain and continually improve this vital program.

In addition we're moving forward with the Center for Excellence and Research in Public Service (CERPS) and you can now contribute directly to the "CERPS Quasi Endowment" as I did just last month (cash, pledges, bequests, etc.). The development of a research and consulting center like CERPS is the key to taking SPAA's graduate programs to the next level because it will provide enhanced graduate student research opportunities and financial support as well as supporting faculty-student research efforts and hands-on consulting opportunities for students! I am actively working to have this project included on the priority list for WMU's upcoming capital campaign, but in the world of fund development the donors (individuals, foundations, and corporations) are far more important than the priority list.

Finally, please feel free to let me know about your ideas because our supporters have a unique view on what we have accomplished and where we should be heading. I can be reached at matthew.mingus@wmich.edu and (269) 387-8938.

- Save these Dates!

ASPA Regional Conference Coming to Grand Rapids

The West Michigan Chapter of the American Society of Public Administration is hosting the Region IV ASPA conference on **November 6-7, 2008**. The theme will be: Post Bush: A New Administration and the Future of Public Serving Organizations. Plan to attend!

Registration information will be available soon and a "call for papers" in the June issue of PA Times (see www.aspanet.org). The conference features a stand-up dinner at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum. Bruce Nanzer (Ph.D. '03) is currently the President of the West Michigan Chapter and can be reached at nanzerbru@aquinas.edu if you would like to help make this event a success. The conference will be in Grand Rapids at GVSU's Eberhard Center, making it easy for practitioners from throughout Michigan and students from all of Michigan's MPA programs to attend. The Capital Area Chapter is helping to coordinate this event as well.



In the News



Doctoral Grad In Sadr City

Mark Reece (Ph.D. '07), who is retired from the Michigan State Police, now finds himself training the Iraqi Police Service in Sadr City, Iraq. Dr. Reece works for a private contractor and is attached to the United Kingdom's Department for International Development, a sister organization to USAID. In particular he is working on leadership development of those who are at the Colonel rank and above. This work is to help meet Iraq Ministry of the Interior objectives related to standing police forces, and is therefore an essential step in developing true Iraqi self governance and ultimately allowing more foreign troops to withdraw from Iraq.

In today's world of public-private partnerships, this means he is working for Military Professional Resources Incorporated of

Alexandria, Virginia, to provide instructional assistance to the Iraqi government under the U.S. Department of Justice, International Criminal Investigation and Training Assistance Program (ICITAP). As you might expect, there is lots of "activity" around his current office and residence. On a daily basis he thanks the Ugandan forces in charge of security for their vigilance and for his safety.

SPAA Student Is Udall Scholar

Michael A. Gregor, a recent WMU graduate with a minor in non-profit leadership and an American Humanics Certification, just received the distinguished Morris K. Udall Scholarship. He is the founder of Kalamazoo Collective Housing, dedicated to sustainable, affordable housing for Kalamazoo residents.

Margaret and Leo Stine Endowed Memorial Scholarship in Public Affairs and Administration



Megan Russell

Thanks to the generosity of the Stine family, we were able to award a scholarship for 2008-09 to **Megan Russell**. She is earning her M.P.A. with a non-profit leadership concentration and maintains a 4.00 GPA. Megan has been working as the Youth Program Coordinator for the Volunteer Center of Battle Creek since September 2006 and also has taught English and service learning at Kellogg Community College.

Bentz Whaley Flessner selected to design WMU's next capital development campaign

Bruce Flessner (M.P.A. '79) and his wife **Melanie** (M.P.A. '78) are both SPAA graduates, and Bruce was the founding partner of the firm. Prior to this Bruce was Vice President of the University of Minnesota Foundation and annual fund director at Kalamazoo College.

Bentz Whaley Flessner has offices in Minneapolis and Washington, DC, and, among other things, provides expert consultation to educational institutions regarding institutional advancement and fund raising.

BENTZ
WHALEY
FLESSNER

Mingus Selected for Minnowbrook III

Matthew S. Mingus, Director of WMU's School of Public Affairs and Administration, has been selected by a panel of senior public administration scholars as one of the top 50 emerging scholars in public administration, and invited to attend the Minnowbrook III retreat in September.

"I was so excited at this unexpected honor because being a participant is not even something one can apply for," says Mingus. "It is an honor that comes around just once each 20 years!"

The emerging scholar group will meet for three days at the Minnowbrook Conference Center in Adirondack Park in upstate New York, and then will present their collective views on the future of public administration to the full Minnowbrook III conference in Lake Placid. Mingus will also present "Resilience: Developing state-level capacity to rise above societal limitations" at the full conference with Dr. Catherine Horiuchi from the University of San Francisco.

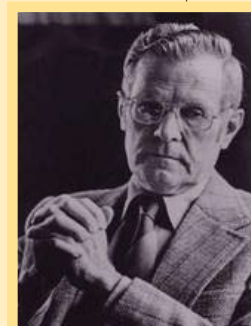
"I was so excited at this unexpected honor because being a participant is not even something one can apply for. It is an honor that comes around just once each 20 years!"

—Matthew Mingus

The Minnowbrook I and II retreats in 1968 and 1988 were organized by Dwight Waldo at Syracuse University's Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, and were designed to explore current issues and emerging themes in public administration. By anyone's standards, Waldo was one of the most influential thinkers in the field of American public administration until his death in 2000.

One lasting effect of Minnowbrook I was to create a significant role for the value of social equity within American public administration (i.e., the New Public Administration movement). While the value of social equity compared to the values of economy and efficiency has waxed and waned over the decades, it is alive and well as a core value in public-serving organizations.

In fact, Mingus was a founding member of the section on Democracy and Social Justice within the American Society of Public Administration earlier this year.



Dwight Waldo represented the philosophy of thinking in broad cross-disciplinary terms.

Need an Internship?

An increasing number of students require internships. Examples of internships include Mark McBride's internship with WMU's Lewis Walker Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnic Relations, Amanda Reel's internship with the Volunteer Center of Greater Kalamazoo, Brian Pittelko's internship with the Upjohn Institute of Kalamazoo, and Yuehwen Cheng's upcoming internship with the Stulberg International String Competition. We truly appreciate the efforts of all the organizations that assist our students with these vibrant, hands-on learning experiences!

If you need an internship, contact **Dr. Barbara Liggett** at least one term ahead of time via email at barbara.liggett@wmich.edu.

Recent Death

- **William Grimshaw**, longtime friend of SPAA and professor in numerous WMU departments, including SPAA, died on May 14, 2008, at the age of 86. Grimshaw served in the U.S. Army during World War II and received full military honors at Ft. Custer National Cemetery. His personal memory page is at www.lifestorynet.com

Faculty Highlights

- **Dr. Melisa Beeson** received a 2008-09 WMU Research Development Award and will be advancing her research plans through a series of development activities hosted by the Office of the Vice President of Research. Beeson will focus on two areas of research during this program: Women's Giving Circles and public-nonprofit sector partnerships. She is also exploring the impact of volunteers on public service delivery via comparative case studies of the Court Appointed Special Advocacy (CASA) program.

- **Dr. Anna A. Filipova** will be presenting "Licensed Nursing Personnel's Perceptions of Ethical Climates in Skilled Nursing Facilities: An Empirical Investigation" at the International Centre for Nursing Ethics conference at the Yale University School of Nursing in July. She was also inducted into the WMU chapter of the Phi Kappa Phi national honor society in April 2008.

- **Dr. Barbara S. Liggett** was a reviewer and editor for two position papers for the Society for Human Resource Management, reviewed an article "HR Magazine," and continues her active role in mediation consulting with two Michigan city

employee associations and three Florida city employee associations. While unrelated to her faculty role, Liggett was also appointed as a National Examination Evaluator for ordination exams within the Presbyterian Church, USA. In March 2008, she evaluated exams in the areas of church polity, theology and Hebrew exegesis.

- **Dr. Matthew S. Mingus**, with support from the **Diether H. Haenicke Institute for Global Education** and the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, has been able to pursue an active international agenda. This includes attending the 2nd annual International Forum for Democracy and Peace (IFFDP), a United Nations style conference in Istanbul, Turkey, this May and presenting "Ups and Downs (and the Future of) North American Security Perimeter" at the Border Regions in Transition conference in Victoria, British Columbia in January. Mingus recently joined the Editorial Board for the International Journal of Organizational Theory and Behavior and published "Reconsidering the History of Administrative Reforms in Canada" with Dr. Luc Juillet of the University of Ottawa in the Handbook of Administrative Reform. An

International Perspective (2008).

- **Dr. Robert Peters** is presenting two academic papers in June. The first is "Preparing Practitioners for a Diverse World" at the Teaching Public Administration Conference in Richmond, Virginia, and the second is "Globalization and the two-edged sword of meritocracy" at the 8th International Conference on Diversity



Dr. Robert Peters

in Organisations, Communities, and Nations in Montreal, Quebec.

- **Dr. Udaya Wagle** presented "Government Spending and Education Achievements in Japan's Prefectures" at the Midwest Political Science Association conference in April, where he also chaired a panel on the Political Economy of development in China and India. He also presented "Democratic But Unequal? The Scale, Sources and Policy Implications of Economic Inequality in Democratic Nepal" at the Annual Conference on South Asia last October.

Alumni Updates

(please send us your updates at cpa-spaa@wmich.edu)

- **Carrie Collins Fadell** (M.P.A. '04) is now Director of Public Policy, Greater Michigan Chapter, Alzheimer's Association.
- **Phil Hickmon** (M.P.A. '06) is a City Commissioner for the City of Coloma, MI, and has founded his own organizational development and management company, Synergy Allied, LLC.
- **Doris Higgins** (M.P.A. student) presented "Engaging Your Business Community: Corporate Volunteerism" at the 2008 Annual Retreat of the Volunteer Centers of Michigan. This presentation was based on her project paper titled "Corporate Volunteerism and the Volunteer Center Connection: Bringing Corporations and Nonprofit Together to Benefit Communities."
- **Dan Hurley** (Ph.D. '02) recently coauthored "The Pursuit of Efficiency and the Pursuit of Folly" in *Inside Higher Education* (4/29/2008). Check it out at: insidehighered.com/views/2008/04/29/gilbertson.
- **Debra Mixis** (M.P.A. '00) is the new Deputy Director of Development for the Kalamazoo Air Zoo.
- **Dr. Dale Nesbary** (M.P.A. 1981) is Vice President and Dean for Academic Affairs at Adrian College. That means he leads all the academic departments as well as administrative units such as academic services, institutional research, and so forth. In his "spare time" he plays lead trombone with the Tecumseh Civic Big Band!
- **M. Scott Powell** (M.P.A. '06) is the Economic Development Coordinator for the Town of Florence, Arizona.
- **Jerelyn Scott** (M.P.A. '00) is the State Director, Health Disparities Collaborative, Michigan Primary Care Association.
- **Marlayne Smithbolden** (M.P.A. '04) is a Policy Manager and the HIPAA privacy official for the Office for Special Children with Health Care Needs, Arizona Department of Health Services. She is now working on a doctoral degree in business administration.
- **Robert Sobie** (Ph.D. '06), with Dr. Mingus, has published "The Failure of Local Government Website Accessibility" in *The International Journal of Technology, Knowledge & Society*, 4(1), 61-72. Also, the Michigan Chapter of the National Emergency Number Association (NENA) has invited Dr. Sobie to deliver a presentation at their state conference this month. He will focus on developing a "paperless" E-911 dispatch center.

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Anne Zahradnik
(Ph.D. '06)

Anne Zahradnik (Ph.D. '06) has transitioned from visiting assistant professor to assistant professor at Long Island University-Brooklyn, where she teaches core M.P.A. courses. Her research projects are focused on health care program evaluation and she is currently conducting an evaluation of the Brooklyn Hospital Center pediatric sickle cell treatment center. She and her husband, Joe Naughton, enjoy working in the City and living in upstate NY with bears in their backyard. In their free time they hike and ride horses. Email her at azahradnik@gmail.com if you will be in the area and are up for a hike in the mountains or lunch in the City.

Alumni, continued from p. 6

- **Chris Rundle** (M.P.A. '94), former superintendent of Harrison Public Schools and retired Michigan State Police officer, has been tapped to lead the Gull Lake Community Schools. He will become the superintendent on July 1.



Amanda Reel (M.P.A. '08)

Amanda Reel (M.P.A. '08) is now a Program Coordinator at the Volunteer Center of Greater Kalamazoo (where she did my internship). She'll be working primarily on expanding the youth volunteer program (VolunTEENS) and launching the new BoardConnect program, which will provide board training for individuals and organizations in Kalamazoo and Calhoun counties.

Maatman drives overhaul of non-profit leadership curriculum

The purpose of our graduate programs in non-profit leadership and administration is to strengthen the capacity of local and regional leaders to carry out the missions of the organizations they serve through education, community service, and research. Special emphasis is placed on individual and community development as the pivotal function of nonprofit organizations, and on collaboration as a central mode of public problem solving.

In response to student challenges and concerns in pursuing the M.P.A. concentration and the Graduate Certificate, Janice Maatman, Director of Non-profit Programs, worked with the M.P.A. Committee and College of Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee to revise SPAA's graduate curriculum. The primary student concern was that all the 1-, 2-, and 3-credit hour courses often felt like a hodgepodge, and also made their course scheduling too complex. The new curriculum is based entirely on standard 3-credit hour courses and takes effect Summer 2008.

Both the concentration and the graduate certificate in non-profit leadership and administration now require 18 credit hours of course work in the program of study. All three core concentration courses are required of each student. The remaining 9 credit hours are selected by each student from the list of elective concentration courses. A student may not include both PADM 6481 and SWRK 6670. The following table describes the program and all course descriptions are at www.wmich.edu/spaa

New Program Requirements (starting summer 2008)

Course Number Course Title

Core Concentration Courses: 9 credit hours required

PADM 6400	Nonprofit Governance
PADM 6431	Budget Development and Accounting for Nonprofit Organizations
PADM 6441	Human Resources for Nonprofit Organizations

Elective Concentration Courses: 9 credit hours required

PADM 5830	Grant Writing for Nonprofit Organizations
PADM 5840	Promoting Nonprofit Organizations
PADM 5870	Fund Raising for Nonprofit Organizations
PADM 6471	Leadership in Nonprofit Organizations
PADM 6481	Planning in Nonprofit Organizations
PADM 6461	Evaluation in Nonprofit Organizations
SWRK 6670	Program Planning



Yes, I want to support the WMU School of Public Affairs & Administration

In a time when state funding is increasingly restricted, the support we receive from friends and alumni is vitally important. Such funds are used to take advantage of new or unbudgeted opportunities in order to enhance the teaching or the research of the department, or to assist students in achieving their educational and professional goals. Thank you for considering a gift to the WMU School of Public Affairs and Administration.

The WMU Foundation processes all gifts that come to the University and turns them over to the department. Michigan residents: Remember that 50 percent of your gift to a Michigan University is returned to you as a tax credit on your state income tax (up to \$200 for a single filer; \$400 for joint filers).

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